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## Senate

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Gingrich nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Callista L. Gingrich, of Virginia, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Holy See.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the time until 5:30 p.m. will be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

If no one yields time, the time will be equally divided.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

#### WORK BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, as I discussed with the President and the Vice President at our working lunch today, the Senate has a full schedule of important work ahead of us.

The Senate's fall agenda includes confirming more nominees to the judiciary, administration, and other important positions. Later today we will resume consideration of another nominee, Callista Gingrich, who has been nominated to serve as our Ambassador to the Vatican. That agenda includes providing continued assistance to communities affected by the recent hurricanes, and we will process the President's supplemental funding request to do just that. The Senate's agenda also includes completing work on the budget resolution and advancing tax reform—two things that are critical to helping our economy finally realize its true potential after the stagnation of the last decade.

This budget will be the next step to spurring growth in our economy. It provides a pathway to balance, it reins

in Federal spending, and it honors our commitments to Social Security and provides for the national defense.

In addition to these important aspects of this budget, it will also provide the legislative tools to advance tax reform. As I have said before, tax reform is the single most important thing we can do today to get our economy moving again.

We think taxes should be lower, simpler, and fairer for middle-class workers so that Americans can keep more of their own hard-earned money in their paychecks. We think taxes should be reformed to end the perverse incentives that help keep American jobs and profits offshore and so it is easier to make and keep American jobs where they belong—right here at home.

We think it is time to take more money out of Washington's pockets and put more money in the pockets of the American middle class. That is why we know it is time for tax reform.

The tax reform goals I just mentioned are shared by many, including the President, his team, Chairman ORRIN HATCH, and Chairman MIKE ENZI. As I said, to get there, we first need to pass the budget before us. I want to thank Chairman ENZI and the members of the Senate Budget Committee for all of their work in getting us to this point. As we advance that budget on the Senate floor this week, Senators on both sides of the aisle will have the opportunity to offer their input.

I look forward to putting our finances on a better path with this budget, just as I look forward to continuing with the other important initiatives on the Senate's fall agenda.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If no one yields time, the time will be charged equally.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Democratic leader is recognized.

#### HEALTHCARE

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, first, on the issue of healthcare, last week, President Trump committed two

The Senate met at 4 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 Lord God, we bless Your Holy Name. Provide our lawmakers with the wisdom to obey You completely and receive Your guidance. May Your guiding presence inspire them so that they can find, even in troubles, opportunities for joy.

Lord, remind them of the blessings that come from being challenged, as they learn from experience that the things that test them produce endurance. When their endurance is fully developed, give them the satisfaction of possessing such integrity that their faith will not shrink, though pressed by many foes.

Lord, help our Senators to seek You repeatedly each day with their prayers, fully expecting You to answer their intercession and direct their lives.

We pray in Your mighty 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.

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

#### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

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



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acts of pointless sabotage of our Nation's healthcare system. He signed an Executive order that would give insurers more latitude to sell temporary, junk plans that are not only incredibly risky to the consumer but undermine the rest of the healthcare market by drawing healthy Americans out of the pool. Even worse, President Trump decided to stop the cost-sharing program, which reduces premiums, deductibles, and copays for 7 million Americans a year. There is literally no upside to the President's decision to end the cost-sharing program.

Because of the President's actions, premiums will go up between 20 and 25 percent, according to the CBO. Just today in Pennsylvania, we saw premiums rise by 30 percent as a direct result of the President's actions. Deductibles and out-of-pocket costs will go up by thousands of dollars. Deficits will rise by \$194 billion because the government will have to pay more in subsidies to make up for the lack of the cost-sharing program, and the marketplaces will become less stable because more people will go uninsured.

The Republican Governor of Nevada, Brian Sandoval, may have said it best:

It's going to hurt people. It's going to hurt kids. It's going to hurt families. It's going to hurt individuals. It's going to hurt people with mental health issues. It's going to hurt veterans. It's going to hurt everybody.

That is from Republican Governor Brian Sandoval.

Another point that the President should hear is that nearly 70 percent of the Americans who benefit from these cost-sharing payments live in States that Donald Trump won in the election.

Make no mistake about it—the President is deliberately undermining our healthcare system with these two actions. When premiums go up because of this action, the blame will fall on his shoulders.

There is a way out. The way out of all of this is for Congress to aggressively pursue a bipartisan healthcare bill that will take cost-sharing out of the President's hands by locking in the payments. For many months, Democrats have been pushing to stabilize the markets and to work toward a bipartisan agreement that would keep premiums down for millions of Americans. Senators ALEXANDER and MURRAY have been negotiating a package that would include cost-sharing as well as some provisions that the Republicans want. These negotiations began long before the President's decision to end cost-sharing last week. I am encouraged by the progress of the negotiations, and I am hopeful that we are nearing an agreement that makes clear that we have no intention of supporting the President's reckless efforts at sabotage.

If President Trump is now supportive of an agreement that stabilizes and improves the existing system under the Affordable Care Act, we certainly welcome the change of heart. We have

been asking for this for a long time. We hope that our colleagues on the other side of the aisle, in their realizing the damage the President has done, will join us in strengthening, not in sabotaging, the healthcare system.

#### TAX REFORM AND THE BUDGET

Madam President, now a word on the Republican tax plan.

This week, the Republican majority will likely move to pass a budget resolution that includes reconciliation instructions to increase the deficit by \$1.5 trillion. Amazingly, it also includes a total of \$1.5 trillion in cuts to Medicare and Medicaid. Cutting taxes on the wealthy to be paid for by cutting Medicare and Medicaid? How many Americans want that—Democrat, Republican, Independent, liberal, conservative? The GOP budget makes it as clear as day that the Republicans will try to pay for a massive tax cut for the wealthy by cutting Medicare and Medicaid. It is the same formula they used for TrumpCare—cutting healthcare to pay for tax cuts for the rich. The American people rose up against that plan, and it failed. This plan should fail for the same exact reason.

Now the White House is out with a new report today, which reads that a giant tax cut for big corporations will increase wages for middle-class Americans. President Trump complains about fake news. Well, this is fake math, and it is as bad as any of the so-called fake news the President has complained about. This is a deliberate manipulation of numbers and facts that, quite frankly, is appalling. History shows that tax cuts like these benefit the wealthy and the powerful to the exclusion of the middle class. History shows that corporations will use tax cuts for CEO bonuses, stock buybacks, and dividends rather than for increasing worker pay or creating new jobs.

In fact, none other than Goldman Sachs concluded that shareholders, not workers, "typically get most of the benefits of tax cuts." This is not a liberal think tank or CHUCK SCHUMER talking; this is Goldman Sachs, which represents shareholders—a lot of them. The two authors of this plan, Gary Cohn and Steve Mnuchin, who are from Goldman Sachs, should heed what their former employer says. Even Goldman Sachs is saying that the Trump tax cuts will not create massive growth or new jobs or higher wages. In fact, another recent report by Goldman Sachs predicts only the most minor growth effects from this tax cut, not more than 0.1 or 0.2 percent.

As the President likes to point out, the stock market is at record highs, and companies are raking in unprecedented profits; yet wages have remained relatively flat. The companies are already flush with money—record profits. They are not creating jobs; they are enriching their shareholders and enhancing their CEOs' salaries with stock buybacks. It is proof posi-

tive that companies already have the cash reserves but do not use them to boost wages.

To assert the opposite, which is that giving corporations and the wealthy a tax cut leads to higher middle-class wages, belies the facts and the history, and it is a blatant attempt to fool Americans into thinking that the GOP plan would benefit them when in reality it is a sop to the rich. No wonder our Republican friends cannot talk about what the plan does—cuts taxes for the wealthy and powerful. They have to hide it and say that this is job growth. Those are fake numbers, and I would like my friends on this side of the aisle to admit that they believe in trickle-down economics, because that is what their plan is all about.

Rather than helping the biggest corporations avoid paying their fair share, tax reform ought to reward those companies that create jobs and raise wages here at home. Similarly, tax reform ought to directly benefit the middle class, but the Republican tax plan slashes a key middle-class deduction in the form of the State and local deductibility.

Now let's talk about Vice President PENCE. He is visiting Buffalo, NY—a city I love in my home State. Since Vice President PENCE is traveling to Buffalo, I thought that I would share some numbers about how the elimination of the State and local deduction affects western New York.

In Representative COLLINS' district, which stretches from East Buffalo toward Rochester, 29 percent of the residents claim the State and local deduction. They get an average deduction of \$12,125. In Representative HIGGINS' district, which is in the heart of Buffalo, 27 percent of the residents claim the State and local deduction, with an average deduction of \$12,083. In Representative REED's district, which is just south and east of Buffalo, 22 percent of the residents claim the State and local deduction, with an average deduction of \$11,716. Their constituents get clobbered, as do just about all New Yorkers and so many in the rest of the country, when you eliminate the State and local deductibility. It affects the middle class and the upper class. The State and local deduction elimination is a dagger to the heart, not just to Buffalo but to Rochester, Syracuse, Albany, and all of Upstate New York.

Will Vice President PENCE have the courage to answer questions about this deduction elimination? Will he tell middle-class New Yorkers that they are going to get a huge tax increase under this bill? When the Vice President arrives in Buffalo tomorrow, I hope he is prepared to explain why he wants to hike taxes on thousands of middle-class families in the Buffalo area, in the Rochester area, in the Syracuse area, and in the Albany area.

Eliminating the State and local deduction hurts the middle class, and it hammers the New York economy. Businesses, if they do not have this State

and local deduction, are not likely to relocate in Buffalo or Rochester or Syracuse or Albany. It also hurts homeowners. Make no mistake about it—if we get rid of the State and local deduction, the values of homes will go down. That is why the realtors are so opposed to this elimination. It is not just true in New York or in California or in Connecticut or in New Jersey; it is true across the whole country.

As for my dear friend and chairman of the Finance Committee's State of Utah, because of the great charity of his people—and so many tithe—35 percent of the taxpayers will get a huge, huge increase in their taxes with the elimination of State and local deductibility. So many of them do not use the standard deduction because they are so charitable, but they are penalized for that charity.

Eliminating the State and local deduction, while slashing taxes for the wealthy and huge corporations, will hurt middle-class taxpayers.

Now there are some efforts to compromise State and local deductibility. They don't work. Some have proposed letting taxpayers make a choice between getting rid of the mortgage deduction and getting rid of the State and local deduction. That is like saying: Should I chop off my left hand or my right hand, Mr. Middle-Class Taxpayer?

Others have said: Let's limit it to people who earn below \$100,000. That still leaves lots of people at risk, particularly in high-priced areas like Long Island, and it doesn't reduce the deficit by much. It is estimated that a large percentage of the deficit will still go up.

It makes no sense to eliminate State and local deductibility. Vice President PENCE ought to go to western New York, but instead of going just to a small business—and we want to lower small business taxes—he should go to a middle-class family in Amherst or in Orchard Park or Tonawanda and tell them that he is there to raise their taxes.

#### NOMINATION OF TOM MARINO

Madam President, I want to address the President's nominee to lead the Office of National Drug Control Policy, Representative MARINO.

An article in yesterday's Washington Post described Representative MARINO's advocacy for a law that may have prevented the DEA, the Drug Enforcement Agency, from going after the worst practices of drug distributors. It is a profoundly troubling revelation about the man who has been tapped to lead the primary agency in our government that focuses on stopping the opioid crisis.

The opioid crisis was in part fueled by wholesale drug distributors sending millions of unnecessary pills into communities. As my friend Senator MANCHIN has pointed out, one company shipped 20 million doses of opioids to pharmacies in his State of West Virginia over a 5-year period. That in-

cluded 11 million doses sent to Mingo County, WV, where the population is 25,000. There were 11 million pills sent to a county of 25,000 people over a 5-year period. No wonder there is a crisis.

What the Washington Post revealed yesterday was that Representative MARINO worked to pass a bill in 2016 that made it "virtually impossible for the DEA to freeze suspicious narcotic shipments." Confirming Representative MARINO as our Nation's drug czar would be like putting a wolf in charge of the henhouse.

The American people deserve someone totally committed to fighting the opioid crisis, not someone who has labored on behalf of the drug industry. So tonight I am calling on President Trump to withdraw the nomination of Representative MARINO for the ONDCP. We can do better. Senator MANCHIN has made such a call, and he is right. President Trump ought to withdraw Representative MARINO's nomination.

If the President presses forward with Representative MARINO, it will be another betrayal in a long line of betrayals on issues near and dear to rural America. The President's healthcare proposals would have put daggers into the heart of rural America, decimating Medicaid and rural hospitals. The President's tax plan lavishes the wealthy and the big corporations but does little for the working man or woman in rural America. The President promised several months ago to label the opioid crisis a national emergency, yet he still hasn't done it. He said this afternoon that he will finally do it next week. We will see.

By now, the idea that the President is sticking up for the forgotten man and woman in the forgotten parts of rural America should be dismissed. President Trump seems to have forgotten the forgotten parts of America, and his lack of action—we don't need talk; we need action—on the opioid crisis and his nomination of Representative MARINO is just another example.

#### CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

Madam President, over the weekend, several parts of California were swept by some of the most devastating wildfires the region has seen. At least 40 people have died, thousands of homes and businesses have been utterly destroyed, and at one point over 100,000 people were evacuated. As Gov. Jerry Brown said, "This is truly one of the greatest, if not the greatest, tragedies that California has ever faced."

Our thoughts are with everyone affected by these wildfires. We are enduringly grateful for the firefighters and all our first responders. And our response here in the Senate must be to send aid where aid is needed.

For our country, this has been a devastating few months of fires and floods. Hurricanes Harvey and Irma buffeted Texas, Louisiana, and Florida. Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are contending with a humanitarian crisis on an unprecedented scale in the wake

of Hurricane Maria. Our job is to speedily send aid, and I am hopeful that we can pass another supplemental aid package this week as well as another more comprehensive package later in the year.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip is recognized.

#### TAX REFORM AND THE BUDGET

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, today I want to talk to you about time and how little of it we have to accomplish two incredibly important legislative priorities, one that is national in scope and potentially historic in impact. The first of those priorities is tax reform. We have a target date on the calendar, and now the clock is ticking. We have to get to work.

The budget resolution that we will consider this week sets November 13 as our deadline for the Finance Committee to report a bill, and of course the distinguished chairman of the Finance Committee, Senator HATCH, is on the floor, and that is a commitment I know he takes very seriously.

This bill, I hope, will broadly cut taxes on individuals and businesses alike and put more money in the pockets of working families across the country. What I like most about the plan I have seen so far is that it is bold. We are not trimming a little here and a tiny bit there. We are slashing rates, consolidating brackets, and eliminating pet credits and deductions. This is not JV tax reform. This is tax reform that is serious and based upon our commitment to get the economy growing again.

Two weeks ago, the House approved its version of the resolution, and the Senate Budget Committee reported out its version. Now the Senate will consider the committee's resolution in the coming days. Why do we need that budget resolution? How is this all going to work?

Well, these resolutions from each Chamber are the first step in passing pro-growth tax reform. They authorize the use of a tool called budget reconciliation. That means when the tax reform legislation is considered, it can't be stopped by less than a majority of the Senate. Of course, this isn't our first choice.

I wish our colleagues across the aisle, our Democratic friends, would join us in bipartisan tax reform, but passing a budget resolution in the Senate is a must because this is something we can hold in reserve if our friends across the aisle simply refuse to participate in the process of pro-growth tax reform. It is a key procedural step because we have to fundamentally change the Tax Code before the end of the year.

How well our economy does next year, how many jobs are created, and how much investment occurs here in the United States will depend largely upon our success in passing pro-growth tax reform this year. The clock is ticking, and we have to act with dispatch and with determination.

As the President said last week in Pennsylvania, “we want lower taxes, bigger paychecks, and more jobs for . . . American workers.” He is absolutely right. Lower taxes, bigger paychecks, and more jobs are the things we all ought to want, and they are worth the fight.

Under this administration we are already seeing results. The economy is bouncing back. Unemployment is at a 16-year low. Wages are rising and the stock market is soaring. The slumbering giant, which is the U.S. economy, is now slowly awakening. Our economy reached more than 3.1 percent growth last quarter. Confidence, as the President stressed in Pennsylvania, is back when it comes to our economy and our future, but that confidence will not last long if we let this opportunity pass.

We have to find ways to get companies to stay in America, to expand, and to hire in America. We have to find ways to take the money out of Washington’s pocket and put it back into the pockets of those who earned the money in the first place—American families.

We have to find ways to simplify the Tax Code, which, let’s remember, hits families multiple times each year by taking their earnings, by stealing their time through compliance, and by trying their patience with complexity. Each tax return feels like three.

I find it appalling that a majority of taxpayers are forced to pay someone else to do their taxes for them because they simply don’t have the time or expertise to do it themselves.

The unified framework released a few weeks ago will help. It calls for collapsing seven separate tax brackets down to three. That is what I call simplification. It expands the zero bracket so that if you are a married couple earning less than \$24,000 a year, you will pay zero income taxes. It enhances the child tax credit. It repeals the death tax and special interest tax breaks, and it reduces the uncompetitive corporate tax rate to 20 percent and cuts tax rates for small businesses to the lowest level in more than 80 years. So let’s make this happen before time runs out.

#### HURRICANE RECOVERY EFFORT

Madam President, the other item I can’t stop thinking about is one that has taken a great toll on my State and our region of the country, and that is Hurricane Harvey, the most extreme rain event in the history of the United States. Literally 50 inches of rain fell in 5 days in the Houston area.

Last week, I saw images of the Texas World Speedway, a racecar track at College Station that is being used as a processing lot. Here is a picture of that.

At its peak, tens of thousands of cars were parked there, awaiting damage assessments by insurance companies. A sea of them had filled the entire speedway, as can be seen on this chart, and it was starting to spill into sur-

rounding areas, too—cars in all directions, as far as the eye could see.

How could Hurricane Harvey damage so many cars? Well, cars these days—the newer ones—are basically computers on wheels, and when they get wet in an extreme flooding event like this, they essentially become a total loss, like these cars at the Texas World Speedway. It is an amazing picture. All the cars there, mind you, represent only a tiny percentage of all the vehicles damaged in the storm. Some of the estimates I have heard are that as high as one-half million personal vehicles were damaged and even totaled.

The speedway is just one of the images that continue to keep me up at night. How are my constituents, these Texans, going to get to work? How are they going to take their kids to school? When will their car and their house be ready so they can live in their home? When will their highways and driveways be fixed? What is being done to ensure that history doesn’t repeat itself when, year after year, many parts of the Harris County-Houston area are flooded because many of the important Corps of Engineer projects have not been started, much less completed, which would have diverted the rain and saved many of these homes and many of these cars.

Last Thursday, the House passed a \$36.5 billion hurricane and wildfire relief bill. The vote sends the measure over to the Senate, and I look forward to debating the supplemental appropriation in the days ahead.

The House’s emergency measure is intended to replenish the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s nearly depleted coffers with \$18.7 billion to the Disaster Relief Fund. If we don’t act soon, I am told, FEMA could run out of money as early as October 23.

The House bill will also address the National Flood Insurance Program by forgiving \$16 billion of its debt and allowing it to pay more claims for property owners in Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

Nevertheless, I must say I am more than a little bit disappointed by this piece of legislation. I share the frustrations of Gov. Greg Abbott and Members of the Houston area congressional delegation, who have pointed out that this bill doesn’t come close to fulfilling the very reasonable requests that have been made to rebuild and recover from Hurricane Harvey. Texas needs more, and the State deserves it, too, after all it has gone through. We are not going to throw up our hands and relent. We are going to keep on pushing.

I appreciate the assurances from Speaker PAUL RYAN and the administration that Texas will get what it needs to rebuild the homes and businesses lost in the hurricane and the funding that it needs to expand bayous and develop critical flood mitigation projects.

Governor Abbott told me the Speaker told him Congress will take up the

State’s recent request as soon as November. I am grateful to him for that promise, but we don’t need any more general statements of support. We are not asking for any more expressions of sympathy. We need specifics and a specific commitment to follow through on Texas’s demonstrated need for assistance.

I predict that the House bill will not move through the Senate until the bill provides the sort of specific commitment we could take to the bank. This isn’t about Hurricane Harvey either. This is about Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria.

We cannot afford to wait much longer. The Texas families who have been out of their homes since Hurricane Harvey hit can’t afford to wait much longer. The people who have lost their mode of transportation as a result of this flood and this hurricane can’t afford to wait much longer. The small businesses that have been simply wiped out and who have been denied access to the funds they need in order to restart and rebuild their lives cannot afford to wait much longer.

The clock is ticking, and I will continue to work with the Governor and the rest of the Texas delegation, as well as our friends from Florida and others who were hit by other natural disasters, to make sure that collectively we present our case to the Appropriations Committees and to the Senate. We are not asking to be treated any better than anybody else after a natural disaster like this, but we sure will not accept being treated worse. We are going to work together, on a bipartisan basis, to make sure that is the case.

Let me just close with a few words from my good friend and colleague from Laredo, TX, Representative HENRY CUELLAR. Now, Henry is what they call a Blue Dog Democrat, somebody I have worked with a lot on border issues in particular. He is on the House Appropriations Committee, and he was asked whether the House’s most recent bill was going to be the final appropriation to address the losses as a result of Hurricanes Harvey, Maria, or Irma. “No,” he said emphatically, “we are going to do more,” and he is absolutely right.

I am here to say that speaking as one Senator, I intend to make sure the U.S. Government keeps its commitments to the people in Texas, to the people in Florida, to the people in Puerto Rico, and to the people in the Virgin Islands when it comes to assisting them to recover from this terrible natural disaster.

We are not going to continue to take the promises of the Office of Management and Budget or the administration or our friends in the leadership in the House, for that matter, that we are going to get to this later. There is an expression in my part of the country that when somebody asks you when are you going to do something, the response is *manana*—tomorrow. To every question of when, it is *manana*.

We demand that this problem be dealt with on a timely basis, and we are going to keep the feet to the fire of the administration and our friends in the House to make sure they follow up on their commitments to deal with the victims of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Florida be granted the floor as soon as I finish.

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

ENSURING PATIENT ACCESS AND EFFECTIVE  
DRUG ENFORCEMENT ACT

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, over the weekend, the Washington Post ran an article about a piece of legislation I helped negotiate last Congress. It was entitled the "Ensuring Patient Access and Effective Drug Enforcement Act" and was intended to encourage greater collaboration between DEA and the regulated community in the fight against opioid abuse. The Post article was sharply critical of this legislation, suggesting that it effectively gutted DEA's ability to do its job. It also suggested the pharmaceutical industry put one over on Congress. I rise to set the record straight on these allegations and to provide a fuller account of how this legislation passed the Senate and became law.

First, some background. The Controlled Substances Act requires drug distributors to obtain a "registration" from DEA in order to distribute controlled substances, including prescription drugs. The act further authorizes DEA to suspend a distributor's registration in certain circumstances, such as where a distributor has been convicted of a crime involving controlled substances or had a State license suspended. Before suspending a registration, DEA must issue a show cause order directing the distributor to explain why its registration should not be suspended. A court then decides whether DEA has met its burden to suspend the registration.

The Controlled Substances Act empowers DEA to bypass this standard suspension process in cases where DEA determines there is "an imminent danger to the public health or safety." In such cases, DEA can issue an immediate suspension order that immediately and without court process terminates the distributor's ability to distribute prescription drugs. Prior to last Congress, the Controlled Substances Act did not define what constitutes an imminent danger to the public health or safety. This left DEA's ability to immediately suspend a party's ability to distribute prescription drugs essentially unfettered. Such unfettered discretion concerned the patient advocacy and drug manufacturing community because an immediate suspension order cuts off all drugs from a distributor, including those intended for legitimate

users. A balance is needed to ensure that individuals who need prescription drugs for treatment receive them but that such drugs are not diverted for improper purposes.

So the bill I helped negotiate last Congress, for the first time, defined what constitutes an imminent danger to the public health or safety. In doing so, it created a standard for when DEA may suspend a party's registration to distribute prescription drugs without any prior court process, and that standard is that there must be a "substantial likelihood of an immediate threat" that death, serious bodily harm, or abuse of a controlled substance will occur in the absence of an immediate suspension.

In both committee and floor statements, I made clear that this standard is intended to cover situations where evidence of diversion indicates there is a substantial likelihood that abuse of a controlled substance or of any controlled substances will occur.

The Washington Post article glosses over much of this background. It does not explain that the immediate suspension order is intended to be an extraordinary measure. It does not explain that prior to the bill, DEA had basically carte blanche authority to impose this measure. It does not explain the DEA has other enforcement tools available, including show cause orders which are supposed to be the agency's standard operating procedure. Equally problematic, the article barely even mentions the patient advocacy concerns that motivated the bill to begin with.

I want to quote from a letter that a coalition of patient and health advocacy groups sent to Congress in support of the legislation:

Federal agencies, law enforcement, pharmaceutical industry participants and prescribers each play a role in working diligently to prevent drug abuse and diversion. However, it is also imperative that legitimate patients are able to obtain their prescriptions without disruption. Your legislation addresses both goals by fostering greater collaboration, communication and transparency between industry stakeholders and regulators, leading to more effective efforts to combat abuse while protecting patients.

The letter was signed by, among others, the American Academy of Pain Management, the Fibromyalgia & Chronic Pain Support Network, and the Drug Free America Foundation.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the letter be printed in the RECORD.

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

MARCH 4, 2015.

HON. ORRIN HATCH,  
U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.

HON. SHELDON WHITEHOUSE,  
U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATORS HATCH AND WHITEHOUSE: On behalf of the patient and health professional groups listed below we would like to express our support for the Ensuring Patient

Access and Effective Drug Enforcement Act of 2015 (S. 483). We appreciate your leadership and commitment to combating the inappropriate use of prescription medicines. Your legislation will help improve the balance between effective enforcement against prescription drug diversion and abuse, while ensuring patients who are appropriately prescribed medications continue to have access to their treatments.

As patient advocacy and health professional organizations, we are committed to combating illegal use of prescription drugs. Millions of Americans depend on prescription drugs to treat and cure illness, alleviate pain, and improve quality of life, yet prescription drug abuse remains a persistent problem that requires collaboration from all those with a stake in improving patient care and protecting against abuse. In considering the burden on patients, it is important to remember that the vast majority of patients who use prescription drugs do so legitimately to address a variety of health issues. Efforts to prevent drug abuse should also consider legitimate users so that actions do not impede patient access or lessen the effectiveness of patient care.

Federal agencies, law enforcement, pharmaceutical industry participants and prescribers each play a role in working diligently to prevent drug abuse and diversion. However, it is also imperative that legitimate patients are able to obtain their prescriptions without disruption. Your legislation addresses both goals by fostering greater collaboration, communication and transparency between industry stakeholders and regulators, leading to more effective efforts to combat abuse while protecting patients. We commend you for including a report to congress, which will illuminate the issue and ultimately benefit patient care. Including patient advocacy groups in the process will ensure those involved in patient care will be able to identify challenges and will emphasize appropriate and workable policy approaches to preventing diversion and abuse of controlled substances.

We commend you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Alliance for Patient Access; American Academy of Pain Management; American Pharmacists Association; American Society of Consultant Pharmacists; American Society for Pain Management Nursing; Center for Lawful Access and Abuse Deterrence; Drug Free America Foundation, Inc.; Fibro Warriors Living Life; Fibro Friends of Tennessee; Fibromyalgia & Chronic Pain Support Network; Fibromyalgia-ME/CFS Support Center, Inc; Florida Fibromyalgia & Chronic Pain Network.

Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association; Interstitial Cystitis Association; Kentuckiana Fibromyalgia Support Group; Lake Oswego Health Center; National Association of Chain Drug Stores; National Community Pharmacists Association; National Fibromyalgia & Chronic Pain Association; The Pain Community; Pain Connection-Chronic Pain Outreach Center, Inc.; Project Lazarus; Richmond Fibromyalgia & Chronic Pain Association; Save Our Society From Drugs; U.S. Pain Foundation; Virginia Fibromyalgia & Chronic Pain Support Group.

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, the Washington Post article discusses virtually none of this. Rather, it baldly asserts that Congress cut out DEA's legs from underneath it through a sinister conspiracy of deep-pocketed drug companies and their cunning allies in Congress. Nothing could be further from the truth.

To begin with, I have spent 40 years of my life in the Senate fighting the scourge of drug abuse. I stood side by side with Ronald Reagan in the War on Drugs. In 2000, I coauthored the Drug Addiction Treatment Act, or DATA 2000, one of the first efforts in Congress to address the opioid epidemic. Last year, I led conference negotiations on the Comprehensive Addiction Recovery Act, a landmark piece of legislation that is making a real difference in the fight against opioid and heroin abuse. Currently, I am working on legislation to address opioid addiction in the veteran community. I am no patsy when it comes to drug abuse—prescription or otherwise—and neither are my colleagues.

Indeed, forget me for a moment. Let's take Senator WHITEHOUSE, who helped me negotiate the bill with DEA and DOJ. Are we to believe that Senator WHITEHOUSE, a former Rhode Island attorney general and a former U.S. attorney, a crusader against corporate interests, is somehow in the pocket of the drug companies? Of course not. The charge is laughable on its face.

How about the fact that this bill passed both Houses of Congress by unanimous consent? Did the entire U.S. Congress decide to shield its eyes to the true sinister intent of this legislation? Did the Senate Judiciary Committee, which approved the bill by voice vote, decide to look the other way? This is a committee that includes former prosecutors, state attorneys general, and U.S. attorneys who, at the time, included both the current Attorney General of the United States and the current Senate minority leader.

Are we seriously to believe that Jeff Sessions, the toughest foe of illegal drugs I have ever known in my entire life, sat on his hands while Congress eviscerated the DEA's enforcement authority? No, of course not.

To merely state these allegations is to make clear how utterly ridiculous they really are. Not one Senator or Member of the House opposed this bill. Do you know why? Because DEA, the very agency the bill impacts, the very agency that supposedly can no longer do its job because of this legislation, agreed to let it go forward.

Let me be clear. The DEA could have stopped this bill. They could have stopped it at any time. In fact, they did stop a previous version in 2014 that had different language. I spent months negotiating with DEA and with DOJ until they were at a point they were comfortable allowing the bill to proceed. If they had asked me to hold the bill or to continue negotiations, I would have done so.

I brought the bill to markup only after DEA and DOJ agreed with me on a path forward. Anyone who claims that I or anyone else steamrolled DEA and DOJ on this bill is either ignorant or woefully misinformed.

That brings me to another point that was largely lost in all the insinuations

in the Washington Post article. The language that purportedly eviscerated DEA's enforcement power—that is, the requirement that the DEA show a substantial likelihood of immediate threat before issuing an immediate suspension order—was written by DEA and DOJ lawyers and provided to Hill staff as a proposed compromise.

So let's get this straight. Congress took language that DEA and DOJ wrote, inserted it into the bill, and now Congress is the bad guy? I should note that other aspects of DEA and DOJ's proposed language changed, but that key phrase “substantial likelihood of an immediate threat”—the phrase that critics now point to as gutting DEA's enforcement authority—came from DEA and DOJ. And lest we forget, President Obama signed the bill into law on the advice of his own DEA Administrator.

I think we need to be candid about what is going on here. Opponents of the current administration are trying to derail the President's nominee to be head of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, Representative TOM MARINO, by mischaracterizing and trying to rewrite the history of a bill that he championed. They are being aided in their efforts by a group of former DEA employees who took an extremely hard line against drug companies when they were at the Agency and who are upset that the DEA chose to pursue a more collaborative approach after they left. I don't fault these individuals for their passion, but I do reject the notion that there was some sort of sinister conspiracy at play. And I find it unconscionable that critics of the bill and of Representative MARINO would flat-out ignore the very real patient concerns that motivated this bill and motivated my personal involvement with it. You think this bill was a sop to the drug industry? Tell that to the Fibromyalgia and Chronic Pain Network. Tell that to the American Academy of Pain Management. Tell that to the Drug Free America Foundation.

If we are going to make this bill a political football and try to use it to sink Representative MARINO's nomination, let's tell the full story. Let's be fair. Let's at least be honest. Let's not gin up a one-sided narrative based entirely on the statements of former Agency officials who disagreed with the change of leadership.

No matter how you try to spin it, this is not the latest episode of “House of Cards.” Rather, let's be clear that Members of this body negotiated this bill in good faith with the DEA and the Department of Justice. Let's be clear—the DEA and DOJ themselves generated the language that critics now claim is so problematic. Let's remember that this bill passed by unanimous consent and that every single Member of this body and the House of Representatives agreed to it. Let's remember, too, that the DEA and DOJ could have stopped this bill at any time if they had wanted to but instead chose

to allow it to proceed. After all, they stopped an earlier version in 2014 that had different language. They could have stopped it again. And even after the bill passed Congress, they could have advised President Obama not to sign on. Don't forget that the bill bears his signature. Let's not pretend that DEA, both Houses of Congress, and the Obama White House all somehow wilted under Representative MARINO's nefarious influences.

Provocative headlines and clever framing may drive page hits, but this body's decisions should be based on the full story. It should be based on all the facts. A single news article that tells only one side of the story should not derail a nominee who has a long history of fighting illegal drug use and of helping individuals with chronic conditions obtain treatment. Let's not ignore the full story here in the rush toward easy politics.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

#### PUERTO RICO RECOVERY EFFORT

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, I want to talk about a matter of life and death. It is happening, as we speak, in Puerto Rico. I went there yesterday. I didn't want to have a flyover of the island, but at the invitation of Governor Rosselló, I got into a helicopter so that I could get up into the mountains and into the areas that have been closed because people hadn't been able to get there on the roads. That is what I wanted to see.

We have had colleagues come back and, because of a flyover in a helicopter, say that they say don't see a lot of damage. Of course not, because they are flying over parts of towns in which most of the structures are concrete blocks. But if you get down there on the ground and go into the structure, then you will see a different story.

First of all, you will smell a different story because the water has accumulated, and now it is turning to mold and mildew—inhabitable conditions. But when you get up into the mountains, you see the places that were cut off. Not until a week ago did they have the roads cleared so that people could get up there. And as we speak, as of yesterday, they are still reconstructing the roads so that people can get on these narrow, winding, little dirt roads that go up through the mountains. So for 2 and a half weeks, communities have been completely cut off, like the one that I saw yesterday, Utuado, which is way up in the mountains.

I want to show you some pictures, but I want you to realize that today is Monday. Next Wednesday will be 4 weeks since the hurricane hit. Can you imagine going into a State with 3.5 million people and 85 percent of the people do not have electricity? And by the way, these are our fellow American citizens; they are just in a territory. Can you imagine going into a State where a month after the hurricane, 50



percent of the people do not have potable water? It is an absolute outrage. And I don't think the American people realize what is happening.

Let me be your eyes by what I saw yesterday. This is a river bottom in the little town of Utuado. This side of the river is cut off from this side of the river because the one bridge washed out. If you look at this structure, the question is, How long is this going to last? It is tilting to the left. Any major rush of water is going to take out this section.

I want you to see how creative these people are. It is hard to see at this distance, but they erected a cable system going over to the other side. They took the basket of a grocery cart, took the wheels and handles off, and this is on a pulley, and these guys are pulling it over here and then they pull it back. This is how people on this side of the river are getting food and water and medicine if they can't walk across. This is how people are surviving. If this section of the bridge goes—and it is just a matter of time—they are going to try to hook up a cable over here at the top of this riverbank over to the top of this riverbank and do the same kind of pulley.

Here in the States, on the mainland, if something like this happened, the Corps of Engineers would be there. We would be rebuilding. The Department of Transportation would be rebuilding that bridge. These are our fellow American citizens, and they are going without.

Let me show you another picture. This is the bank of another river. Let me show you the result. This is what happened. You see this whole house right behind here. I will show you the church in a minute. I asked the pastor: Did the people survive? He said that one was trapped in the house. They were able to get that person out. The others had already fled. But you can see that with the force of the extra rain and the water coming down, houses like that are history.

Here is that same section of the river with the church in the background. The church survived. I talked to the pastor of the church. Here I am having a conversation with the people who live on this side. I asked the pastor whether he lost any parishioners. He did not. On the side of his church, he has a dish, and because he has a generator, he is the only person in this town who has any kind of communication—in this case, through the satellite dish for television. Everything else is being run on generators because there is no electricity. As you know, these generators are not powerful enough to run air-conditioners; therefore, the water accumulates. Mold and mildew start to accumulate, with all the health effects as a result of that.

Does this look like something we would have in this country, or does this look like a third world country? Do the images in these photographs bring to mind other Caribbean nations that we

have seen that have been devastated by earthquakes and hurricanes? Think about what happened to Haiti.

When people go to San Juan—by the way, 85 percent of San Juan is without power. You see these little pockets, and of course they are trying to get the generators going in the hospitals for obvious reasons. They need the generators to go to stations where people are getting their dialysis treatments. That is obvious. But what about the wear and tear on the generators and the replacements?

The Governor of Puerto Rico, Governor Rosselló, has a very ambitious schedule: He wants to restore 95 percent of power by the middle of December. I hope the Governor is right. It has been turned over to the Army Corps of Engineers to get the electrical grid and structures up and running. I am afraid it is going to be a lot longer. I asked for estimates on the immediate needs, especially rebuilding the grid. He said \$4 billion. Are we going to be able to get that for them?

What are going to be the ultimate needs of Puerto Rico? We just heard the Senator from Texas talk about his State and the estimates that you heard out of Texas being as much as \$100 billion. What about the needs of Puerto Rico? What about the needs of Florida? What about the needs of the Virgin Islands?

We have a supplemental coming up, but is that going to take care of the needs of all of those four areas that have been hit hard? If Texas is \$100 billion, a long-term fix for Puerto Rico may well be \$80 billion to \$90 billion. And who knows what it is going to be for Florida and the Virgin Islands. Therefore, are we in this Congress, with or without the leadership of the White House, going to have the stomach to help our fellow American citizens? I am sure we are going to help Texas, and I certainly hope we will help my State of Florida, but are we willing to help the American citizens in the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico? It is not a rosy picture, but we hear some Members of Congress come back and say they didn't see a lot of damage. It is people using a pulley they have jerry-rigged across a river to survive with daily supplies of food and fuel and water. You can't see that from the air. If you have no power, you have no water, and you have no sewer systems, then, what you have is chaos.

It has been a month since Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico. The hospitals are rationing services while they struggle to get the medicines and the fuel they need to power the generators. The dialysis centers are struggling to get the water and fuel they need to operate.

Like many, I have written, in this case, to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, to urge the Department to do more to help these dialysis centers obtain the supplies they need.

I wanted to come to the floor of the Senate, having gotten back very late

last night from Puerto Rico, and tell the Senate that more needs to be done, and it is going to have to be done for a very long period of time. We have to do more to ensure that the supplies that are reaching the island are getting to those who need them.

Remember, things got piled up in the ports in the first week, and they didn't get out to be distributed. Senator RUBIO and I were saying at the time that it is going to take the U.S. military, which is uniquely organized and capable of distribution of long logistical lines. It wasn't until a week after the hurricane that three-star General Buchanan was put in charge. I met with him and the head of FEMA down in the Puerto Rico area. Finally, those supplies are getting out. These are supplies for survival.

We need to pass a disaster relief package that fully funds Puerto Rico's recovery. We need to provide Puerto Rico with the community development block grant money that Governor Rosselló has requested, just like we need the CDBGs for Texas and Florida and the Virgin Islands as well. We need to make Puerto Rico eligible for permanent work assistance so they can start to rebuild their infrastructure immediately.

I want to make something fairly clear. There should be absolutely no ambiguity about what is going on in Puerto Rico. It isn't rosy. It isn't that you can sit in a comfortable seat in a helicopter looking down from 1,500 or 2,000 feet on structures that look like they are intact, when, in fact, the reality on the ground below is completely different. Certainly, they didn't go up there and see all those bridges washed out in the mountains. They didn't see people scrambling for food. They didn't see the Puerto Rican National Guard rebuilding that little narrow dirt road winding along the banks of that river. They didn't see or walk into the buildings where you would almost be overwhelmed with the smells—the smells, particularly, of mold and mildew.

People have died as a result of this hurricane. People have died because of the lack of supplies and power. Our fellow Americans are dying, and they desperately need our help.

Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, I have seen it with my own eyes on the ground, and I am here to urge this Congress and the administration that we have to act and act for a very long period of time.

Our citizens in Puerto Rico need our help. We have the responsibility to help fellow citizens in need.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

Mr. SHELBY. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Gingrich nomination?

The yeas and nays have been previously ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) is necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 70, nays 23, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 217 Ex.]

YEAS—70

Alexander	Ernst	Murray
Baldwin	Feinstein	Paul
Barrasso	Fischer	Perdue
Bennet	Flake	Reed
Blunt	Franken	Risch
Boozman	Gardner	Roberts
Burr	Grassley	Rounds
Cantwell	Hatch	Rubio
Capito	Heitkamp	Sasse
Cardin	Heller	Schumer
Carper	Hoeven	Scott
Casey	Inhofe	Shaheen
Cassidy	Johnson	Shelby
Collins	Kaine	Strange
Coons	Kennedy	Sullivan
Corker	King	Thune
Cornyn	Klobuchar	Tillis
Cortez Masto	Lankford	Toomey
Cotton	Lee	Warner
Crapo	Manchin	Whitehouse
Cruz	McCaskill	Wicker
Daines	McConnell	Young
Donnelly	Murkowski	
Enzi	Murphy	

NAYS—23

Blumenthal	Heinrich	Schatz
Booker	Hirono	Stabenow
Brown	Leahy	Tester
Duckworth	Markey	Udall
Durbin	Merkley	Van Hollen
Gillibrand	Nelson	Warren
Harris	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Sanders	

NOT VOTING—7

Cochran	McCain	Portman
Graham	Menendez	
Isakson	Moran	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that with respect to the Gingrich nomination, the motion to consider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the Trachtenberg nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of David Joel Trachtenberg, of Virginia, to be a Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following my remarks, Senator WHITEHOUSE of Rhode Island be recognized.

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

NOMINATION OF TOM MARINO

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, the addiction epidemic is a national emergency that takes far too many lives and destroys too many families across the country. Unfortunately, my State, in some ways, leads the way. Four thousand Ohioans died from drug overdoses last year, more than any State in the United States. Four thousand families lost a mother, a father, a daughter, a son, a sister, or brother.

We need to treat this epidemic like the public health emergency it is. We asked the President to proclaim it a public health emergency. He talked about it but still hasn't done it.

That is the same reason I can't support Representative TOM MARINO's nomination to head our country's drug control policy. First of all, fundamentally, I don't want an elected official, a politician, in that position. I want somebody from the treatment community. Congressman MARINO is a nominee who, in his time in Congress, showed he was too cozy with the drug companies that helped create this epidemic.

Earlier today, President Trump responded to reports about Congressman MARINO and said he is looking at those reports very closely. I hope he does. I hope he withdraws that nomination. Make no mistake, Congressman MARINO does not want to take us in the right direction in this fight.

Today I was in Austintown—a township on the edge of Youngstown, in Mahoning County—talking to Officer Toth and Chief Gavalier at the Austintown Police Department about the opioid crisis. It is coming up on Drug Take Back Day, where on Saturday all over the country, the DEA is asking police departments to allow people to bring their unused drugs in to get them out of the medicine cabinets. We were talking about much more than that. We were talking about how State governments and the Federal Government haven't stepped up the way we should to partner on prevention and education in medication-assisted therapy treatment and all the things we should be doing.

Mr. MARINO seems to think we arrest our way out of this problem, but that is not what law enforcement officials across this country are saying. Detective Toth and I didn't talk about arresting people's children and arresting

parents. We talked about how to promote the Department's Drug Take Back Day.

Addiction isn't an individual problem or a character flaw; it is a chronic disease. We need someone running our drug policy who understands that, not someone who simply wants to pull patients out of treatment in the middle of an epidemic. We know what that was about when on this floor, not much more than a month ago, only by one vote were we able to preserve the treatment that so many opioid-addicted people are getting. Right now, in my State, 200,000 Ohioans are getting opioid treatment because they have insurance under the Affordable Care Act.

We need the enforcement piece. That is why I have introduced the bipartisan INTERDICT Act and why I have worked with Senator PORTMAN on this to make sure we have resources for Customs and Border Protection agents to screen packages effectively and safely before they reach our neighborhood.

It has been more than 8 weeks since President Trump promised a national disaster declaration. We have yet to see a strategy from the White House. Other than a nominee who thinks one locks people up to defeat the opioid epidemic, we have seen no strategy from the White House to deal with the epidemic. Ohio families cannot afford to wait.

Let me close with this. A few months ago, I was in Cincinnati, at the Talbert House, and I met with a father who was there with his 30-year-old daughter. He told me that his daughter would not be there right now, that she would not still be alive, if it were not for Medicaid and the treatment for addiction that she received because of it.

We know what we have to do to deal with this epidemic. I ask the President to do the right thing, and I ask the Senate to do the right thing and move forward. It is the biggest public health emergency in our lifetimes. We need the people who are in charge of our drug control policy to treat it that way.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, let me echo the remarks of the senior Senator from Ohio.

Like Ohio, Rhode Island has a very significant opioid problem, and we came together in this Chamber to support the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act. I had the privilege of being the principal Democratic author of that piece of legislation, and Senator PORTMAN of Ohio was the principal Republican author of that legislation. We worked for years to set it up—to hold the hearings necessary, to get the information together, to make it work. When we did, it passed this body with a massive bipartisan expression of support.

It makes no sense to nominate somebody to this position who does not understand what we understand, which is



that the drug epidemic is, at its heart, a public health emergency and an illness. A reversion to law enforcement harshness in dealing with this problem will simply not be effective.

#### CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. President, now, if I may, I turn to my 182nd appearance to remind us of the global crisis of climate change, which has recently come so perilously close to our American shores.

This recent graphic from NOAA shows above-average temperatures in our oceans. Anything that is pink is above average; if it is reddish, it is much warmer than average; and if it is really red, like here, that is a record. That is the warmest record.

As one can see, from 2015, 2016, and 2017, the oceans have warmed significantly, and warmer oceans mean stronger storms. It is as simple as that. In this hurricane season, Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria have all struck the United States. It is the first time ever that the United States has been hit by three category 4 Atlantic storms in 1 year. Hurricane Ophelia, now out in the Atlantic, has become the 10th consecutive hurricane-strength storm. That ties a record that was set way back in the 1800s. We have gone more than a century without having this kind of storm activity. It is a rarity, but it is going to be less and less of a rarity because the oceans are warmer. That powers up those big storms, and those big storms bring damage to property and infrastructure. They destroy businesses and homes.

Away from the coastline, other aspects of climate change bring an array of other harms, like longer and fiercer wildfire seasons, as California is experiencing; depleted fish stocks, as our Rhode Island fishermen are experiencing; decreased agricultural yields, as the Midwest is experiencing; acidifying seas, as the northwest coast is experiencing; and risks to human health from new disease vectors and hotter heat waves felt across our country. All of these harms carry costs. Together, these costs are known as the social cost of carbon pollution. It is the cost to people and to communities of carbon pollution and climate change.

During the Obama administration, by scientists and economists from across the Federal Government who relied on scientific literature and well-vetted models, the social cost of carbon was put at around \$50 per ton of carbon dioxide. There is a new book out by a number of conservative economists and scientists that looks at the climate change problem and recommends a revenue-neutral, border-adjustable carbon fee as a solution. In that book, the exemplar carbon price also runs at about \$50 per ton of emitted carbon. It tracks from the Obama administration to conservative analysts as well.

This social cost of carbon is well established. Over and over, courts have instructed Federal agencies to factor the social cost of carbon into their permits and regulations. States are using

a social cost of carbon in their policy-making. Major American corporations—even ExxonMobil—factor a social cost of carbon into their planning and accounting, and the social cost of carbon is at the heart of the International Monetary Fund's calculation that the fossil fuel industry gets an annual subsidy in the United States of \$700 billion—that is “billion” with a “b.”

The point of this particular speech is that a new calculation has emerged, not just of the harm of carbon pollution, but of how individual fossil fuel companies have contributed to that harm. This was not just some op-ed, nor was it the phony hack science that the fossil fuel industry cranks out to propagate climate denial on the talk show circuit. This is a peer-reviewed study that was published in the scientific journal *Climatic Change*.

The study tells us that major fossil fuel producers are responsible for as much as half of the recorded global surface temperature increase. Then it dives down into the data for individual companies and demonstrates a method for attributing the real, observable effects of climate change to the likes of Chevron, ExxonMobil, ConocoPhillips, Peabody Energy, Arch Coal, and Devon Energy, among about 50 investor-owned, carbon-producing companies.

The history here is telling. More than half of all emissions that were traced to carbon producers from 1880 to 2010—across a span of 130 years—were produced after 1986, which was just in the last 24 years. This was when the climate risks of fossil fuel combustion were well established. Those were the years in which we knew. Many of these companies knew the harm of their fossil fuel products; yet they carried out a decades-long campaign to deceive the public about the risks of fossil fuel energy production and to bring influence to bear on this institution.

These companies knew that their products posed a threat to the global environment. They could have taken steps to reduce emissions. They could have invested in new technologies and emissions reduction technologies and renewable energy. They could have communicated honestly with their shareholders and with the public. They chose not to—an infamous decision that has kept carbon pollution dumping into the atmosphere, where it will affect the chemistry, the physics, and the biology of our planet for centuries to come. This is this generation's sad and sordid legacy.

This study shows that we can trace those harms back to individual companies, to their boards of directors, and to their managers. We can use the emissions data from this study. In using those established social cost of carbon estimates, we can estimate individual corporate accountability. This is new.

In using the study's emissions data and the social cost of carbon, we can calculate, for instance, the carbon pol-

lution cost for which ExxonMobil is accountable. If one does this for 2010—just that 1-year's worth—the cost to the rest of us was over \$22 billion. For Chevron, in 2010, it was \$14.5 billion. For BP, it was \$18.8 billion just for the harm that they caused in 2010. What about some of the major coal companies, like Peabody and Arch? Pollution attributable to Peabody Energy had a cost of \$17.8 billion just for 2010. For Arch Coal, it was \$11.7 billion. For Devon Energy, it was \$3 billion. Devon, one may remember, is the company whose lobbying letter EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt put on his official Oklahoma attorney general letterhead, in the masquerade of official duty on behalf of special interests, which is still his hallmark now that he is at the EPA. If we add up all of this, we are looking at \$88 billion in attributable damages—attributable to ExxonMobil, Chevron, BP, Peabody, Arch, and Devon—just for 2010. That is a 1-year cost that we all bear for allowing these polluters to pollute our air and oceans for free. That is why the IMF said that the subsidy was \$700 billion.

As nature has so powerfully shown us this year, taxpayers, communities, and local businesses, especially those in vulnerable coastal areas, bear the cost of the irresponsible choices these big polluters have made. This is the cost these companies transferred to us by spending millions of dollars in deceiving the public about climate science and in using millions more in political spending in order to block sensible limits on carbon emissions. They spent millions to dodge billions, and we let them get away with it.

Perhaps judges and juries will be less manipulable. After all, one of the reasons that the Founding Fathers set up an independent judiciary and independent juries is that, in their being experienced politicians, they had seen that the political branches of government could be captured by special interests—what the Founders would have called factions—just as we now are captured by the fossil fuel industry here in Congress.

The average number of billion-dollar weather disasters is about five per year. That is the average in any given year, about five over the long term. Here we are, and it is only October, and 2017 has already seen 15 billion-dollar weather disasters—15 of them just this year, so far.

But the real multibillion-dollar disaster is a captured Congress. We actually have a remedy right before us that ought to be a bipartisan remedy: a carbon fee like the one Senator SCHATZ and I introduced in our American Opportunity Carbon Fee Act. Virtually every Republican who has thought the climate change problem through to a solution comes to the same place. They all come to the same place: Put a price on carbon emissions, let the market work, avoid what is called the negative externality of the carbon polluters not having to pay for their harm, make the

economics correct by virtually everybody's economic principles, and take the revenue that is collected from that price on carbon and return it all to the American people. It is a border-adjustable, revenue-neutral carbon fee. Former Republican Treasury Secretaries Baker, Schultz, and Paulson, and former Republican EPA Administrators Ruckelshaus, Thomas, Reilly, and Whitman and leading Republican conservative economists and former Republican Presidential advisers Arthur Laffer, Gregory Mankiw, and Douglas Holtz-Eakin, among many, many others, support a revenue-neutral, border-adjustable carbon fee. It is the market approach of properly pricing this pollution to eliminate that negative externality and to put the cost into the price of the product in the way that Economics 101 suggests it should be to avoid giving this industry this massive subsidy. That is where the Republicans who thought this through want us to be.

On my side, our answer is yes, but here in Congress, are we there yet? We just will not do it. We just will not do it because the shadow of the fossil fuel industry's millions of dollars in deception and political muscle power falls too darkly on this supposedly august institution.

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. 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.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 164.

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

The clerk will report nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Henry Kerner, of California, to be Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel, for the term of five years.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nomination with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; that no further motions be in order; and that any statements relating to the nomination be printed in the RECORD.

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

Is there any further debate?

Hearing none, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Kerner nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and 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.

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I was unavailable for rollcall vote No. 217, on the nomination of Callista Gingrich to be Ambassador to the Holy See. Had I been present, I would have voted yea. •

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA, Oct. 12, 2017.

Hon. BOB CORKER,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 17-26, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Kuwait for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$342.6 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER,  
Lieutenant General, USA, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-26

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Kuwait.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment\* \$0.0 million.

Other \$342.6 million.

Total \$342.6 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE: Non-MDE items and services for three years (with option for two additional years) of follow-on support of two (2) C-17 aircraft includes participation in the Globemaster III Integrated Sustainment Program (GISP), contract logistic support, Class I modifications and kits support, in-country contractor support, alternate mission equipment, major modification and retrofit, software support, aircraft maintenance and technical support, support equipment, personnel training and training equipment, additional spare and repair parts, technical orders and publications, airworthiness certification support, engine spares, engine maintenance and logistics support, inspections support, on-site COMSEC support, Quality Assurance and other U.S. Government and contractor engineering, logistics and program support. Required upgrades will include fixed installation satellite antenna, Mode 5, plus installation and sustainment, Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast Out, and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (X7-D-QAH).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: KU-D—SAA.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: October 12, 2017.

\*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

#### POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Kuwait—Continuation of C-17 Logistics Support Services and Equipment

The Government of Kuwait has requested three years (with option for two additional years) of follow-on support of two (2) C-17 aircraft, which includes participation in the Globemaster III Integrated Sustainment Program (GISP), contract logistic support, Class I modifications and kits support, in-country contractor support, alternate mission equipment, major modification and retrofit, software support, aircraft maintenance and technical support, support equipment, personnel training and training equipment, additional spare and repair parts, technical orders and publications, airworthiness certification support, engine spares, engine maintenance and logistics support, inspections support, on-site COMSEC support, Quality Assurance and other U.S. Government and contractor engineering, logistics, and program support. Required upgrades will include fixed installation satellite antenna, Mode 5, plus installation and sustainment, Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast Out, and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated cost is \$342.6 million.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a friendly country. Kuwait plays a large role in U.S. efforts to advance stability in the Middle East, providing basing, access, and transit for U.S. forces in the region.

This proposed sale is required to maintain the operational readiness of the Kuwaiti Air Force C-17 aircraft. Kuwait's current FMS contract supporting its C-17's will expire in September of 2017. Kuwait will have no difficulty absorbing this support.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractor will be the Boeing Company, Chicago, IL. The purchaser typically requests offsets. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

There is an on-going Foreign Military Sale (FMS) case providing C-17 sustainment services. There are currently nine (9) contractors from Boeing Company (aircraft) in-country providing Contractor Engineering Technical Services (CETS) on a continuing basis.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

## TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-26

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

## Annex Item No. vii

## (vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. This sale will involve the release of sensitive technology to the Government of Kuwait in the performance of services to sustain two (2) Kuwaiti C-17 aircraft. While much of the below equipment supporting the C-17 is not new to the country, there will be replenishment spares of these following sensitive technologies purchased to support the fleet.

2. The Force 524D is a 24-channel Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) based Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver with Precise Positioning Service (PPS) capability built upon Trimble's next generation GPS technology. The Force 524D retains backward compatibility with the proven Force 5GS while adding new functionality to interface with digital antenna electronics to significantly improve Anti-Jam (AJ) performance. The host platform can select the radio frequency (RF) or Digital Antenna Electronics (DAE) interface. In the digital mode, the Force 524D is capable of controlling up to 16 independent beams. The hardware and software associated with the 524D receiver card is UNCLASSIFIED.

3. The C-17 aircraft will be equipped with the GPS Anti-Jam System (GAS-1) antenna which consists of a multi-element Controlled Reception Pattern Antennas (CRPA) and separate antenna electronics which is able to recognize multiple sources of deliberate jamming and other electrical interference allowing the navigation equipment to function safely, accurately, and efficiently in the presence of multiple jammers. The hardware is UNCLASSIFIED.

4. The GPS Inertial Reference Unit (IRU) is a type of inertial sensor which uses only gyroscopes to determine a moving aircraft's change in angular direction over a period of time. Unlike the inertial measurement unit, IRUs are generally not equipped with accelerometers, which measure acceleration forces.

IRUs are used for altitude control and navigation of vehicles with relatively constant acceleration rates, such as larger aircraft as well as geosynchronous satellites and deep space probes. The GPS IRU is UNCLASSIFIED.

5. Crypto appliqué for Mode 5 Identification Friend or Foe (IFF), which includes hardware that is UNCLASSIFIED.

6. Software, hardware, and other data/information, which is sensitive, is reviewed prior to release to protect system vulnerabilities, design data, and performance parameters. Potential compromise of these systems is controlled through management of the basic software programs of highly sensitive systems and software-controlled weapon systems on a case-by-case basis.

7. Kuwait is both willing and able to protect United States Classified Military Information (CMI). Kuwaiti physical and document security standards are equivalent to U.S. standards. Kuwait has demonstrated its willingness and capability to protect sensitive military technology and information released to its military in the past. Kuwait is firmly committed to its relationship with the U.S. and to its promise to protect CMI and prevent its transfer to a third party. The Government of Kuwait signed a Technical Security Arrangement (TSA) with the USG on 01 January 1989 that commits them to the protection of CMI.

8. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware or software source code in this proposed sale, the information could be used to develop countermeasures which might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of systems with similar or advanced capabilities. The benefits to be derived from this sale in the furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives, as outlined in the Policy Justification, outweigh the potential damage that could result if the sensitive technology were revealed to unauthorized persons.

9. All defense articles and services listed on this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Kuwait.

## DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION

## AGENCY,

Arlington, VA, October 11, 2017.

Hon. BOB CORKER,

Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 17-47, concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the Czech Republic for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$575 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER,

Lieutenant General, USA, Director.

Enclosures.

## TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-47

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of the Czech Republic.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment \* \$335.9 million.

Other \$239.1 million.

Total \$575.0 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): Twelve (12) UH-1Y Utility Helicopters. Twenty-five (25) T-700 GE 401C Engines (twenty-four (24) installed, one (1) spare). Thirteen (13) Honeywell Embedded Global Positioning Systems (GPS)/Inertial Navigation System (INS) (EGI) (twelve (12) installed, one (1) spare). Twelve (12) 7.62mm M240 Machine Guns.

Non-MDE includes: Brite Star II FLIR system, Aircraft Survivability Equipment (ASE) (includes the AN/AAR-47 Missile Warning and Laser Detection System, AN/ALE-47 Counter Measure Dispensing System (CMDs) and the AN/APR-39 Radar Warning Receiver (RWR)), Joint Mission Planning Systems, Helmet Mounted Displays, communication equipment, small caliber gun systems including GAU-17A and GAU-21, electronic warfare systems, Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) Mode 4/5 transponder, support

equipment, spare engine containers, spare and repair parts, tools and test equipment, technical data and publications, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy.

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: October 11, 2017.

\* As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

## POLICY JUSTIFICATION

## Czech Republic—UH-1Y Utility Helicopters

The Government of the Czech Republic has requested the possible sale of twelve (12) UH-1Y utility helicopters, twenty-five (25) T-700 GE 401C engines (twenty-four (24) installed, one (1) spare), thirteen (13) Honeywell Embedded GPS/INS (EGI) (twelve (12) installed, one (1) spare), and twelve (12) 7.62mm M240 Machine Guns. This request also includes Brite Star II FLIR system, Aircraft Survivability Equipment (ASE) (includes the AN/AAR-47 Missile Warning and Laser Detection System, AN/ALE-47 Counter Measure Dispensing System (CMDs) and the AN/APR-39 Radar Warning Receiver (RWR)), Joint Mission Planning Systems, Helmet Mounted Displays, communication equipment, small caliber gun systems including GAU-17A and GAU-21, electronic warfare systems, Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) Mode 4/5 transponder, support equipment, spare engine containers, spare and repair parts, tools and test equipment, technical data and publications, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated cost is \$575 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO partner that is an important force for ensuring peace and stability in Europe. The proposed sale will support the Czech Republic's needs for its own self-defense and support NATO defense goals.

The Czech Republic intends to use these helicopters to modernize its armed forces and strengthen its homeland defense and deter regional threats. This will contribute to the Czech Republic's military goal of updating its capabilities while further enhancing interoperability with the United States and other NATO allies. The Czech Republic will have no difficulty absorbing these helicopters into its armed forces.

This proposed sale of equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractors will be Bell Helicopter, Textron, Fort Worth, Texas; and General Electric Company, Lynn, Massachusetts. There are no known offset agreements proposed in conjunction with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require multiple trips by U.S. Government and contractor representatives to participate in program and technical reviews plus training and maintenance support in country, on a temporary basis, for a period of twenty-four (24) months. It will also require three (3) Contractor Engineering Technical Service (CETS) representatives to reside in country for a period of two (2) years to support this program.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-47

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The following components and technical documentation for the program are classified as listed below:

a. The UH-1Y-model has an Integrated Avionics System (IAS) which includes two (2) mission computers and an automatic flight control system. Each crew station has two (2) 8 x 6-inch multifunction liquid crystal displays (LCD) and one (1) 4.2 x 4.2-inch dual function LCD display. The communications suite will have COMSEC ARC-210 Ultra High Frequency Very High Frequency (UHF/VHF) radios with associated communications equipment. The navigation suite includes Honeywell Embedded Global Positioning System (GPS) Inertial Navigation System (INS) (EGI) w/Precise Positioning Service (PPS), a digital map system, a low-air-speed air data subsystem, and an AN/APX-123(A/V) IFF Transponder.

b. The crew is equipped with the Optimized Top Owl (OTO) helmet-mounted sight and display system. The OTO has a Day Display Module (DDM) and a Night Display Module (NDM). The UH-1Y has survivability equipment including the AN/AAR-47 Missile Warning and Laser Detection System, AN/ALE-47 Counter Measure Dispensing System (CMDS) and the AN/APR-39 Radar Warning Receiver (RWR) to cover countermeasure dispensers, radar warning, incoming/on-way missile warning and on-fuselage laser-spot warning systems.

c. The following performance data and technical characteristics are classified as follows for the UH-1Y Airframe: countermeasure capability—up to SECRET, counter-countermeasures capability—SECRET, vulnerability to countermeasures—SECRET, vulnerability to electromagnetic pulse from nuclear environmental effects—SECRET.

2. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures which might reduce weapon system effectiveness.

3. The consequences of the loss of this technology to a technologically advanced or competent adversary could result in the compromise of equivalent systems, which in turn could reduce those weapons systems' effectiveness, or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that the Czech Republic can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale of the UH-1Y helicopter and associated weapons will further U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of the Czech Republic.

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY

Arlington, VA, Oct. 11, 2017.

Hon. BOB CORKER,

Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 17-46, concerning the Air Force's proposed

Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the Netherlands for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$53 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER,

Lieutenant General, USA, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-46

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: The Government of the Netherlands.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment\* \$48 million.

Other \$5 million.

Total \$53 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Twenty-six (26) AIM-120 C-7 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM).

One (1) AMRAAM Spare Guidance Section.

Non-MDE: Twenty (20) AMRAAM Captive Air Training Missiles (CATM), missile containers, control section spares, weapon systems support, test equipment, spare and repair parts, publications and technical documentation, personnel training, training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, logistics, technical support services, and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (X7-D-YAE).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: NE-D-YME for two hundred (200) AIM-120B.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: October 11, 2017.

\*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Government of the Netherlands—AIM-120 C-7 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile (AMRAAM)

The Government of the Netherlands has requested a possible sale of twenty-six (26) AIM-120 C-7 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM), one (1) AMRAAM Spare Guidance Section (MDE items), twenty (20) AMRAAM Captive Air Training Missiles (CATM), missile containers, control section spares, weapon systems support, test equipment, spare and repair parts, publications and technical documentation, personnel training, training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, logistics, technical support services, and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total case value is \$53 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally which continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

The proposed sale will improve the Netherlands' capabilities for mutual defense, regional security, force modernization, and U.S. and NATO interoperability. This sale will enhance the Royal Netherlands Air Force's ability to defend the Netherlands against future threats and contribute to current and future NATO operations. The Netherlands maintains the AIM-120B in its inventory and will have no difficulty absorbing these missiles into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractor will be Raytheon Missile Systems, Tucson, AZ. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government personnel or contractor representatives to the Netherlands.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-46

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. AIM-120C Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile (AMRAAM) is a radar-guided missile featuring digital technology and micro-miniature solid-state electronics. AMRAAM capabilities include look-down/shoot-down, multiple launches against multiple targets, resistance to electronic countermeasures, and interception of high flying, low flying, and maneuvering targets. The AMRAAM is classified CONFIDENTIAL, major components and subsystems range from UNCLASSIFIED to CONFIDENTIAL, and technology data and other documentation are classified up to SECRET.

2. If a technologically advanced adversary obtains knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

3. A determination has been made that the Government of the Netherlands can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sale is necessary to the furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the policy justification.

4. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of the Netherlands.

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA, Oct. 6, 2017.

Hon. BOB CORKER,

Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 17-28, concerning the Missile Defense Agency's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$15 billion. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

CHARLES W. HOOPER,

Lieutenant General, USA Director.

Enclosure.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-28

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Saudi Arabia.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment\* \$9 billion.

Other \$6 billion.

Total \$15 billion.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

## Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Forty-four (44) Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) Launchers.

Three hundred sixty (360) THAAD Interceptor Missiles.

Sixteen (16) THAAD Fire Control and Communications Mobile Tactical Station Group. Seven (7) AN/TPY-2 THAAD Radars.

## Non-MDE:

Also included are THAAD Battery maintenance equipment, forty-three (43) prime movers (trucks), generators, electrical power units, trailers, communications equipment, tools, test and maintenance equipment, repair and return, system integration and checkout, spare/repair parts, publications and technical documentation, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics personnel support services, facilities construction, studies, and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Departments: Missile Defense Agency (XX-I-W1B, XX-I-WIC); Army (XX-B-TFP, XX-B-BDP, XX-B-ZAO, XX-B-DAH, XX-B-ZAQ, XX-B-OZY, XX-B-HFA); NSA (XX-M-AAG).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: SR-I-WIA Basic, 2 February 2015; Amendment 1, 25 August 2016.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: October 6, 2017.

\*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

## POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Saudi Arabia—Terminal High Altitude Area Defense and Related Support Equipment and Services

The Government of Saudi Arabia has requested a possible sale of forty-four (44) Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) launchers, three hundred sixty (360) THAAD Interceptor Missiles, sixteen (16) THAAD Fire Control and Communications Mobile Tactical Station Group, seven (7) AN/TPY-2 THAAD radars. Also included are THAAD Battery maintenance equipment, forty-three (43) prime movers (trucks), generators, electrical power units, trailers, communications equipment, tools, test and maintenance equipment, repair and return, system integration and checkout, spare/repair parts, publications and technical documentation, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics personnel support services, facilities construction, studies, and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated cost is \$15 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a friendly country. This sale furthers U.S. national security and foreign policy interests, and supports the long-term security of Saudi Arabia and the Gulf region in the face of Iranian and other regional threats. This potential sale will substantially increase Saudi Arabia's capability to defend itself against the growing ballistic missile threat in the region. THAAD's exo-atmospheric, hit-to-kill capability will add an upper-tier to Saudi Arabia's layered missile defense architecture and will support modernization of the Royal Saudi Air Defense Force (RSADF). Saudi Arabia will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractors for the THAAD system are Lockheed Martin Space Systems

Corporation, Dallas, TX; Camden, AR; Troy, AL and Huntsville, AL; and Raytheon Corporation, Andover, MA. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require one hundred eleven (111) contractor representatives and eighteen (18) U.S. Government personnel in country for an extended period of time.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

## TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-28

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

## Annex Item No. vii

## (vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Terminal High Altitude Area Defense System (THAAD) Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) System contains classified CONFIDENTIAL/SECRET components and critical/sensitive technology. The THAAD Fire Unit is a ground-based, forward deployable terminal missile defense system that represents significant technological advances. The THAAD system continues to hold a technology lead over other terminal ballistic missile systems. THAAD is the first weapon system with both endo- and exo-atmospheric capability developed specifically to defend against ballistic missiles. The higher altitude and theater-wide protection offered by THAAD provides more protection of larger areas than lower-tier systems alone. THAAD is designed to defend against short, medium, and intermediate range ballistic missiles. The THAAD system consists of four major components: Fire Control/Communications, Radar, Launchers, and Interceptor Missiles.

2. The THAAD BMD System contains sensitive/critical technology, primarily in the area of defense and production know-how and primarily inherent in the design, development and/or manufacturing data related to certain critical components. Information on operational effectiveness with respect to countermeasures and counter-countermeasures, low observable technologies, select software documentation and test data are classified up to and including SECRET.

3. The THAAD BMD System contains Controlled Cryptographic Items (CCI) that are used for both system internal links and for external communications. These items consist of key loading devices, network encryptors, secure telephones, voice radios, tactical data radios, and mission data radios. Specific CCI used for the Saudi Arabia case will be determined through the COMSEC Release Request (CRR) process, initiated through USCENCOM once an interoperability requirement has been established. NSA will identify releasable items, in parallel with staffing and validation of the CRR by the Joint Staff. The Committee for National Security Systems (CNSS) reviews and provides final approval of the items and quantities.

4. AN/VCR-90, AN/VCR-91, AN/VCR-92 are different configurations of the Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System (SINGARS) family. SINGARS is a tactical radio providing secure jam-resistant voice and data communications of command, control, targeting, and technical information for the Terminal High Altitude Air Defense (THAAD) system. The spread-spectrum frequency hopping Electronic Counter-Counter Measures (ECCM) technology resident in the radio is sensitive but UNCLASSIFIED. While sensitive, the frequency-hopping algorithms used to generate the ECCM waveform are unique to the country of ownership and cannot be manipulated by potential adversaries for use or interference with other countries

possessing SINGARS technology. Should a potential adversary come into possession of one of these radios, they would have the potential to intercept operational command, control, and targeting information. This potential problem is mitigated by the fact that the customer can secure information passed over the radio network using a commercial grade security capability equivalent to an Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) 256-bit encryption system whose keys are controlled by the customer country.

5. As with the SINGARS family of radios, the AN/PRC-117 is a tactical radio providing ECCM jam-resistant secure communications for exchange of command, control, and targeting information within the THAAD system tactical radio network. ECCM capabilities are sensitive but UNCLASSIFIED and algorithms for these jam-resistant waveforms are unique to the customer country. Unlike the SINGARS radios, the AN/PRC-117 uses Type 1 encryption. When loaded with U.S. crypto keys, the system is then CLASSIFIED up to SECRET. Should a potential adversary come into possession of one of these radios, the customer country can quickly remotely rekey remaining radios, preventing potential adversaries from understanding received command, control, and targeting information.

6. The Defense Advanced Global Positioning System (GPS) Receiver (DAGR) is a handheld GPS location device with map background displaying the user's location. Unlike commercial grade GPS receivers capable of receiving Standard Positioning Signals (SPS) from GPS satellites, the DAGR is capable of receiving Precise Positioning Signals (PPS). PPS satellite signals provide significantly more accurate location data than do SPS signals. This capability within DAGRs is possible due to the Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM). The SAASM is an encrypted device permitting both receipt of PPS signals and the benefit of preventing potential adversaries from spoofing the system to display incorrect location information. The SAASM capability within the DAGR is sensitive but UNCLASSIFIED. The SAASM capabilities are sensitive due to the system's ability to access restricted PPS GPS satellite signals and to prevent spoofing. While sensitive, the ability of potential adversaries to exploit the system is limited.

7. The same SAASM capabilities resident in the DAGR are also resident in the THAAD GPS timing system. The THAAD system requires highly precise timing hacks in order accurately track and engage targets. The PPS signals generated by GPS satellites provide this precise timing information. The SAASM device resident in the timing system permits receipt of this precise PPS timing data. The SAASM is an encrypted device permitting both receipt of PPS signals and the benefit of preventing potential adversaries from spoofing the system to display incorrect data. The SAASM capability within the timing system is sensitive but UNCLASSIFIED.

8. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of specific hardware, the information could be used to develop countermeasures which might reduce weapons system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

9. A determination has been made that Saudi Arabia can provide substantially the same degree of protection for sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sustainment program is necessary to the furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the policy justification.

10. All defense articles and services listed on this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

#### KEEP AMERICA'S REFUGES OPERATIONAL ACT

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, in celebration of National Wildlife Refuge Week, Senator BARRASSO and I introduced legislation just prior to the recent recess to reauthorize the National Wildlife Refuge System's volunteer and partnerships program. I want to share with our colleagues some information about S. 1940, the Keep America's Refuges Operational Act, and ask for their support.

The Keep America's Refuges Operational Act reauthorizes the volunteer and partnerships program, with no increase, at \$2 million per year. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will use this authorization of Federal funding to provide volunteer uniforms, training, equipment, and necessary travel. The bill also allows volunteer groups to use this modest funding for administrative expenses directly related to the program.

For example, these groups will now be able to use funding to complete administrative requirements of cooperative agreements with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Cooperative agreements enable volunteers to assist the agency in technical activities, such as bird banding, other wildlife tagging, and research.

Our National Wildlife Refuge System is an exceptional network of public lands and waters dedicated to fish and wildlife conservation. More than 40 million people visit our refuges each year to explore, fish, hunt, and view and study wildlife. This ecotourism industry strongly supports local economies.

Volunteers are critical to refuge operations, making up 20 percent of the refuge system's workforce. Volunteers assist with fish and wildlife surveys, restoring habitat, and supporting refuge office functions. Without volunteers and partner groups, refuges may have to cut back on public programs and reduce hours of operation.

In my home State of Delaware, we have two beautiful refuges: the Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge and the Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge. The two refuges employ only 10 full time staff, and both refuges are highly dependent upon volunteers.

Each year, people come to our refuges to observe the federally threatened Red Knot shorebird, which stops along the Delaware Bay to refuel on horseshoe crab eggs along its migration journey. Volunteers make sure these visitors have memorable experiences.

When people can see these pristine habitats and the many species that call them home, they are inspired to be good stewards of our planet for the enjoyment and benefit of future generations.

I want to ensure that these opportunities abound, in Delaware and around the country. A small annual investment in the refuge system volunteer and partnerships program goes a long way. Every \$1 appropriated to coordinate these volunteers translates to \$10 worth of volunteer services.

These appropriations also help cut government costs. In fiscal year 2016, 40,000 volunteers donated 1.4 million hours, with donated time equaling that of 649 full-time employees.

I want to thank Senator BARRASSO for cosponsoring this commonsense legislation. I look forward to working with him and our colleagues in the House to pass the Keep America's Refuges Operational Act and enact it into law.

Thank you.

#### CONFIRMATION OF AJIT PAI

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I do not believe Chairman Pai should have been confirmed to serve a full 5-year term as Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, FCC. Since assuming the leadership role at the Commission, Chairman Pai has systematically advanced policies that advance corporate interests at the expense of American consumers.

Chairman Pai's decision to open an NPRM that will eventually reverse the 2015 open internet order is an egregious example of his misplaced priorities. In 2016, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit confirmed that the open internet order was a lawful exercise of the Commission's regulatory authority. Broadband service providers must provide fair and equal access to all users, regardless of socioeconomic status. Over 18 million Americans submitted comments urging the Commission to maintain regulations that impose transparency and prevent ISPs from throttling or discriminating against certain data. Numerous polls have shown that Americans, across the political spectrum, overwhelmingly support regulations that would prevent broadband companies from discriminating against certain data.

Chairman Pai claims that the 2015 order caused a decrease in broadband investment, but the evidence suggests otherwise. I wrote to Chairman Pai about the evidence that he frequently cites to support his allegations of depressed investment—evidence, which I believe, is incomplete and inconclusive. As technology develops and consumers become even more dependent upon internet access, it is imperative that the FCC ensures that the internet is not divided between the have and the have-nots.

I was also disappointed by Chairman Pai's support for Congress's actions to repeal the Federal Communications Commission's broadband privacy rules. These rules are especially important in light of recent data breaches. Every website we visit and every link we click leaves an unintended trail that

tells a story about our lives. ISPs can collect information about our location, children, sensitive information, family status, financial information, Social Security Numbers, web browsing history, and even the content of communications. ISPs sell this highly sensitive and highly personal data to the highest bidder without consumer's consent or knowledge. The Commission's rules empowered consumers and gave them tools to protect their privacy through transparency, choice, and data security. In supporting the rule's repeal, Chairman Pai demonstrated that he does not believe that Americans should have control over their data.

The rise of the internet of things, telehealth, and smart agriculture means that American consumers need an FCC that is on watch and committed to protecting their interests. I hope that Chairman Pai will reverse course and will stop putting the interests of big corporations ahead of the interests of American consumers.

#### REMEMBERING LIEUTENANT THOMAS F. BURKHART AND VET- ERANS OF THE WAR IN THE PA- CIFIC

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, this week my constituent Caroline Burkhardt of Baltimore, MD, is on a historic trip to Japan of remembrance and reconciliation. A guest of the Japanese Government, she will follow the journey of her father, Thomas F. Burkhardt, who was a prisoner of war of imperial Japan 75 years ago. Her trip will include a visit to the site of the camp in which her father was held as a POW.

At the start of WWII, Lieutenant Burkhardt served in the Philippines with the Headquarters Company of the 45th Infantry, Philippine Scouts, an elite U.S. Army unit composed of American officers and Filipino enlisted men. After Japan's December 8, 1941, invasion of the Philippines, his battalion helped defend the withdrawal of American forces on Luzon to the Bataan Peninsula. Barely a month after being promoted to first lieutenant, on January 24, 1942, Lieutenant Burkhardt earned a Silver Star for "Gallantry in Action" at the Battle of Abucay Hacienda, January 15 to 25, 1942, which maintained the first battle position on Bataan.

Sick with malaria, Lieutenant Burkhardt was in the open-air general hospital No. 1 near the tip of Bataan when Major General Edward King surrendered the peninsula to Japanese forces on April 9, 1942. Soon thereafter, the patients were taken by truck, boxcar, and foot up to Camp O'Donnell, an overcrowded, makeshift POW camp. In early June, the Japanese, fearing the deaths of the prisoners from the horrific conditions in the camp, began to release their Filipino POWs and transfer the others to a new facility at Cabanatuan. It is estimated that 1,550 Americans and 22,000 Filipinos died at Camp O'Donnell, the overwhelming majority within the first 8 weeks.



On November 6, 1942, Lieutenant Burkhart was among 1,500 prisoners packed into the coal bunker of the unmarked "hell ship" *Nagato Maru* to Japan. It took three torturous weeks for the ship to make its way from the tropics to the cold of Northeast Asia. Lieutenant Burkhart, nearly blind from malnutrition, was used as a slave laborer for the construction company Toshima Group—today's Tobishima Corporation. He was soon moved to the Hiroshima No. 1—B Zentsuji POW Camp on the island of Shikoku. The enlisted men at Zentsuji were slave stevedores for Nippon Express Co.—Nippon Tsuun—at Sakaide Rail Yards and the Port of Takamatsu. As an officer, Lieutenant Burkhart worked in the camp garden. On June 23, 1945, he and 334 officers were transferred to POW Camp 11—B Rokuroshi, deep in the Japanese Alps. Food was scarce, conditions were overcrowded, and winter clothes were unavailable, leading many to fear that they would not survive the harsh winter. Lieutenant Burkhart was liberated from this camp in early September.

Lieutenant Burkhart remained in the Army and had a distinguished career with the quartermaster corps, retiring in 1957 as a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve. Throughout his life, he was plagued by health problems most likely caused by the illnesses and hardships of being a POW. In 1972, at age 57, he passed away and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Thomas Burkhart's daughter Caroline has honored his memory by working tirelessly to preserve the history of the POW experience and to teach its lessons of American perseverance and grit. Ms. Burkhart is an active member of the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor Memorial Society. In this year, the 75th anniversary of the fall of the Philippines, we appreciate the effort by Japan to reach out to Ms. Burkhart and the American POWs in the spirit of reconciliation and healing.

I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Caroline Burkhart a safe and meaningful journey and in expressing our gratitude and appreciation to Thomas F. Burkhart and all veterans of the war in the Pacific for their heroic service and sacrifice.

#### TRIBUTE TO GEORGE JAMES WRIGHT

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I wish to honor George James Wright, a resident of Laurel, MT, and a veteran of the Second World War.

George, I would like to thank you and your family on behalf of Montana and the United States of America for your service to our Nation in times of war.

George was born on June 14, 1923, in Hinsdale, MT.

Like many Montanans from Valley County, he made a living off the land farming and ranching. He worked hard alongside his older brother, where he remembers driving the tractor and

looking up into the big blue Montana sky.

Also, like many Montanans, he did not back down from answering the call to serve his Nation when we needed him most.

In 1943, George enlisted in the Army, making him the first in his family to serve in the military.

He spent over 2 years fighting in the jungles and on the beaches of the Philippines and New Guinea as a proud member of the 32nd Infantry Division.

He braved the mud. He braved the rain. He braved the bugs, and he braved the bullets.

He saw the unimaginable, as Japanese kamikaze pilots slammed their airplanes into American ships.

He did the unbelievable, driving Army bulldozers into the unknown, making sure our soldiers got the supplies and food they desperately needed.

He served our Nation with bravery, courage, and dignity, working his way up to the rank of T5.

After America's victory, George came home, and returned to those same Montana fields and skies.

After seeing the war's destruction firsthand, he knew that the world needed to be rebuilt, and he knew he was the person for the job. He took what he learned on the battlefield and spent his next years doing construction work.

He married the love of his life, Vivian, who we remember today, and they had two children Roland and Sharon.

At the time, he did not receive the recognition that he was due for his service to our Nation, but we are here today to make that right.

Now, a proud father, grandfather of two, and great-grandfather of seven, he will get that long overdue acknowledgement.

I have the proud honor of presenting him with the following: Bronze Star Medal with one Bronze Service Star, Good Conduct Medal—Army, American Campaign Medal with three Bronze Service Stars, World War II Victory Medal, Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one Bronze Service Star, and Honorable Service Lapel Pin—WWII.

George, you are a Montana farmer through and through, whether feeding Americans at home or soldiers in the field.

I am proud to call myself a farmer, if only because it means I have something in common with a man like George Wright.

George, you have spent your life providing for Montanans at home and protecting Americans overseas.

These medals serve as a small token of our Nation's appreciation for your service and your sacrifice. You are an American hero and one of Montana's best. Thank you for your service.

#### TRIBUTE TO GERALD ROBERT ZELMER

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Gerald Robert Zelman, a veteran of the Vietnam war.

Gerald, I would like to thank you, on behalf of the State of Montana, and the United States of America, for your service to this Nation.

Gerald, known by his friends and family as Gerry, was born in Bismarck, ND, on June 25, 1947.

He married the love of his life, Dora Jean or D.J., on October 12, 1968, in Worden, MT, at the height of the Vietnam conflict.

Two months later, Gerry was off to war.

He attended boot camp in Fort Lewis, WA, and then moved on to advanced infantryman training in Fort Eustis, VA.

He deployed soon thereafter, serving proudly with the 101st Airborne Division out of Camp Eagle.

Gerry served as a helicopter crew chief, ensuring that pilots and crews were safe as they flew aerial missions. His skills on the battlefield ensured that rotary-wing aircraft were fine-tuned and ready to take off for their missions.

Gerry is a fixer and a problem solver. In Vietnam, he fixed helicopters and kept our birds in the air, covering our soldiers on the ground.

When he returned from war, he worked as a maintenance foreman at Montana Sulphur and Chemical.

It is his skills on the battlefield, his bravery and courage, and his service to our Nation that earned him these commendations decades ago. It is my honor to finally deliver them today.

As a father to Carrie and Cody and grandfather to two grandchildren Sienna and Aden, he will get that long overdue acknowledgement.

I have the proud honor of presenting you, Gerry, with the Bronze Star Medal for your meritorious service in connection with ground operations against a hostile force.

I am also presenting you with copies of your previous awards: Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with Silver Service Star attachment, Expert Badge with Auto Rifle Bar, and sharpshooter badge with rifle bar.

Gerry, these medals are but a small token of our Nation's appreciation for your service and your sacrifice. You are an American hero, and Montana is proud to call you one of our own.

#### NATIONAL FOREST PRODUCTS WEEK

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, in support of National Forest Products Week and in my role as a cochair of the Senate Paper and Packaging Caucus, I would like to recognize the almost 20,000 hard-working men and women employed by the forest products industry in the great State of Arkansas.

Arkansas is home to over 90 wood products, paper, and packaging manufacturing facilities that make over \$8 billion in products annually and contribute over \$1.2 billion to the State and local economies through wages and compensation.

The forest products industry plays a valuable role in the life of every American, every day. From paper and packaging to wood products, tissue, and other personal care items, paper and wood products are at the heart of modern life and a modern economy. In total, the industry employs about 900,000 Americans nationwide and manufactures over \$280 billion in products every year. That is nearly 4 percent of the current U.S. manufacturing GDP.

In addition to cochairing the Paper and Packaging Caucus, I am also a co-chair of the Senate Recycling Caucus. In this dual capacity, I have seen the success the forest products industry has had in pairing economic growth with respect for the environment. Be it through the use of carbon-neutral biomass energy or the successful implementation of voluntary recycling programs that now reach 96 percent of Americans, the forest products industry is leading by example.

Last year, I had the opportunity to see firsthand how the forest industry contributes to the economy of my State. Congressman BRUCE WESTERMAN and I visited timber-rich south Arkansas on our "Seed to Sawmill" tour. We learned about proper forest management and the positive environmental impacts achieved through conservation efforts. We also visited a seedling nursery, working private forests, state-of-the-art processing facilities, and the U.S. Forest Service's Experimental Forest in Crossett.

It is clear that the forest products industry contributes a great deal to Arkansas and to the U.S. economy overall. That is why it is important for us to highlight how forest products improve our lives, help grow our economy, and promote healthy environmental practices.

I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating National Forest Products Week and reflect on the many ways this recyclable and renewable resource impacts our daily lives for the better. Thank you for the opportunity to recognize the hard-working professionals of the forest products industry in the great State of Arkansas.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### RECOGNIZING COMPREHENSIVE JUVENILE SERVICES, INC.

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize an organization that is committed to redirecting the lives of youth and their families in western Arkansas. Comprehensive Juvenile Services, Inc., of Fort Smith, AR, helps youth who experience difficulty within their families, have problems in school, or face other challenges that result in them being at risk of or referred to the juvenile justice system. Comprehensive Juvenile Services is celebrating 40 years of incredible, invaluable service to the community, and I want to congratulate them on this milestone.

Incorporated in 1976, Comprehensive Juvenile Services is a private, non-profit community-based youth services agency. It serves 1,000 youth each year in Sebastian, Crawford, Franklin, Logan, Scott, Polk, and Montgomery Counties. CJS is supported by and receives guidance from community leaders as it seeks to help children and youth who are susceptible to delinquency or have encountered legal problems and need positive influences to help get back on track toward a happy and successful adolescence.

CJS provides support to these children and their families in a variety of ways. It employs caseworkers to assess a youth's individual problems and develop case plans, provides aftercare to those in custody of the Department of Youth Services, offers one-on-one mentoring opportunities, operates an emergency shelter for at-risk youth, and features other programs including treatment for major behavioral problems, mental health assessments, and therapy and parenting classes.

The commitment that CJS has demonstrated for youth in western Arkansas is inspiring. The men and women of the agency put their hearts and souls into helping children and teens improve their situations and strive for better outcomes at home, at school, and in life generally. In one of many success stories, a former client named Sherry went through a difficult adoption where she experienced major conflict with her adopted family. Through the help of Community Juvenile Services, Sherry completed a program at the Girls Shelter of Fort Smith and is now a Department of Child and Family Services caseworker herself, advocating for children and helping to make a difference in their lives the same way that CJS did in hers.

I am so proud of the work that Comprehensive Juvenile Services has done over the past 40 years. They truly are changing lives, one child at a time. I want to congratulate everyone involved with CJS on a job well done, and I look forward to hearing many more success stories in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO RONALD K. LORENTZEN

• Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Mr. Ronald K. Lorentzen, a dedicated public servant who has spent his career advocating for American workers and businesses. Mr. Lorentzen retired on June 30, 2017, after more than three decades of government service.

Born in the blue-collar town of Ash-  
tabula, OH—a great hometown, as my wife Connie can attest—Mr. Lorentzen's roots are evident in his life's work. Too often, especially in trade policy, representatives and policymakers fail to live up to the promises they have made to working families, but not Mr. Lorentzen. He never forgot where he came from, and he never forgot the workers who are too often left behind by our trade policy.

In his roles at the International Trade Administration, he has been a leader in our government's efforts to combat unfair trade practices and hold countries that cheat the rules accountable. He served as lead negotiator for the U.S. and chairman of the Steel Committee at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, where he worked to address steel overcapacity within the U.S. Market. While we know we have a lot more work to do to create a truly level playing field for our steel industry, his work helped shape a more fair international steel market for American companies.

In addition, Mr. Lorentzen led U.S. delegations before the North American Steel Trade Committee, NASTC. He helped ensure the NASTC fulfilled its mission as a forum for NAFTA steel countries to build consensus and develop united positions on areas of common concern. A firm grasp of the facts and diplomatic skill made him a strong and effective advocate for U.S. manufacturers.

Through his many roles in government, Mr. Lorentzen has served this country and its working families. He has stood up for workers in my State, and his efforts have helped save jobs. When we enforce our trade policies and hold accountable those who cheat the international trade system, we are ensuring our workers and businesses have access to a level playing field. Mr. Lorentzen has been a leader in that fight.

Mr. Lorentzen will be remembered for his compassion, work ethic, and integrity. I ask my Senate colleagues to join me in thanking him for his service and wishing him all the best on his retirement.●

#### 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF ASHER'S CHOCOLATES

• Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I wish to recognize and honor Chester Asher Candy Co., Inc., "Asher's Chocolates," as it celebrates the 125th anniversary of its founding in Pennsylvania.

In 1892, Chester A. Asher founded Asher's Chocolates in the city of Philadelphia, near Independence Hall. A farm boy from Scotland, who had previously lived in Canada, Chester had a "passion for chocolates" and a "knack for getting to the heart of a sugar craving." In 1899, he moved the company to the historical area of Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia. Chester worked tirelessly to perfect his candies and chocolates and was constantly searching for innovative ways to please his customers.

Following World War II, Chester's four sons took over the business, and they subsequently passed the company on to their sons in their retirement. After their father's passing in 1968, the third generation of Ashers, brothers John "Jack" and Bob Asher, assumed leadership of the company. Asher's Chocolates quickly grew from the

brothers producing each piece of candy individually with just two candy-making machines to building a warehouse and being regarded throughout the East Coast as a well-known candy company. While both of the third-generation brothers were vital to the company's increasing success, it was Jack who became lovingly referred to as, "the Candy Man."

Jack was very engaged in hands-on management of the company. When he wasn't on the ground overseeing production, Jack served as a volunteer firefighter with the Wissahickon and Flourtown fire companies. Jack also became a prominent member of the community by serving on the boards of the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown and the historic Cliveden, where he sponsored the Battle of Germantown reenactment for 40 years. Jack's proactive involvement and dedication to the community did not go unrecognized. In 1988, the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce awarded Jack the Small Business Person of the Year award, and in 2006, he was inducted into the National Confectionary Sales Association's Candy Hall of Fame. Though it is with great sadness that Jack Asher passed away in September of 2017, his legacy will undoubtedly continue through the life of Asher's Chocolates.

While over a century has passed since its founding, Asher's Chocolates still remains family owned. Currently, Jeff, a fourth-generation Asher, serves as the CEO of Asher's Chocolates and believes it is his family's "stubborn, common commitment to providing excellent chocolate at an affordable price" that has allowed Asher's Chocolates to remain in business for so long. Today Asher's Chocolates has expanded its business, selling over 3.3 million pounds of candy each year, employing over 100 people, and supplying delicious treats on a national and worldwide level to Canada, Mexico, Japan, China, South America, and Europe.

As Asher's Chocolates has reached global success, I am honored it calls Pennsylvania home. Founded by a Scottish man who emigrated from Canada and was devoted to operating a family-run business, Asher's Chocolates is rich in both diversity and tradition. While their impact is great and long-standing, Asher's Chocolates hasn't lost sight of what is important: family and "one of life's sweetest pleasures . . . [is] a simple box of chocolate." Asher's Chocolates serves as a symbol of success, history, and family, and I commend the Asher family and the company's employees on the 125th anniversary of its founding.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CHANCE BROWN

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Chance Brown, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Chance is a graduate of Douglas High School in Box Elder, SD, and a recent

graduate of Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO, having earned degrees in sociology, political science, and business administration. He is a dedicated worker who has been committed to getting the most out of his experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Chance Brown for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DAN KNUTSON

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Dan Knutson, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Dan is a graduate of Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls, SD, and a recent graduate of Augustana University, having earned a degree in psychology. He is a dedicated worker who has been committed to getting the most out of his experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Dan Knutson for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

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.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Secretary of the Senate, on October 11, 2017, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 1617. An act to designate the checkpoint of the United States Border Patrol located on United States Highway 77 North in Sarita, Texas, as the "Javier Vega, Jr. Border Patrol Checkpoint".

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Secretary of the Senate, on October 12, 2017, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 190. An act to provide for consideration of the extension under the Energy Policy and

Conservation Act of non-application of No-Load Mode energy efficiency standards to certain security or life safety alarms or surveillance systems, and for other purposes.

S. 920. An act to establish a National Clinical Care Commission.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:04 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 585. An act to provide greater whistleblower protections for Federal employees, increased awareness of Federal whistleblower protections, and increased accountability and required discipline for the Federal supervisors who retaliate against whistleblowers, and for other purposes.

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

H.R. 294. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2700 Cullen Boulevard in Pearland, Texas, as the "Endy Nddiobong Ekpanya Post Office Building".

H.R. 378. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to enhance the authority under which Federal agencies may pay cash awards to employees for making cost saving disclosures, and for other purposes.

H.R. 452. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 324 West Saint Louis Street in Pacific, Missouri, as the "Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office".

H.R. 1858. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, as the "Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office".

H.R. 2105. An act to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to disseminate guidance to help reduce small business cybersecurity risks, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2196. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to allow whistleblowers to disclose information to certain recipients.

H.R. 2229. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide permanent authority for judicial review of certain Merit Systems Protection Board decisions relating to whistleblowers, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2254. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2635 Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the "Janet Capello Post Office Building".

H.R. 2302. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 259 Nassau Street, Suite 2 in Princeton, New Jersey, as the "Dr. John F. Nash, Jr. Post Office".

H.R. 2464. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the "John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office".

H.R. 2763. An act to amend the Small Business Act to improve the Small Business Innovation Research program and Small Business Technology Transfer program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2989. An act to establish the Frederick Douglass Bicentennial Commission.

H.R. 3031. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for flexibility in making withdrawals from a Thrift Savings Plan account, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3243. An act to amend title 40, United States Code, to eliminate the sunset of certain provisions relating to information technology, to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 to extend the sunset relating to the Federal Data Center Consolidation Initiative, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 71. Concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2018 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2019 through 2027.

H. Con. Res. 85. Concurrent resolution providing for a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 2266.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1616) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the National Computer Forensics Institute, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2266) to amend title 28 of the United States Code to authorize the appointment of additional bankruptcy judges; and for other purposes, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

The message further announced that the House disagreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2810) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, and asks a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and that the following Members be the managers of the conference on the part of the House:

From the Committee on Armed Services, for consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. THORNBERRY, WILSON of South Carolina, LOBIONDO, BISHOP of Utah, TURNER, ROGERS of Alabama, FRANKS of Arizona, SHUSTER, CONAWAY, LAMBORN, WITTMAN, COFFMAN, Mrs. HARTZLER, Messrs. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, COOK, Ms. STEFANIK, Messrs. KNIGHT, BACON, SMITH of Washington, BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Messrs. LANGEVIN, LARSEN of Washington, COOPER, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. VEASEY, and Ms. GABBARD.

From the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, for consideration of matters within the jurisdiction of that committee under clause 11 of rule X: Messrs. NUNES, STEWART, and SCHIFF.

From the Committee on the Budget, for consideration of section 1262 of the House bill, and section 4 of the Senate amendment, and modifications com-

mitted to conference: Messrs. JOHNSON of Ohio, BERGMAN, and YARMUTH.

From the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for consideration of sections 221, 551, 555, and 3509 of the House bill, and sections 236, 551–53, 3116, 5508, and 6001 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Ms. FOXX, Messrs. BYRNE, and SCOTT of Virginia.

From the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for consideration of sections 313, 314, 601, 723, 727, 729, 732, 3118, and 3122 of the House bill, and sections 601, 701, 725, 732, 1089A, 1625, and 3114 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. WALDEN, BARTON, and PALLONE.

From the Committee on Financial Services, for consideration of section 862 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. BARR, WILLIAMS, and Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California.

From the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for consideration of sections 864, 1032, 1039, 1040, 1058, 1201, 1203–05, 1211, 1222, 1223, 1231, 1232, 1234, 1243, 1246, 1247, 1265, 1270A, 1272, 1276, 1278, 1280, 1301, 1302, 1521, 1522, 1687, 2841, and 3117 of the House bill, and sections 111, 861, 867, 1011, 1203–05, 1212, 1213, 1231–33, 1241–45, 1250, 1261–63, 1270B, 1270C, 1282, 1283, 1301, 1302, 1531, and 1651 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. ROYCE of California, DONOVAN, and ENGEL.

From the Committee on the Judiciary, for consideration of sections 515, 1062, 1063, 1067, 1080, 1695, 2843, and 3510 of the House bill, and sections 520A, 529, 1035, 1081, 1083, 1217, 1264, and 14013 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. GOODLATTE, ISSA, and CONYERS.

From the Committee on Natural Resources, for consideration of sections 601, 1062, 1265, 2827, 2828, 2831, 2832, 2844, 2863, subtitle F of title XXVIII, and section 2863 of the House bill, and sections 311, 338, 601, 1263, 1264, 2850, and 12801 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. WESTERMAN, Ms. CHENEY, and Mr. GRIJALVA.

From the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for consideration of sections 323, 501, 801, 803, 859–860A, 873, and 1101–09 of the House bill, and sections 218, 544, 557, 801, 812, 821, 822, 829, 852, 902, 931, 934, 938, 1045, 1093, 1094, 1101, 1102, 1104–06, 1111–13, 2821, 2822, 6005, 6012, 10804, 11023–25, and 11603 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. MEADOWS, ROSS, and LYNCH.

From the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for consideration of section 223 of the House bill and sections 897, 898, 1662–64, and 6002 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. SMITH of Texas, LUCAS, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

From the Committee on Small Business, for consideration of sections 801, 860B, 867, 1701–04, 1711–13, 1721–23, 1731–37, and 1741 of the House bill, and sec-

tions 854, 862, 897, 898, 899C, 10801, and 10802 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. CHABOT, KELLY of Mississippi, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.

From the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for consideration of sections 122, 311, 546, 601, 1082, 1617, 1695, 3501, 3502, 3505, and 3507–10 of the House bill, and sections 331, 601, 1048, 6002, 13501, 13502, 13508, 13513, 13607, and 14013 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. GRAVES of Missouri, HUNTER, and Mrs. BUSTOS.

From the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for consideration of section 572, 573, 576, 578, 1077, 2841 of the House bill, and sections 731, 1084, 1088, 1264, 11001, 11008, and 14004 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. ROE of Tennessee, BILIRAKIS, and WALZ.

From the Committee on Ways and Means for consideration of section 701 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. TIBERI, Mrs. WALORSKI, and Mr. NEAL.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 294. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2700 Cullen Boulevard in Pearland, Texas, as the "Endy Nddiobong Ekpanya Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 378. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to enhance the authority under which Federal agencies may pay cash awards to employees for making cost saving disclosures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 452. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 324 West Saint Louis Street in Pacific, Missouri, as the "Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 1858. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, as the "Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2105. An act to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to disseminate guidance to help reduce small business cybersecurity risks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 2196. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to allow whistleblowers to disclose information to certain recipients; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2229. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide permanent authority for judicial review of certain Merit Systems Protection Board decisions relating to whistleblowers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2254. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2635 Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the "Janet Capello Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2302. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 259 Nassau Street, Suite 2 in Princeton, New Jersey, as the “Dr. John F. Nash, Jr. Post Office”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2464. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the “John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2763. An act to amend the Small Business Act to improve the Small Business Innovation Research program and Small Business Technology Transfer program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following concurrent resolution was read, and placed on the calendar:

H. Con. Res. 71. Concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2018 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2019 through 2027.

#### ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on October 6, 2017, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 178. An act to prevent elder abuse and exploitation and improve the justice system's response to victims in elder abuse and exploitation cases.

S. 652. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children.

#### 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-3012. A communication from the Acting Director of Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Water and Waste Loans and Grants” ((RIN0572-AC36) (7 CFR Part 1780)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3013. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fluoxastrobin; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL-9966-09-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3014. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Oxathiapiprolin; Pesticide Tolerance” (FRL-9966-68-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3015. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division,

Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fluazifop-P-Butyl; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL-9966-67-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3016. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Importation of Fresh Persimmons From New Zealand Into the United States” (RIN0579-AE26) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3017. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Specialty Crops Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Pecans Grown in the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, North Carolina, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Texas; Establishment of Assessment Rates” (Docket No. AMS-SC-17-0027) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 5, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3018. A communication from the Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Administration's 2017 compensation program adjustments; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3019. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to violations of the Antideficiency Act that occurred in the Department of Agriculture's Forest Service; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-3020. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Frederick S. Rudesheim, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3021. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Failure of Contractors, Participating under the DoD Test Program for a Comprehensive Subcontracting Plan, to Meet Their Negotiated Goals”; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3022. A communication from the Senior Official performing the duties of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Assessment of the Recommendations of the National Commission on the Future of the Army”; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3023. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics), transmitting a report relative to the Defense Laboratory Modernization Pilot Program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3024. 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 “Removal of Certain Entities from the Entity List; and Revisions of Entries on the Entity List” (RIN0694-AH41) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3025. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Adminis-

tration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Wassenaar Arrangement 2016 Plenary Agreements Implementation” (RIN0694-AH35) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2017; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3026. 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 “Updated Statements of Legal Authority for the Export Administration Regulations to Include the Continuation of Emergency Declared in Executive Order 13222” (RIN0694-AH38) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2017; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3027. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the situation in or in relation to the Democratic Republic of the Congo that was declared in Executive Order 13413 of October 27, 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3028. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Sudan that was declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3029. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to South Sudan that was declared in Executive Order 13664 of April 3, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3030. A communication from the Chair of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to credit availability for small businesses; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3031. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel for Operations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, three (3) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Housing and Urban Development, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2017; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3032. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Negotiated Noncompetitive Agreements for the Use of Sand, Gravel, and/or Shell Resources on the Outer Continental Shelf” (RIN1010-AD90) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 3, 2017; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3033. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Fleet Alternative Fuel Vehicle Acquisition Report for Fiscal Year 2016”; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3034. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Refrigerant Management Regulations for Small Cans of Motor Vehicle Refrigerant” ((RIN2060-AT43) (FRL No. 9968-68-OAR)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.



EC-3035. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Interstate Transport of Fine Particulate Matter: Revision of Federal Implementation Plan Requirements for Texas” ((RIN2060-AT16) (FRL No. 9968-46-OAR)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3036. 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 Air Quality Implementation Plans; Elements of the Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2012 Annual Fine Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS)” (FRL No. 9968-66-Region 7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3037. 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 Implementation Plans; State of Iowa; Elements of the Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2010 Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS)” (FRL No. 9968-62-Region 7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3038. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; New York; Regional Haze Five-Year Progress Report State Implementation Plan” (FRL No. 9968-64-Region 2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3039. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; New Jersey; Regional Haze Five-Year Progress Report State Implementation Plan” (FRL No. 9968-63-Region 2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3040. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Enhanced Monitoring; California” (FRL No. 9968-38-Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3041. 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; Virginia; Removal of Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR) Trading Programs” (FRL No. 9968-34-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3042. 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 Utah; Revisions to Ozone Offset Require-

ments in Davis and Salt Lake Counties” (FRL No. 9968-74-Region 8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3043. 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; Nonattainment New Source Review Requirements for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard” (FRL No. 9968-51-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3044. 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; 2011 Base Year Inventory for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard for the Baltimore Maryland Nonattainment area” (FRL No. 9968-54-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3045. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants: Final Rule To List the Maui Dolphin as Endangered and the South Island Hector’s Dolphin as Threatened Under the Endangered Species Act” (RIN0648-XE686) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3046. A communication from the Chief of the Branch of Foreign Species, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants: Technical Correction for Tonkin Snub-Nosed Monkey” (RIN1018-BC64) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3047. A communication from the S.A.T. Manager, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Species Status for the Iwi (*Drepanis coccinea*)” (RIN1018-BB54) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3048. A communication from the S.A.T. Manager, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for Sonoyta Mud Turtle” (RIN1018-AZ02) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3049. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief of the Unified Listing Team, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Species Status for Pearl Darter” (RIN1018-BB55) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3050. A communication from the Acting Manager of the Species Assessment Team, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and

Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for Guadalupe Fescue; Designation of Critical Habitat for Guadalupe Fescue” (RIN1018-BA74) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3051. 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 “Consolidated Guidance About Materials Licenses: Program-Specific Guidance About Service Provider Licenses” (NUREG-1556, Volume 18, Revision 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 5, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3052. 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 “Pilot Program for Section 355 PLR procedures” (Rev. Proc. 2017-52) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3053. 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 “Updated Static Mortality Tables for Defined Benefit Pension Plans for 2018” (Notice 2017-60) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 5, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3054. 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 “Physical Presence of Certain Individuals in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or the United States Virgin Islands Under Section 937(a) Following Hurricane Irma or Hurricane Maria” (Notice 2017-56) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 5, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3055. 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 “Procedures for Obtaining Approval to Use Plan-Specific Substitute Mortality Tables” (Rev. Proc. 2017-55) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 5, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3056. 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 “Mortality Tables for Determining Present Value under Defined Benefit Pension Plans” (RIN1545-BM71) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 5, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3057. A communication from the Executive Analyst (Political), Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Financial Resources, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3058. A communication from the Executive Analyst (Political), Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Financial Resources, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.



EC-3059. A communication from the Executive Analyst (Political), Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Children and Families, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3060. A communication from the Executive Analyst (Political), Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Children and Families, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 28, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3061. A communication from the Executive Analyst (Political), Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Planning and Evaluation, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 29, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3062. A communication from the Executive Analyst (Political), Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Planning and Evaluation, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 29, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3063. A communication from the Executive Analyst (Political), Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Planning and Evaluation, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 29, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3064. A communication from the Executive Analyst (Political), Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Legislation, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 29, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3065. A communication from the Executive Analyst (Political), Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Legislation, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 29, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3066. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Evaluation of the Graduate Nurse Education Demonstration Project: Report to Congress"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3067. A communication from the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Medicare Payments for Clinical Diagnostic Laboratory Tests in 2016: Year 3 of Baseline Data"; to the Committee on Finance.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of October 5, 2017, the fol-

lowing reports of committees were submitted on October 13, 2017:

By Mr. ENZI, from the Committee on the Budget, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 25. An original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2018 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2019 through 2027.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments:

S. 21. A bill to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law (Rept. No. 115-169).

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 886. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish an Acquisition Review Board in the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-170).

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments:

S. 1208. A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide for an option under the Secure Mail Initiative under which a person to whom a document is sent under that initiative may elect to have the United States Postal Service use the Hold for Pickup service or the Signature Confirmation service in delivering the document, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-171).

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 1584. A bill to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to reauthorize the Judicial Conference of the United States to redact sensitive information contained in financial disclosure reports of judicial officers and employees, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-172).

By Mr. CORKER, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble:

S. Res. 211. A resolution condemning the violence and persecution in Chechnya.

By Mr. CORKER, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 245. A resolution calling on the Government of Iran to release unjustly detained United States citizens and legal permanent resident aliens, 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. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 1958. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require Internet-based, real-time responses to requests to verify taxpayer income for legitimate business purposes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. HARRIS (for herself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 1959. A bill to designate certain Federal land in the State of California as wilderness, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. MCCASKILL (for herself, Mr. MANCHIN, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 1960. A bill to repeal the amendments made to the Controlled Substances Act by the Ensuring Patient Access and Effective Drug Enforcement Act of 2016; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 1961. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to temporarily reauthorize certain pilot programs under the Small Business Innovation Research Program and the Small Business Technology Transfer Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. ROUNDS (for himself and Mr. BLUNT):

S. 1962. A bill to provide relief to community banks, to promote access to capital for community banks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MANCHIN:

S. 1963. A bill to amend title 11, United States Code, to include certain pension as administrative expenses in bankruptcy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1964. A bill to encourage kinship guardianship placements and support payment rate equity for such placements, to improve oversight of State child welfare programs funded under the Social Security Act, to strengthen national data on child fatalities from maltreatment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. Res. 291. A resolution affirming the historical connection of the Jewish people to the ancient and sacred city of Jerusalem and condemning efforts at the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to deny Judaism's millennia-old historical, religious, and cultural ties to Jerusalem; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HELLER (for himself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BURR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Mr. DONNELLY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. ERNST, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HEITKAMP, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEE, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY,

Mr. NELSON, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. PETERS, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. REED, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SASSE, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCOTT, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. STRANGE, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. UDALL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. Res. 292. A resolution condemning the brutal and senseless attack at a country music festival in Las Vegas, Nevada, honoring the memory of the victims of the deadly shooting, offering condolences to, and expressing support for, the families and friends of the victims and all of the individuals who were affected by the attack, and applauding the dedication and bravery of law enforcement officers, firefighters, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, medical professionals, hotel security and staff, and community members in responding to the attack; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. Con. Res. 26. A concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for the unveiling of the American Prisoners of War/Missing in Action (POW/MIA) Chair of Honor; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 58

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 58, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on high cost employer-sponsored health coverage.

S. 322

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 322, a bill to protect victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence from emotional and psychological trauma caused by acts of violence or threats of violence against their pets.

S. 652

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 652, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children.

S. 872

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 872, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make permanent the extension of the Medicare-

dependent hospital (MDH) program and the increased payments under the Medicare low-volume hospital program.

S. 948

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 948, a bill to designate as wilderness certain Federal portions of the red rock canyons of the Colorado Plateau and the Great Basin Deserts in the State of Utah for the benefit of present and future generations of people in the United States.

S. 1014

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1014, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make grants to eligible organizations to provide service dogs to veterans with severe post-traumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes.

S. 1064

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1064, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to prohibit the stigmatization of children who are unable to pay for meals.

S. 1113

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1113, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to ensure the safety of cosmetics.

S. 1169

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1169, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide States with an option to provide medical assistance to individuals between the ages of 22 and 64 for inpatient services to treat substance use disorders at certain facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1453

At the request of Mr. DONNELLY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1453, a bill to allow the Secretary of Health and Human Services to designate certain substance use disorder treatment facilities as eligible for National Health Service Corps service.

S. 1498

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1498, a bill to establish in the Smithsonian Institution a comprehensive American women's history museum, and for other purposes.

S. 1568

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from New Mexico

(Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1568, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of President John F. Kennedy.

S. 1595

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1595, a bill to amend the Hizballah International Financing Prevention Act of 2015 to impose additional sanctions with respect to Hizballah, and for other purposes.

S. 1690

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1690, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide greater support to students with dependents, and for other purposes.

S. 1691

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1691, a bill to provide minimal cybersecurity operational standards for Internet-connected devices purchased by Federal agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 1753

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1753, a bill to amend the S.A.F.E. Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008 to provide a temporary license for loan originators transitioning between employers, and for other purposes.

S. 1783

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1783, a bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require each State to implement a process under which individuals who are 16 years of age may apply to register to vote in elections for Federal office in the State, to direct the Election Assistance Commission to make grants to States to increase the involvement of minors in public election activities, and for other purposes.

S. 1806

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1806, a bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 and the Head Start Act to promote child care and early learning, and for other purposes.

S. 1823

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1823, a bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to clarify that houses of worship are eligible for certain disaster relief and emergency assistance on terms equal to other eligible private nonprofit facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1827

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1827, a bill to extend funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1827, supra.

S. 1829

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1829, a bill to amend title V of the Social Security Act to extend the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program.

S. 1842

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1842, a bill to provide for wildfire suppression operations, and for other purposes.

S. 1859

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1859, a bill to extend the moratorium on the annual fee on health insurance providers.

S. 1911

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1911, a bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to transfer certain funds to the 1974 United Mine Workers of America Pension Plan, and for other purposes.

S. 1922

At the request of Mr. HELLER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1922, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect pain-capable unborn children, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 5

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 5, a joint resolution removing the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment.

S. RES. 278

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 278, a resolution expressing condolences to the victims of Hurricane Harvey, Hurricane Irma, and Hurricane Maria, commending the resiliency of the people of Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Puerto Rico, and the United States Virgin Islands, and expressing gratitude to other neighboring States willing to stand by the people of the affected areas during the relief and recovery efforts.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS DURING ADJOURNMENT

On October 13, 2017, under the authority of the order of the Senate of October 5, 2017, the following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. ENZI:

S. Con. Res. 25. An original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2018 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2019 through 2027; from the Committee on the Budget; placed on the calendar.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 291—AFFIRMING THE HISTORICAL CONNECTION OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE TO THE ANCIENT AND SACRED CITY OF JERUSALEM AND CONDEMNING EFFORTS AT THE UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (UNESCO) TO DENY JUDAISM'S MILLENNIA-OLD HISTORICAL, RELIGIOUS, AND CULTURAL TIES TO JERUSALEM

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

S. RES. 291

Whereas for over 3,000 years, Jerusalem has played a central role in the history and identity of the Jewish people;

Whereas Jerusalem is the location of the holiest site for the Jewish people, the Temple Mount, as well as the Western Wall, where Jews from across the world come to pray;

Whereas Jerusalem has been a Christian pilgrimage site for over 2,000 years, and holds considerable religious significance for Christians;

Whereas Jerusalem is home to the third holiest site in Islam, and holds considerable religious significance for Muslims;

Whereas Jerusalem serves as a cultural and religious inspiration to billions of people around the world;

Whereas the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has passed a series of anti-Israel resolutions in recent years regarding Jerusalem, both at the Committee level and by the Executive Board—a governing body of UNESCO;

Whereas these biased resolutions are attempts to erase or minimize the Jewish as well as Christian historical and religious ties to Jerusalem, and unjustly single out our close ally Israel with false accusations and criticism;

Whereas numerous archaeological excavations, such as those taking place in the City of David, Israel's most archaeologically excavated site, have uncovered a myriad of antiquities which scientifically reaffirm Jerusalem's historical significance to Judaism as well as Christianity;

Whereas the City of David is the archaeological site of ancient Jerusalem, and is believed to be the very site recorded in the Bible upon which King David established the capital of ancient Israel;

Whereas since 1867, there have been archaeological excavations at the site of the City of

David, including international delegations of archaeologists from the United States, England, France, and Germany;

Whereas these excavations have unearthed antiquities from over 10 different civilizations, including Canaanite, Israelite, Roman, Byzantine, and Persian;

Whereas the current excavations of the City of David are carried out under the auspices of the Israel Antiquities Authority, and are held to the highest scientific standards;

Whereas among the most significant archaeological discoveries unearthed from the City of David include the Siloam Inscription (8th century B.C.E.), which recounts the preparations made by King Hezekiah of Judah for the impending Assyrian siege against Jerusalem, consistent with the Biblical account from 2 Kings; clay seal impressions/bullae (6th century B.C.E.) bearing the names of two Judean Government officials who are mentioned in the very same verse in the Bible, Jeremiah 38:1; the Pool of Siloam (1st century B.C.E.), which served during the Second Temple period as a ritual bath for the hundreds of thousands of Jewish pilgrims ascending annually to the Temple, which stood atop the Temple Mount; and the Second Temple Pilgrimage Road (1st century C.E.), which began at the Pool of Siloam and served as the main thoroughfare of Second Temple period Jerusalem that carried hundreds of thousands of people on their annual pilgrimages to the Temple;

Whereas the Pilgrimage Road located within the City of David, which stretches 600 meters from the Pool of Siloam to the footsteps of the Western Wall, will be open to visitors upon completion of the excavation; and

Whereas these discoveries affirm the undeniable truth that the City of David, the Western Wall, and the Temple Mount are inextricably linked together—physically, historically, and symbolically—as the bedrock of the connection between the Jewish people and Jerusalem, and have been for millennia: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes and affirms the historical connection of the Jewish people to the ancient and sacred city of Jerusalem;

(2) recognizes and affirms that the archaeological discoveries from the City of David, the site of ancient Jerusalem, present undeniable scientific evidence of the millennia-old connection of Jerusalem to the Jewish people, and, by extension, to Christianity;

(3) commends the Government of Israel for protecting the freedoms of all faiths in Jerusalem including Jews, Christians, and Muslims, ensuring their access to holy sites so that they may worship freely;

(4) condemns any past, present, or future efforts at UNESCO to delegitimize Israel through attempts to rewrite and deny the history of Jerusalem; and

(5) encourages the United States to continue working with allies to prevent UNESCO from passing biased and unjust anti-Israel resolutions in the future.

SENATE RESOLUTION 292—CONDEMNING THE BRUTAL AND SENSELESS ATTACK AT A COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL IN LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF THE DEADLY SHOOTING, OFFERING CONDOLENCES TO, AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR, THE FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE VICTIMS AND ALL OF THE INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE AFFECTED BY THE ATTACK, AND APPLAUDING THE DEDICATION AND BRAVERY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, FIREFIGHTERS, PARAMEDICS, EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS, MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS, HOTEL SECURITY AND STAFF, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN RESPONDING TO THE ATTACK

Mr. HELLER (for himself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BURR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Mr. DONNELLY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. ERNST, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HEITKAMP, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEE, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. PETERS, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. REED, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SASSE, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCOTT, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. STRANGE, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. UDALL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 292

Whereas, in the late hours of Sunday, October 1, 2017, a 64-year-old man from Mesquite, Nevada, killed 58 individuals and wounded more than 500 innocent individuals in a horrific attack at the Route 91 Harvest festival in Las Vegas, Nevada, with more than 22,000 individuals in attendance;

Whereas President Donald Trump called the attack an act of pure evil and said that unity cannot be shattered by evil and that the bonds between the people of the United States cannot be broken by violence;

Whereas the attack is the deadliest mass shooting in the modern history of the United States;

Whereas the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and other law enforcement

professionals within the city of Las Vegas and Clark County, Nevada, including emergency response teams from Henderson and North Las Vegas, the Nevada Department of Public Safety, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Department of Justice, the Department of Homeland Security, military service members and veterans, ambulatory services, and other emergency and health care professionals responded to the attack bravely, admirably, and in a coordinated manner, saving many lives;

Whereas doctors, nurses, paramedics, and other medical professionals worked around the clock under harrowing circumstances to provide life-saving care for hundreds of victims;

Whereas, during the attack, countless civilians selflessly assisted victims and, following the attack—

(1) hundreds of individuals stood in long lines to donate blood for those who were injured in the attack; and

(2) the people of Las Vegas, the State of Nevada, and the United States expressed overwhelming financial, physical, and emotional support for the victims and the families of the victims;

Whereas local organizations, businesses, and caregivers came together with Federal, State, and local government agencies to support the victims and help the community heal; and

Whereas Nevada has a vibrant and renowned tourism economy that will continue to thrive, attracting and welcoming millions of visitors from across the United States and internationally, and emergency management officials will diligently dedicate local and Federal resources to boost public safety and security in Las Vegas, Nevada: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the horrific attack at the Route 91 Harvest festival in Las Vegas, Nevada, on October 1, 2017, in which 58 innocent individuals were killed and more than 500 innocent individuals were injured;

(2) honors the memory of the victims killed in the attack and offers heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathies to the families, loved ones, and friends of the victims;

(3) expresses hope for a full and speedy recovery by, and pledges continued support for, those who were injured in the attack;

(4) offers compassion to those who attended the event, but were not physically injured, and are dealing with symptoms of post-traumatic stress or seeking grief counseling;

(5) recognizes the spirit and resilience of the Las Vegas and Nevada communities; and

(6) applauds the dedication and bravery of local, State, and Federal law enforcement and counterterrorism officials and emergency medical and health care professionals for their coordinated efforts in responding to the attack, securing the community, and providing treatment.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 26—AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL IN THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER FOR THE UNVEILING OF THE AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR/MISSING IN ACTION (POW/MIA) CHAIR OF HONOR

Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) submitted the

following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 26

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),*

**SECTION 1. USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR UNVEILING OF AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR/MISSING IN ACTION (POW/MIA) CHAIR OF HONOR.**

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used for an event on November 8, 2017, to unveil the American Prisoners of War/Missing in Action (POW/MIA) Chair of Honor.

(b) PREPARATIONS.—Physical preparations for the conduct of the ceremony described in subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as may be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1111. Mr. KAINE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 25, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2018 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2019 through 2027; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1112. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 705, to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a voluntary national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.

SA 1113. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 705, supra.

SA 1114. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 695, to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a voluntary national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.

SA 1115. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 695, supra.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 1111.** Mr. KAINE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 25, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2018 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2019 through 2027; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 83, line 17, strike “Sections 3205 and” and insert “Section”.

On page 83, line 19, strike “are” and insert “is”.

At the end of subtitle A of title IV, add the following:

**SEC. 4114. PROHIBITION ON AGREEING TO CERTAIN AMENDMENTS TO LEGISLATION WITHOUT A SCORE IN THE SENATE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the Senate, it shall not be in order to vote on the adoption of a covered amendment to a bill or resolution that requires an estimate under section 402 of the

Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 653), unless an estimate described in such section 402 for the covered amendment was made publicly available on the website of the Congressional Budget Office not later than 28 hours before the time the vote commences.

(b) COVERED AMENDMENT DEFINED.—In this section, the term “covered amendment” means an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

(c) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—

(1) WAIVER.—In the Senate, subsection (a) may be waived or suspended only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(2) APPEAL.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under subsection (a).

**SA 1112.** Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 705, to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a voluntary national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Child Protection Improvements Act of 2017”.

**SEC. 2. NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECK AND CRIMINAL HISTORY REVIEW PROGRAM.**

The National Child Protection Act of 1993 (34 U.S.C. 40101 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 3 (34 U.S.C. 40102)—

(A) by striking “provider” each place it appears and inserting “covered individual”;

(B) by striking “provider’s” each place it appears and inserting “covered individual’s”;

(C) by amending subsection (a)(3) to read as follows:

“(3)(A) The Attorney General shall establish a program, in accordance with this section, to provide qualified entities located in States that do not have in effect procedures described in paragraph (1), or qualified entities located in States that do not prohibit the use of the program established under this paragraph, with access to national criminal history background checks on, and criminal history reviews of, covered individuals.

“(B) A qualified entity described in subparagraph (A) may submit to the appropriate designated entity a request for a national criminal history background check on, and a criminal history review of, a covered individual. Qualified entities making a request under this paragraph shall comply with the guidelines set forth in subsection (b), and with any additional applicable procedures set forth by the Attorney General or by the State in which the entity is located.”;

(D) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (1)(E), by striking “unsupervised”;

(ii) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2)(A) that the State, or in a State that does not have in effect procedures described in subsection (a)(1), the designated entity, ensures that—

“(i) each covered individual who is the subject of a background check under subsection (a) is entitled to obtain a copy of any background check report;

“(ii) each covered individual who is the subject of a background check under subsection (a) is provided a process by which the

covered individual may appeal the results of the background check to challenge the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in the background report of the covered individual; and

“(iii)(I) each covered individual described in clause (ii) is given notice of the opportunity to appeal;

“(II) each covered individual described in clause (ii) will receive instructions on how to complete the appeals process if the covered individual wishes to challenge the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in the background report of the covered individual; and

“(III) the appeals process is completed in a timely manner for each covered individual described in clause (ii); and

“(B) the State, or in a State that does not have in effect procedures described in subsection (a)(1), the designated entity, may allow for a review process—

“(i) through which the State or designated entity, as the case may be, may determine that a covered individual who is the subject of a background check under subsection (a) is disqualified for a crime specified in subsection (f)(2)(C); and

“(ii) which shall be consistent with title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq.);”;

(iii) in paragraph (3), by inserting after “authorized agency” the following: “or designated entity, as applicable.”; and

(iv) in paragraph (4), by inserting after “authorized agency” the following: “or designated entity, as applicable.”;

(E) in subsection (d), by inserting after “officer or employee thereof,” the following: “, nor shall any designated entity nor any officer or employee thereof.”;

(F) by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:

“(e) FEES.—

“(1) STATE PROGRAM.—In the case of a background check conducted pursuant to a State requirement adopted after December 20, 1993, conducted with fingerprints on a covered individual, the fees collected by authorized State agencies and the Federal Bureau of Investigation may not exceed the actual cost of the background check conducted with fingerprints.

“(2) FEDERAL PROGRAM.—In the case of a national criminal history background check and criminal history review conducted pursuant to the procedures established pursuant to subsection (a)(3), the fees collected by a designated entity shall be set at a level that will ensure the recovery of the full costs of providing all such services. The designated entity shall remit the appropriate portion of such fee to the Attorney General, which amount is in accordance with the amount published in the Federal Register to be collected for the provision of a criminal history background check by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

“(3) ENSURING FEES DO NOT DISCOURAGE VOLUNTEERS.—A fee system under this subsection shall be established in a manner that ensures that fees to qualified entities for background checks do not discourage volunteers from participating in programs to care for children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities. A fee charged to a qualified entity that is not organized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 may not be less than the total sum of the costs of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the designated entity.”; and

(G) by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

“(f) NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECK AND CRIMINAL HISTORY REVIEW PROGRAM.—

“(1) NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECK.—Upon a designated entity re-

ceiving notice of a request submitted by a qualified entity pursuant to subsection (a)(3), the designated entity shall forward the request to the Attorney General, who shall, acting through the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, complete a fingerprint-based check of the national criminal history background check system, and provide the information received in response to such national criminal history background check to the appropriate designated entity. The designated entity may, upon request from a qualified entity, complete a check of a State criminal history database.

“(2) CRIMINAL HISTORY REVIEW.—

“(A) DESIGNATED ENTITIES.—The Attorney General shall designate, and enter into an agreement with, one or more entities to make determinations described in paragraph (2). The Attorney General may not designate and enter into an agreement with a Federal agency under this subparagraph.

“(B) DETERMINATIONS.—A designated entity shall, upon the receipt of the information described in paragraph (1), make a determination of fitness described in subsection (b)(4), using the criteria described in subparagraph (C).

“(C) CRIMINAL HISTORY REVIEW CRITERIA.—A covered individual may be determined to be unfit under subsection (b)(4) if the covered individual—

“(i) refuses to consent to a criminal background check under this section;

“(ii) knowingly makes a materially false statement in connection with a criminal background check under this section;

“(iii) is registered, or is required to be registered, on a State sex offender registry or repository or the National Sex Offender Registry established under the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (34 U.S.C. 20901 et seq.);

“(iv) has been convicted of a felony consisting of—

“(I) murder, as described in section 1111 of title 18, United States Code;

“(II) child abuse or neglect;

“(III) a crime against children, including child pornography;

“(IV) spousal abuse;

“(V) a crime involving rape or sexual assault;

“(VI) kidnapping;

“(VII) arson;

“(VIII) physical assault or battery; or

“(IX) a drug-related offense committed during the preceding 5 years;

“(v) has been convicted of a violent misdemeanor committed as an adult against a child, including—

“(I) child abuse;

“(II) child endangerment;

“(III) sexual assault; or

“(IV) of a misdemeanor involving child pornography; or

“(vi) in the case of a covered individual who has, seeks to have, or may have access to the elderly or individuals with disabilities, has been convicted of any criminal offense relating to the abuse, exploitation, or neglect (as those terms are defined in section 2011 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397j)) of an elder or an individual with disabilities.”; and

(2) in section 5 (34 U.S.C. 40104)—

(A) by amending paragraph (9) to read as follows:

“(9) the term ‘covered individual’ means an individual—

“(A) who has, seeks to have, or may have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, served by a qualified entity; and

“(B) who—

“(i) is employed by or volunteers with, or seeks to be employed by or volunteer with, a qualified entity; or

“(ii) owns or operates, or seeks to own or operate, a qualified entity;”;

(B) in paragraph (10), by striking “and” at the end;

(C) in paragraph (11), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(D) by inserting after paragraph (11) the following:

“(12) the term ‘designated entity’ means an entity designated by the Attorney General under section 3(f)(2)(A).”

### SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall be fully implemented by not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

**SA 1113.** Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 705, to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a voluntary national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes; as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a voluntary national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.”

**SA 1114.** Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 695, to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a voluntary national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Child Protection Improvements Act of 2017”.

### SEC. 2. NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECK AND CRIMINAL HISTORY REVIEW PROGRAM.

The National Child Protection Act of 1993 (34 U.S.C. 40101 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 3 (34 U.S.C. 40102)—

(A) by striking “provider” each place it appears and inserting “covered individual”;

(B) by striking “provider’s” each place it appears and inserting “covered individual’s”;

(C) by amending subsection (a)(3) to read as follows:

“(3)(A) The Attorney General shall establish a program, in accordance with this section, to provide qualified entities located in States that do not have in effect procedures described in paragraph (1), or qualified entities located in States that do not prohibit the use of the program established under this paragraph, with access to national criminal history background checks on, and criminal history reviews of, covered individuals.

“(B) A qualified entity described in subparagraph (A) may submit to the appropriate designated entity a request for a national criminal history background check on, and a

criminal history review of, a covered individual. Qualified entities making a request under this paragraph shall comply with the guidelines set forth in subsection (b), and with any additional applicable procedures set forth by the Attorney General or by the State in which the entity is located.”;

(D) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (1)(E), by striking “unsupervised”;

(ii) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2)(A) that the State, or in a State that does not have in effect procedures described in subsection (a)(1), the designated entity, ensures that—

“(i) each covered individual who is the subject of a background check under subsection (a) is entitled to obtain a copy of any background check report;

“(ii) each covered individual who is the subject of a background check under subsection (a) is provided a process by which the covered individual may appeal the results of the background check to challenge the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in the background report of the covered individual; and

“(iii)(I) each covered individual described in clause (ii) is given notice of the opportunity to appeal;

“(II) each covered individual described in clause (ii) will receive instructions on how to complete the appeals process if the covered individual wishes to challenge the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in the background report of the covered individual; and

“(III) the appeals process is completed in a timely manner for each covered individual described in clause (ii); and

“(B) the State, or in a State that does not have in effect procedures described in subsection (a)(1), the designated entity, may allow for a review process—

“(i) through which the State or designated entity, as the case may be, may determine that a covered individual who is the subject of a background check under subsection (a) is disqualified for a crime specified in subsection (f)(2)(C); and

“(ii) which shall be consistent with title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq.);”;

(iii) in paragraph (3), by inserting after “authorized agency” the following: “or designated entity, as applicable;”;

(iv) in paragraph (4), by inserting after “authorized agency” the following: “or designated entity, as applicable;”;

(E) in subsection (d), by inserting after “officer or employee thereof,” the following: “, nor shall any designated entity nor any officer or employee thereof;”;

(F) by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:

“(e) FEES.—

“(1) STATE PROGRAM.—In the case of a background check conducted pursuant to a State requirement adopted after December 20, 1993, conducted with fingerprints on a covered individual, the fees collected by authorized State agencies and the Federal Bureau of Investigation may not exceed the actual cost of the background check conducted with fingerprints.

“(2) FEDERAL PROGRAM.—In the case of a national criminal history background check and criminal history review conducted pursuant to the procedures established pursuant to subsection (a)(3), the fees collected by a designated entity shall be set at a level that will ensure the recovery of the full costs of providing all such services. The designated entity shall remit the appropriate portion of such fee to the Attorney General, which amount is in accordance with the amount published in the Federal Register to be col-

lected for the provision of a criminal history background check by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

“(3) ENSURING FEES DO NOT DISCOURAGE VOLUNTEERS.—A fee system under this subsection shall be established in a manner that ensures that fees to qualified entities for background checks do not discourage volunteers from participating in programs to care for children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities. A fee charged to a qualified entity that is not organized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 may not be less than the total sum of the costs of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the designated entity.”;

(G) by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

“(f) NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECK AND CRIMINAL HISTORY REVIEW PROGRAM.—

“(1) NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECK.—Upon a designated entity receiving notice of a request submitted by a qualified entity pursuant to subsection (a)(3), the designated entity shall forward the request to the Attorney General, who shall, acting through the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, complete a fingerprint-based check of the national criminal history background check system, and provide the information received in response to such national criminal history background check to the appropriate designated entity. The designated entity may, upon request from a qualified entity, complete a check of a State criminal history database.

“(2) CRIMINAL HISTORY REVIEW.—

“(A) DESIGNATED ENTITIES.—The Attorney General shall designate, and enter into an agreement with, one or more entities to make determinations described in paragraph (2). The Attorney General may not designate and enter into an agreement with a Federal agency under this subparagraph.

“(B) DETERMINATIONS.—A designated entity shall, upon the receipt of the information described in paragraph (1), make a determination of fitness described in subsection (b)(4), using the criteria described in subparagraph (C).

“(C) CRIMINAL HISTORY REVIEW CRITERIA.—A covered individual may be determined to be unfit under subsection (b)(4) if the covered individual—

“(i) refuses to consent to a criminal background check under this section;

“(ii) knowingly makes a materially false statement in connection with a criminal background check under this section;

“(iii) is registered, or is required to be registered, on a State sex offender registry or repository or the National Sex Offender Registry established under the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (34 U.S.C. 20901 et seq.);

“(iv) has been convicted of a felony consisting of—

“(I) murder, as described in section 1111 of title 18, United States Code;

“(II) child abuse or neglect;

“(III) a crime against children, including child pornography;

“(IV) spousal abuse;

“(V) a crime involving rape or sexual assault;

“(VI) kidnapping;

“(VII) arson;

“(VIII) physical assault or battery; or

“(IX) a drug-related offense committed during the preceding 5 years;

“(v) has been convicted of a violent misdemeanor committed as an adult against a child, including—

“(I) child abuse;

“(II) child endangerment;

“(III) sexual assault; or



“(IV) of a misdemeanor involving child pornography; or

“(vi) in the case of a covered individual who has, seeks to have, or may have access to the elderly or individuals with disabilities, has been convicted of any criminal offense relating to the abuse, exploitation, or neglect (as those terms are defined in section 2011 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397j)) of an elder or an individual with disabilities.”; and

(2) in section 5 (34 U.S.C. 40104)—

(A) by amending paragraph (9) to read as follows:

“(9) the term ‘covered individual’ means an individual—

“(A) who has, seeks to have, or may have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, served by a qualified entity; and

“(B) who—

“(i) is employed by or volunteers with, or seeks to be employed by or volunteer with, a qualified entity; or

“(ii) owns or operates, or seeks to own or operate, a qualified entity;”;

(B) in paragraph (10), by striking “and” at the end;

(C) in paragraph (11), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(D) by inserting after paragraph (11) the following:

“(12) the term ‘designated entity’ means an entity designated by the Attorney General under section 3(f)(2)(A).”.

### SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall be fully implemented by not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

**SA 1115.** Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 695, to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a voluntary national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes; as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a voluntary national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.”.

### NOTICE: REGISTRATION OF MASS MAILINGS

The filing date for the 2017 third quarter Mass Mailing report is Wednesday, October 25, 2017. An electronic option is available on Webster that will allow forms to be submitted via a fillable pdf document. If your office did no mass mailings during this period, please submit a form that states “none.”

Mass mailing registrations or negative reports can be submitted electronically or delivered to the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, DC 20510-7116.

The Senate Office of Public Records is open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. For further information, please contact the

Senate Office of Public Records at (202) 224-0322.

### APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to Public Law 96-114, as amended, appoints the following individual to the Congressional Award Board: Laura O’Conner of Utah.

### RECOGNIZING THE 11 AFRICAN-AMERICAN SOLDIERS OF THE 333RD FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION WHO WERE MASSACRED IN WERETH, BELGIUM, DURING THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Armed Services Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 99 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 99) recognizing the 11 African-American soldiers of the 333rd Field Artillery Battalion who were massacred in Wereth, Belgium, during the Battle of the Bulge in December 1944.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions 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.

The resolution (S. Res. 99) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of March 27, 2017, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

### CONDEMNING THE BRUTAL AND SENSELESS ATTACK AT A COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL IN LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 292, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 292) condemning the brutal and senseless attack at a country music festival in Las Vegas, Nevada, honoring the memory of the victims of the deadly shooting, offering condolences to, and expressing support for, the families and friends of the victims and all of the individuals who were affected by the attack, and applauding the dedication and bravery of law enforcement officers, firefighters, paramedics, emer-

gency medical technicians, medical professionals, hotel security and staff, and community members in responding to the attack.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions 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.

The resolution (S. Res. 292) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

### AUTHORIZING USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Con. Res. 26, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 26) authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for the unveiling of the American Prisoners of War/Missing in Action (POW/MIA) Chair of Honor.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and 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.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 26) was agreed to.

(The concurrent resolution is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

### CHILD PROTECTION IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2017

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 218, S. 705.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 705) to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee

on the Judiciary, with amendments, as follows:

(The part of the bill intended to be stricken is shown in boldface brackets and the parts of the bill intended to be inserted are shown in italics.)

S. 705

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Child Protection Improvements Act of 2017”.

**SEC. 2. NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECK AND CRIMINAL HISTORY REVIEW PROGRAM.**

The National Child Protection Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 5119 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 3 (42 U.S.C. 5119a)—

(A) by striking “provider” each place it appears and inserting “covered individual”;

(B) by striking “provider’s” each place it appears and inserting “covered individual’s”;

(C) by amending subsection (a)(3) to read as follows:

“(3)(A) The Attorney General shall establish a program, in accordance with this section, to provide qualified entities located in States that do not have in effect procedures described in paragraph (1), or qualified entities located in States that do not prohibit the use of the program established under this paragraph, with access to national criminal history background checks on, and criminal history reviews of, covered individuals.

“(B) A qualified entity described in subparagraph (A) may submit to the appropriate designated entity a request for a national criminal history background check on, and a criminal history review of, a covered individual. Qualified entities making a request under this paragraph shall comply with the guidelines set forth in subsection (b), and with any additional applicable procedures set forth by the Attorney General or by the State in which the entity is located.”;

(D) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (1)(E), by striking “unsupervised”;

(ii) in paragraph (2)—

(I) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively;

(II) in the matter preceding clause (i), as so redesignated, by striking “that each covered individual who is the subject of a background check” and inserting “(A) that each covered individual who is the subject of a background check conducted pursuant to the procedures established pursuant to subsection (a)(1)”;

(III) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) that each covered individual who is the subject of a national criminal history background check and criminal history review conducted pursuant to the procedures established pursuant to subsection (a)(3) is entitled to challenge the accuracy and completeness of any information in the criminal history record of the individual by contacting the Federal Bureau of Investigation under the procedure set forth in section 16.34 of title 28, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor thereto.”;

(iii) in paragraph (3), insert after “authorized agency” the following: “or designated entity, as applicable.”;

(iv) in paragraph (4), insert after “authorized agency” the following: “or designated entity, as applicable.”;

(E) in subsection (d), insert after “officer or employee thereof,” the following: “, nor shall any designated entity nor any officer or employee thereof.”;

(F) by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:

“(e) FEES.—

“(1) STATE PROGRAM.—In the case of a background check conducted pursuant to a State requirement adopted after December 20, 1993, conducted with fingerprints on a covered individual, the fees collected by authorized State agencies and the Federal Bureau of Investigation [may not exceed eighteen dollars, respectively, or the actual cost, whichever is less, of the background check conducted with] *may not exceed the actual cost of the background check conducted with fingerprints.*

“(2) FEDERAL PROGRAM.—In the case of a national criminal history background check and criminal history review conducted pursuant to the procedures established pursuant to subsection (a)(3), the fees collected by a designated entity shall be set at a level that will ensure the recovery of the full costs of providing all such services. The designated entity shall remit the appropriate portion of such fee to the Attorney General, which amount is in accordance with the amount published in the Federal Register to be collected for the provision of a criminal history background check by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

“(3) ENSURING FEES DO NOT DISCOURAGE VOLUNTEERS.—A fee system under this subsection shall be established in a manner that ensures that fees to qualified entities for background checks do not discourage volunteers from participating in programs to care for children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities. *A fee charged to a qualified entity that is not organized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 may not be less than the total sum of the costs of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the designated entity.*”;

(G) by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

“(f) NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECK AND CRIMINAL HISTORY REVIEW PROGRAM.—

“(1) NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECK.—Upon a designated entity receiving notice of a request submitted by a qualified entity pursuant to subsection (a)(3), the designated entity shall forward the request to the Attorney General, who shall, acting through the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, complete a fingerprint-based check of the national criminal history background check system, and provide the information received in response to such national criminal history background check to the appropriate designated entity. The designated entity may, upon request from a qualified entity, complete a check of a State criminal history database.

“(2) CRIMINAL HISTORY REVIEW.—

“(A) DESIGNATED ENTITIES.—The Attorney General shall designate, and enter into an agreement with, one or more entities to make determinations described in paragraph (2). The Attorney General may not designate and enter into an agreement with a Federal agency under this subparagraph.

“(B) DETERMINATIONS.—A designated entity shall, upon the receipt of the information described in paragraph (1), make a determination of fitness described in subsection (b)(4), using the criteria described in subparagraph (C).

“(C) CRIMINAL HISTORY REVIEW CRITERIA.—The Attorney General shall, by rule, establish the criteria for use by designated entities in making a determination of fitness described in subsection (b)(4). Such criteria shall be based on the criteria established pursuant to section 108(a)(3)(G)(i) of the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to end the Exploitation of Children Today Act of 2003 (42 U.S.C. 5119a note).”;

(2) in section 5 (42 U.S.C. 5119c)—

(A) by amending paragraph (9) to read as follows:

“(9) the term ‘covered individual’ means an individual—

“(A) who has, seeks to have, or may have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, served by a qualified entity; and

“(B) who—

“(i) is employed by or volunteers with, or seeks to be employed by or volunteer with, a qualified entity; or

“(ii) owns or operates, or seeks to own or operate, a qualified entity.”;

(B) in paragraph (10), by striking “and” at the end;

(C) in paragraph (11), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(D) by inserting after paragraph (11) the following:

“(12) the term ‘designated entity’ means an entity designated by the Attorney General under section 3(f)(2)(A).”.

**SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall be fully implemented by not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

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

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

The committee-reported amendments were withdrawn.

The amendment (No. 1112) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today’s RECORD under “Text of Amendments.”)

The bill (S. 705), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

The amendment (No. 1113) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the title)

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a voluntary national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.”.

**CHILD PROTECTION IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2017**

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 695 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title. The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 695) to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their

employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Hatch substitute amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to, the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed, the title amendment be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 1114) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

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. 695), as amended, was passed.

The amendment (No. 1115) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the title)

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a voluntary national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes."

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY,  
OCTOBER 17, 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, October 17; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Trachtenberg nomination under the previous order; 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 before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:44 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, October 17, 2017, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

KIRSTJEN NIELSEN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY, VICE JOHN F. KELLY, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

ALEX A. BEHLER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY, VICE KATHERINE HAMMACK.

JAMES E. MCPHERSON, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, VICE ALISSA M. STARZAK.

JOHN C. ROOD, OF ARIZONA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY, VICE CHRISTINE E. WORMUTH.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BARRY LEE MYERS, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR OCEANS AND ATMOSPHERE, VICE KATHRYN D. SULLIVAN, RESIGNED.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

HANNIBAL WARE, OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, VICE PEGGY E. GUSTAFSON.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

KATHLEEN HARTNETT WHITE, OF TEXAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, VICE NANCY HELEN SUTLEY.

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

GAIL S. ENNIS, OF MARYLAND, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, VICE PATRICK P. O'CARROLL, JR., RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

STEPHEN AKARD, OF INDIANA, TO BE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE, VICE ARNOLD A. CHACON, RESIGNED.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

BROCK D. BIERMAN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, VICE THOMAS O. MELIA.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

YLEEM D. S. POBLETE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (VERIFICATION AND COMPLIANCE), VICE FRANK A. ROSE.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

PRESTON RUTLEDGE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF LABOR, VICE PHYLIS CORINNE BORZI, RESIGNED.

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

JOHN EDWARD DUPUY, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, VICE PATRICK E. MCFARLAND, RESIGNED.

THE JUDICIARY

JAMES C. HO, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT, VICE CAROLYN D. RANDALL, RETIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

JON J. RYCHALSKI, OF MONTANA, TO BE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, VICE HELEN TIERNEY, RESIGNED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS THE SURGEON GENERAL OF THE AIR FORCE AND APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 8036 AND 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. DOROTHY A. HOGG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. PAUL D. NELSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. DAVID D. THOMPSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. ANTHONY J. COTTON

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. RALPH L. SCHWADER

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. DONALD B. ABSHER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. RICHARD E. ANGLE

COL. MILFORD H. BEAGLE, JR.

COL. SEAN C. BERNABE

COL. MARIA A. BLANK

COL. JAMES P. BIENLIEN

COL. BRIAN R. BISACRE

COL. WILLIAM M. BORUFF

COL. RICHARD R. COFFMAN

COL. CHARLES D. COSTANZA

COL. JOY L. CURRIERA

COL. JOHNNY K. DAVIS

COL. ROBERT B. DAVIS

COL. THOMAS R. DREW

COL. MICHAEL R. EASTMAN

COL. BRIAN S. EIFLER

COL. CHRISTOPHER L. EUBANK

COL. OMUSO D. GEORGE

COL. WILLIAM J. HARTMAN

COL. DARIEN P. HELMLINGER

COL. DAVID M. HODNE

COL. JONATHAN E. HOWERTON

COL. HEIDI J. HOYLE

COL. THOMAS L. JAMES

COL. CHRISTOPHER C. LANEVE

COL. OTTO K. LILLER

COL. VINCENT F. MALONE II

COL. CHARLES R. MILLER

COL. JAMES S. MOORE, JR.

COL. MICHAEL T. MORRISSEY

COL. ANTONIO V. MUNERA

COL. FREDERICK M. O'DONNELL

COL. PAUL E. OWEN

COL. WALTER T. RUGEN

COL. MICHELLE A. SCHMIDT

COL. MARK T. SIMERLY

COL. MICHAEL E. SLOANE

COL. DOUGLAS F. STITT

COL. WILLIAM D. TAYLOR

COL. WILLIAM L. THIGPEN

COL. THOMAS J. TICKNER

COL. MATTHEW J. VANWAGENEN

COL. DARREN L. WERNER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. DIRON J. CRUZ

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. TIMOTHY J. HILTY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. KEITH Y. TAMASHIRO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. SCOTT D. BERRIER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. ERIC P. WENDT

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

VICE ADM. CHRISTOPHER W. GRADY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. BRUCE H. LINDSEY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be rear admiral (lower half)*

CAPT. MICHAEL E. BOYLE

## IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

*To be major*JAMES A. FANT  
DUSTIN D. HARLIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant colonel*

ERIK M. MUDRINICH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be major*

SCOTT M. ABBOTT  
JACQUELYN M. AMEDURI  
AMANDA J. ANDERSON  
SPENCER M. ANDRUS  
ALICE RUTH C. ARMAS  
CHASITTE R. ASHWORTH  
MARY A. BARNARD  
APRIL C. BARR  
MAVIS J. BEAR  
SUFUN BEARD  
WALTER A. BEELAND III  
MATHEW E. BEEMAN  
JASON F. BLAIR  
HEATHER J. BLAKE  
DONA R. BOLDY  
JESSICA M. BROOKS  
SHEILA A. BROWN  
TIMOTHY A. BRUNSON  
LINDSEY M. CANTRELL  
BETHANY A. CASPER  
PAUL DANIEL CHARLES  
ERMITA N. CHARLESBERRETTE  
ADRIANNA L. CLARK  
JENNER A. COOPER  
KRISTINA M. COUGHLIN  
FELICIA G. CRADDIETH  
JASON S. CROSS  
SHAEE D. Y. DAVIS  
NOELLE P. DRAVUTTER  
DONNA L. DOUGLAS  
NINA M. DUMAS  
CHRISTOPHER SEAN DUNCAN  
KATRINA M. DYKE  
SHARON L. EBLEBY  
SUSAN A. FON  
CHELSIE DAWN FOWLER  
JORDAN J. FRIED  
JARRETT E. GALLARDO  
AYANNA H. GLENN  
SONYA S. GOLDING  
MARIO E. GONZALEZ  
KARA N. GRANROTH  
EMMYLOISA F. GREENHILL  
JONATHAN D. HARE  
ANGELA D. HARP  
CYNTHIA L. HARRIS  
KOLT T. HARRIS  
MARY JANE P. HARRIS  
JOSEPH W. HARVEY  
HALEY M. HENDRIX  
BRANDON G. HESTWOOD  
BENJAMIN R. HOLLEY  
PETRA HOLLOWAY  
LISIS M. HUDSON  
CLAUDIA E. HUNTER  
AMY L. JACOBSON  
MARIA C. JEAN  
NINA M. JOHNSON  
ADA A. JUNTUNEN  
MELINDA C. KHUFU  
HYUN J. KIM  
MELISSA R. KING  
STEFANIE J. KNOX  
DOUGLAS A. KOOYMAN  
NATALIE A. KORONA  
SHAWN C. LAWSON  
MARK B. LENTS  
ELIZABETH K. LEWIS  
KATHERINE LINDSTROM  
SARA J. LLOYD  
JULIE C. LOMBRANA  
SARAH E. MARKS  
PARIDA C. R. MATA  
ERICA N. MCGAHA  
HAI PHUONG T. MCMANNON  
ANDREW C. MEIDLINGER  
CANDICE L. MEISTER  
PAUL J. MERILL  
MARK S. METZLER  
MICHAEL J. MILLAR  
LAURA A. MILLNER  
MARC A. MILLER  
VANESSA J. MOFFETT  
TANYA P. MOONEYHAM  
HEIDI J. MOSHER  
HEATHER S. MULLIN  
SONYA R. MUZYKA  
SAMANTHA J. NELSON  
LYNN T. NGUYEN  
CHRISTINA M. NIGRO  
ALISIA JOANN ORTIZ  
MARISOL M. PACHECO

CHRISTOPHER M. PARKER  
WAYNE A. PERNELL  
KYLE N. PERRY  
ANGELA K. PHILLIPS  
ELIZABETH R. PHILLIPS  
SHANNON D. PIERCE  
DAVID P. PITTS  
MARK J. POMERLEAU  
KIMBERLY ANN POOLE  
JOHN W. POWELL  
KRISHA A. PRENTICE  
KRISTOFFER A. PRICE  
TIFFANY J. PROCHASKA  
HEATHER A. QUIGG  
MICHELLE M. RENEAU  
RACHEL DANELLE RHODES  
CATHY A. RILEY  
JESSICA L. ROBERTS  
JASON D. ROSS  
KERRIE A. SANDERS  
JESSICA N. SANDS  
CHRISTOPHER A. SCHAEFER  
STACEY J. SCHRINER  
JESSICA M. SCIRICA  
RONALD W. SEARS, JR.  
ANDREW R. SEVERNS  
JONATHAN SHIN  
DANIELLE L. SHUBERT  
MICHELLE AULETTA SIMPSON  
CHARISMA C. SINGH  
MICHAEL P. STACPOOLE  
THOMAS K. STALLWORTH  
DESMOND A. TAYLOR  
JENNIFER L. TERREBONNE  
JOHN J. THOMPSON  
DANIEL C. THUROW  
KEVIN J. THYNES  
BRAD S. TIEFEL  
DIEGO L. TORRES  
MALICK B. TRAORE  
SHARLOTT URIARTE  
CHRISTINA VALLES  
KASINDRA M. VAN METER  
PETER B. VARNEY  
JONATHAN PAUL VIRNIG  
CATHERINE A. VOLKMER  
MICHAEL A. VOLKMER  
CAROL D. WALKER  
LATASHA M. WESTFALL  
JOSHUA V. WILLIAMS  
SAMUEL R. WILLIAMS  
LAWRENCE J. WILSON  
NAOMI L. WINTERHELD  
BART D. WINTERS  
SARAH M. WORKMAN  
MANDIE LOU YATES  
JUNE J. YI  
ERIC M. YOUNG  
SHENIKA A. ZAREBSKI  
KRISTINA M. ZUCCARELLI

## IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS PERMANENT PROFESSOR AT THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY IN THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 4333(B) AND 4336(A):

*To be colonel*

DAVID S. LYLE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be colonel*

GEORGE B. INABINET

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

*To be major*

BENJAMIN A. BARBEAU  
EDWARD W. BROWN  
RAHMAN R. FUNN  
ANDREW P. GOERKE  
JEREMIAH M. HARVEY  
WALTER L. HELMICK  
KIRKLIN J. KUDRNA  
MARSHALL T. MCGURK  
MATTHEW R. MORGAN  
JASON L. OLIVET  
MATTHEW P. REFF  
MATTHEW A. RILEY  
BLAIR D. TIGHE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

*To be major*GARRETT K. ANDERSON  
JOSEPH A. LEPPERT  
ROGER D. PLASTER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY DENTAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

*To be major*

JOSHUA A. AKERS  
MATTHEW R. ANDERSON  
PARVEZ BAIG  
GAMAL A. BAKER  
RISHARD M. BANKS  
JARED D. BEAM

TYSON T. BECK  
AUTUMN L. BECKER  
DANIEL D. BECKER  
WILLIAM J. BELKNAP  
BONNIE R. BOUDREAUX  
NATHAN B. BUCKNER  
NATALIE A. CAMPBELL  
MARISOL CARBONELL  
JACOB J. J. CHAE  
ALBERT W. CHENG  
JAI I. CHO  
ROSS K. COOK  
MAURO CORREA, JR.  
CLAYTON T. CRAIG  
JONATHAN L. CZEREPAK  
CATHERINE M. DAHL  
TIMOTHY J. DIXON  
DAVID T. ENSLEY  
MATTHEW V. EUSTERMAN  
JOSEPH FERGUSON  
PATRICK R. FERGUSON  
MICHAEL D. GILLINS  
PAUL M. GOFORTH  
JOHN M. GOODMAN  
MAJD S. HADDAD  
ALIREZA HAMIDZADEH  
STEVEN E. HANDEL  
JEREMY J. HANLON  
JAROM HANSEN  
SEUNG H. HONG  
JOSHUA G. HYATT  
BRANDON H. JONES  
PAUL C. KEARNEY  
JONATHAN D. LANE  
TIFFANY R. LEWIS  
ERICK J. LUND  
JONATHAN A. MASON  
CORI M. MCCLATCHEY  
HILLARY J. MCCORMACK  
JAMES B. MCLAUGHLIN  
PARTH MEWAR  
GEORGE P. MITROGOGOS  
NAVIA T. NGUYEN  
CHRISTOPHER T. NORMAN  
MITCHELL J. L. OLIVER  
JUSTIN E. OLSEN  
KONY PARK  
JAMES L. PARKER  
FARZAN L. POURANFAR  
APRIL M. POWERS  
JARRED L. PRICE  
JOSHUA D. PRUDEN  
SHANNON L. REA  
ADRIENNE R. REMBERT  
JOSHUA L. ROCKWOOD  
SHAKASHA L. SCRUGGSWILLIAMS  
ISAAC C. SEBORN  
MICHAEL D. SEGALL  
JILLIAN D. SEGLEM  
SCHUYLER B. SESSIONS  
CHAO H. SHEN  
DAVID H. SMITH  
BRENT A. TALBOT  
JESSE A. THIETTEN  
DARIN F. TINER  
JOSEPH C. VANDERBOSCH  
JOSHUA R. WALDRON  
ASHLEY M. WEBB  
THOMAS M. WELNAK  
LUCINDA J. YOUNG  
D013005

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

*To be major*

JONATHAN L. ABBOTT  
MELANIE J. ACEVEDOVALLE  
MOSTAFA M. AHMED  
AARON K. ANDERSEN  
HARRY T. AUBIN  
DANIEL W. BAILEY  
MICHELLE L. BAILEY  
WAYNE T. BILEY  
STEPHEN E. BARBERA  
ADAM M. BARELSKI  
JASON T. BARTER  
HILLERY S. BAVANI  
JESS W. BELLING  
RAFIK BENABDA  
MICHAEL D. BERES  
HUGH F. BIGG  
GEORGE E. BLACK IV  
BERTON L. BLACKORBY  
JOHN F. BONNES  
ZACHARY C. BOOMS  
CYRUS C. BOWERS  
ALAINA M. BRELIN  
MATTHEW E. BRICE  
KEVIN M. BRODERICK  
ROBERT O. BROUGHTON  
STEVEN E. BROWN  
SEAN C. BRUGMAN  
MATTHEW E. BRYANT  
RYAN V. B. BURKHART  
MICHAEL M. BURSEY  
DAVID C. BURY  
ROBERTO CANDELARIASANTIAGO  
EBONEE B. CARTER  
RUDOLPH A. CARTER III  
CHRISTOPHER L. CASE, JR.  
MICHAEL T. CAVENDER  
ASHLEY D. CESSAR  
PHILIP J. CHANDLER  
EDWARD T. CHANG

MICHAEL S. CHEUNG  
SANDY K. CLAYTON  
MICHAEL S. CLEMENS  
BRANDON M. COLE  
CHRISTOPHER R. COOPER  
NICHOLAS P. COSENTINO  
AARON L. CRAIG  
KATHRYN A. CRANE  
DOMINIQUE S. CROSBY  
AMBER R. CROWDER  
THOMAS M. CROWELL II  
TYLER A. DAILEY  
MATTHEW R. DAVIS  
RICHARD D. DETHERIDGE  
DANIEL R. DIBLASI  
CALEB G. DICKISON  
JOHN J. DIGIOVANNI  
TIMOTHY B. DINH  
JEREMY W. DOCEKAL  
EDWARD A. DOLOMISIEWICZ  
PATRICIA M. DOMINGUEZ  
ANGELA M. DUNN  
JOHN C. DUNN  
CECILY E. DUPREE  
JOSHUA D. DWORKIN  
BRYANT S. EDWARDS  
JONATHAN C. ELLEMENT  
JABON L. ELLIS  
SCOTT P. ENDICOTT  
MARTIN O. EVANS II  
PHILIP G. EYE  
NINA L. FAKHORI  
WILLIAM G. V. FARKAS  
THORAN G. FARNSWORTH  
KRISTIN C. FLALA  
EAMON L. FILAN  
TIMOTHY FLYNN  
AUSTIN T. POLLEY  
DEREK C. FORSTHOEFEL  
BRIAN E. FOSTER  
JAMES N. FOSTER  
STEPHEN L. FOSTYK  
IAN W. FOWLER  
BRENTON R. FRANKLIN  
THOMAS C. FRAWLEY  
AMIE E. FREEMAN  
MATTHEW A. FREEMAN  
BENJAMIN S. FRIDAY  
AMANDA J. GACCETTA  
BLAKE R. GALLER  
ANTONIO M. GARCIA  
JOSHUA K. GARDNER  
IAN S. GEIS  
CANDACE P. GILES  
BLAIR S. GLASCO  
TIMOTHY A. GOTHAM  
ALISON M. GRAJKOWSKI  
BROOKE L. GRAY  
JULIA GREENE  
LUCAS L. GROVES  
LINDSAY K. GRUBISH  
ANNE M. GUNN  
ANTHONY J. HACKETT  
SCOTT B. HAHN  
NEIL R. HALONEN  
GREGORY J. HAMILTON  
WILLIAM E. HARNER  
JAMES R. HARTLINE  
BRANDON D. HECHT  
EMILY M. HECKENDORN  
KENNETH A. HEIDA, JR.  
ROBERT K. HEINDRICH  
CAMELLIA L. HERNANDEZ  
ANNELLES T. HICKERSON  
ANDREW W. HIL  
CALEB D. HIXSON  
JEFFREY D. HOFFMANN  
PAUL J. HOFFMANN  
DOUGLAS R. HOGOBOOM  
STEVEN P. HOLE  
SARAH M. HOLMEN  
MATTHEW D. HOLTkamp  
CAITLIN M. HOWARD  
RICHARD K. HURLEY, JR.  
JACK N. HUTTER  
ANNA H. ISFORT  
NATHAN K. JANSEN  
JOHN B. JENNETTE  
KARSTEN G. JENNINGS  
CHRISTINE A. JOHNSON  
ELISE H. JOHNSON  
KAROLINE B. JOHNSON  
PETER C. JOHNSON  
ELLEN C. JONES  
DANIEL M. KAPLAN  
AARON S. KARMES  
MALGORZATA E. KASPERSKA  
STEFAN G. KAZACOS  
MARION C. KEHN  
BRENDAN S. KELLEY  
MATTHEW H. KEMM  
SHEILA M. KENNER  
GARRY J. KENNEBREW  
ERIC P. KINSMAN  
JOHN W. KIRCHER  
KEVIN R. KNIERY  
EHAB A. KOMSAN  
JEANNE A. G. KRICK  
ANDREW R. KUHLE  
DANE K. KURATSU  
JAMES M. KYLE  
NICHOLAS D. LANCASTER  
PAUL J. LANIER  
HEATHER A. LAYHER  
JOSHUA A. LAYHER  
DOUGLAS Y. C. LEE  
LESLIE M. LEMANEK

KATHERINE M. LEONARD  
MUOY I. LIM  
ADRIANNA N. LONG  
TRACY V. LOVE  
QUAN M. LUONG  
ALEXANDER D. MALLOY  
JOHANNA G. H. MAROWSKIE  
ERIC J. MARPLE  
DAVID W. MARTELL  
JENNIFER H. MASEL  
JACOB MATHEW, JR.  
KIMBERLEY A. MAXWELL  
DANIEL R. MAY  
IAN C. MAY  
PATRICIA S. MCADAMS  
JOHN G. MCCARTHY  
JASON C. MCCARTT  
BENJAMIN J. MCCOLLUM  
IAN S. MCDUGALL  
MEGHAN J. MCHENRY  
CHRISTINA J. MCKINNIS  
TYLER S. MCMILLAN  
ALLEN A. MEHR  
AYESHA M. MEJIA  
LINDA Y. MEYERS  
ALEX S. MILLER  
ELIZABETH A. MILLER  
KEITH D. MOFFIT  
AMINA MOGHUL  
GORDON MOK  
MARIO A. MORALES  
ROBERT L. MORRIS  
MATTHEW W. MORRISSEY  
KATHRYN B. MUIR  
MELISSA A. MYERS  
JASON J. NAM  
ZACHARY S. NEUBERT  
JELAUN K. NEWSOME  
MATTHEW P. NILAN  
FAITH A. D. NIMER  
MARY A. NOEL  
CHRISTOPHER O. OCHIENG  
JORDAN T. OCHSNER  
ANDREW W. OSTEN  
RICHARD S. OTTO  
ERIKA A. OVERBEEKWAGER  
DAVID T. PADRO  
HEMANT PALL  
RYAN M. PAOLINO  
GRACE E. PARK  
MELANIE V. PARM  
BRANDON M. PENIX  
KRISTOPHER M. PETERS  
KEITH E. PETERSEN  
BRYAN M. PETTIT  
CHRISTOPHER K. T. PHAM  
NGAC N. PHAN  
PHUNG D. PHAN  
JONATHAN E. PICKETT  
SARAH B. PLOCK  
TESS H. POLLINGER  
BRIAN C. POMERANTZ  
HEATHER S. POMERANTZ  
ROBERT A. POWELL  
TYLER A. POWELL  
ZACHARY A. PRATHER  
RYAN L. PRENTICE  
VICTORIA M. PRENTICE  
RICHARD L. PURCELL  
NATASHA J. PYZOCCHA  
REBECCA J. RADCLIFFE  
FRANK J. RAGUKONIS, JR.  
JONATHAN H. RASMUSSEN  
JOHN M. RAWLINGS  
NEPHI A. REDD  
MATTHEW S. REECE  
JASON L. REED  
BRADY V. REESE  
ERIKA S. REESE  
CHRISTINA P. REMMERT  
SHANNON F. RENFROW  
AARON D. ROBERTS  
BENJAMIN C. ROBERTS  
AMANDA L. RODRIGUEZ  
MANUEL RODRIGUEZ IV  
FABIAN J. ROHENA  
ANNA N. ROMAGNOLI  
CESSAR J. ROSA  
ASHLEY A. ROSELLE  
JASON E. ROSTEDT  
ERIC J. ROYSTON  
WILLIAM D. RUMBAUGH  
EAN R. SABERSKI  
ADRIAN M. SALAZAR  
CAROLYN A. SALTER  
JOHN S. SAUR  
KURT E. SCHAPIRA  
WAYNE C. SCHMIDT, JR.  
DAVID P. SCHMITT  
ALICIA N. SCRIBNER  
KAYE E. SEDARSKY  
FRANCIS A. SEILER  
NEEL J. SHAH  
BRIAN J. SHIOZAWA  
JUSTIN R. SHIRLEY  
DOROTHY SHUM  
SAMUEL N. SIGOFF  
JENNA L. SILAKOSKI  
NICOLE M. SILVA  
NICHOLAS C. SILVESTER  
BRIAN D. SINDELLAR  
MAXWELL R. SIRKIN  
DEL R. SLONEKER  
BRETT L. SMITH  
LAPORTIA J. SMITH  
STEPHANIE S. SMITH  
ZACHARY D. SMITH

CHARLES P. SMOOT  
SARAH B. SNYDER  
KYLE SOKOL  
CHRISTOPHER C. SQUIRES  
STEPHEN K. STACEY  
GREGORY J. STEVENS  
JAYNE R. STEVENS  
JAMES A. STEWART  
RODGER S. STITT  
GEORGE W. STONE  
ADAM G. STRETT  
SCOTT SULLIVAN  
VICTORIA F. SULLIVAN  
RICHARD C. SWEDARSKY  
MICHAEL C. SWIFT  
MICHAEL S. SWITZER  
CHRISTOPHER M. TARNEY  
DAVID J. TENNENT  
CONNIE L. THOMAS  
RICHARD L. THOMAS  
DAVID P. TILLMAN  
THOMAS A. TOKARZ  
ANTHONY M. TOLISANO  
THOMAS H. TONKIN  
DANIEL J. TSENG  
ERIC K. TURNER  
REBECCA E. VAREBROOK  
TREASACH C. VARGAS  
CHRISTOPHER F. VAUGHNS  
KARLA M. VEGACOLON  
JENNIFER L. VIERA  
JAYME A. VOGT  
ALANA M. WADE  
BRIAN S. WALLIN  
LOREN E. WALLWYN'TROSS  
LIN C. WANG  
AUBRI M. WATERS  
SEBASTIAN K. WELSH  
PAUL J. WETSTEIN  
BRADY W. WHITMER  
LUKE M. WICKE  
MEREDITH C. WILLS  
KELLY E. WILSON  
SARA M. WILSON  
JONATHAN T. WINGATE  
KIN Y. WONG  
BRIAN C. YBARBO  
STEVEN H. YOO  
DAVID H. YUN  
JASON M. ZACK  
KATHERINE M. ZAMPERINI  
BOVEY Z. ZHU

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SPECIALIST CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

*To be colonel*

JANETTA R. BLACKMORE  
GAIL A. DREITZLER  
MICHAEL E. FRANCO  
DAVID L. HAMILTON  
ROBERT S. HEATH  
JEFFREY E. OLIVER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY VETERINARY CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

*To be colonel*

STEVEN A. BATY  
JOHN C. BEACH  
DWAYNE C. BECHTOL  
MICHAEL R. BONHAGE  
AMMON W. BROWN  
CLAYTON D. CHILCOAT  
ANNE E. HESSINGER  
ALISA R. WILMA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY NURSE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

*To be colonel*

WESLEY J. ANDERSON  
SANDRA J. BARR  
JODY L. DUGAI  
MARC A. FRY  
RONALD S. GESAMAN  
SEAN P. HARBERT  
IRMA T. HARTMAN  
DAVID HERNANDEZ  
ROBERT A. HOLCEK  
JOSEPH A. HULSE  
PAUL M. JOHNSON  
STEVEN A. KNAPP  
FRANK LEE  
VINCENT L. LETO  
HENGMO Y. MCCALL  
BETHANY L. MCCORMICK  
GENERA D. MILLER  
KEITH C. PALM  
VINA A. RAJSKI  
KATHLEEN G. SPANGLER  
LANCE C. TAYLOR  
DANIEL B. THOMPSON  
CORNELIUS R. TYLER  
TANYA L. WAHLBERG  
HOPE M. WILLIAMSONYOUNCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

*To be colonel*

GINA E. ADAM  
 THOMAS J. ANTON  
 JANELLE A. ARNETTE  
 JAMES R. AUWIL  
 JON E. BAKER  
 MICHAEL F. BELENKY  
 BRIAN J. BENDER  
 JOSEPH A. BOWMAN  
 DANIEL D. BRIDON  
 KENT A. BROUSSARD  
 EDWARD L. BRYAN, JR.  
 JOSE E. CAPOAPONTE  
 KRISTEN L. CASTO  
 CHRISTOPHER M. CHRISTON  
 WALTER G. S. CUMMINGS  
 ROSS A. DAVIDSON  
 JACOB J. DLUGOSZ  
 RYAN R. ECKMEIER  
 BRIAN P. EVANS  
 SHAWN R. GELZAINES  
 DOUGLAS R. GRAY  
 ANDREW HAGEMASTER  
 KEVIN C. HAMILTON  
 JILL J. HENDERSON  
 BERNITA HIGHTOWER  
 STACY A. HOLMAN  
 MATTHEW D. KONOPA  
 JOSELITO C. LIM  
 DOUGLAS K. LOMSHEK  
 HUGH A. MCLEAN, JR.  
 MICHAEL S. MENDENHALL  
 JEFFREY J. NEIGH  
 JEANNE A. NORWOOD  
 MICHAEL T. PEACOCK  
 STEVEN J. RICHTER  
 JASON R. SEFANIC  
 SHANNON N. SHAW  
 STEVEN E. SHIPLEY  
 ROBERT B. SIDELL  
 KEVIN S. SMITH  
 BRIAN C. SPANGLER  
 REBECCA J. TERRY  
 MATTHEW W. VOYLES  
 NORMAN C. WATERS  
 JOHN D. A. YEAW  
 DAVID R. ZINNANTE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be colonel*

DAVID J. H. CHANG  
 FRED I. DIXON  
 RICHARD J. FONYI  
 DANIEL A. HOLLAND  
 CHRISTOPHER W. LOWE  
 JOHN M. PERRINE  
 BENJAMIN A. RING  
 STEVE M. SMITH  
 BRADY L. STOUT  
 IAN J. TARASEVITSCH  
 MICHAEL R. TAYLOR, JR.  
 MATTHEW J. YANDURA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant colonel*

SAMUEL A. REDDING

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY NURSE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

*To be lieutenant colonel*

SATIVA M. FRANKLIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be colonel*

MAURICE O. BARNETT  
 AARON C. BARTA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be major*

JENNIFER A. MAHONEY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be major*

YON T. CHUNG  
 MICHAEL B. PAYNE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be colonel*

CATHLEEN A. LABATE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be major*

GRANT R. BARGE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be major*

MICHAEL W. CHUNG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C. SECTION 624:

*To be major*

REBECCA J. COOPER  
 MATTHEW L. DANIELS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C. SECTION 624:

*To be major*

CHEMITRA M. CLAY  
 JOHN C. HUBBARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be colonel*

CHARLES K. BERGMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be colonel*

ROBERT S. PATTON, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be colonel*

JASON P. AFFOLDER  
 KEVIN J. AGEN  
 KATHY L. ALLISON  
 MICHAEL C. ANDERSON  
 WYETH S. ANDERSON  
 CHRISTIAN C. AYERS  
 KEVIN M. BAIRD  
 LESLIE A. BARNETT  
 DANIEL A. BARTLETT  
 JULIA BELL  
 CORY N. BERG  
 MATTHEW R. BOWLER  
 JOHN R. BRETHORST  
 KATHY M. BROWN  
 JOHN T. BRYAN  
 TODD E. BUHR  
 ANDREW T. CARTER  
 JOSEPH M. COLACICCO  
 JOHN S. COMBS  
 JOHN M. COOPER  
 MALCOLM S. CORNISH V  
 JOSEPH M. DAVIS  
 JAMES DEBOER  
 ANTHONY R. DEKEYZER  
 DARYL G. DEVERAWADEN  
 DAVID S. DINKELMAN  
 PATRICK A. DISNEY  
 STEPHEN P. DONDERO  
 STEPHEN D. DORRIS  
 MARY O. DRAYTON  
 SARA E. DUDLEY  
 REBECCA L. EGGERS  
 CHRISTINE V. ENRIQUEZ  
 STEVEN A. ERICKSON  
 STEPHEN A. FABIANO  
 DONALD A. FAGNAN  
 CHARLES A. FISHER, JR.  
 MICHAEL S. FLEMING  
 JOEL D. FRANKLIN  
 JERRY E. GAUSSOIN  
 KERRY L. GEORGE  
 GREGORY K. GIBBONS  
 JOSEPH W. GREENLEE  
 JOHN W. HANKINS  
 DANIEL J. HEAPE  
 COREY P. HEMINGWAY  
 MARTIN J. HENDRIX III  
 ERIK E. HILBERG  
 DAVID T. HILLS  
 YOLANDA M. HINES  
 KRISTA M. HOFFMAN  
 HERMAN L. JOHNSON, JR.  
 HUMBERTO I. JONES  
 GBENGA B. KAFFO  
 SCOTT B. KINDBERG  
 CLETIS R. KING, JR.  
 KEITH R. KRULSKI  
 CURT E. KUETEMEYER  
 CALVIN J. LANE  
 ERIC D. LARSEN  
 DONALD T. LOGSDON  
 JEFFERY P. LUCAS  
 FREDRIC R. MADDOX  
 LANDIS C. MADDOX  
 YOLANDA B. MADDOX  
 WHEELER R. MANNING  
 JEANETTE A. MARTIN  
 JOHN T. MASTERNAK  
 BRIAN D. MATTHEWS  
 JOHN W. MCDONALD  
 ROBERT L. MCDONALD, JR.  
 REBECCA B. MCLAWAIN  
 MONDREY O. MCLAURIN  
 ROBERTO J. MERCADOROMERO  
 MICHAEL F. MEHAUDO  
 TODD D. MITCHELL  
 FRANK A. MOORE  
 DARYL R. MORSE  
 JOHN M. MOTSZKO

KIMBERLY D. NASH  
 CHRISTOPHER D. NOE  
 BRIAN S. OLSON  
 LUIS A. PARILLI  
 MICHAEL A. PATRICK  
 TERRIE L. PETERKIN  
 REGINA PISTONE  
 STEVEN E. PUTTHOFF  
 JARED A. REID  
 HATTIE L. RICHARDSON  
 MICHAEL E. RIVERA  
 CHRISTOPHER J. RUGA  
 ROBERT W. RUGG  
 EARL B. SCHONBERG, JR.  
 STEVEN P. SCHULTZ  
 ROBERT L. SKETCH  
 JAMES M. STEPHENS  
 JOE J. SUDDITH, JR.  
 MICHAEL G. SUMMERS  
 JACK S. TAYLOR  
 SHANE M. UPTON  
 STEWART J. VANBUREN  
 MARK W. VANDERSTEEN  
 WILLIAM R. VENABLE  
 JOSHUA S. VOGEL  
 MARVIN L. WALKER  
 ANTHONY T. WALTERS  
 DAVID A. WARE  
 WALLACE E. WEAKLEY, JR.  
 ROBERT M. WILLIAMS  
 GREGORY R. WORLEY  
 WILLIAM B. WYLES  
 GUY YELVERTON III  
 TIMOTHY R. ZETTERWALL  
 D013695  
 D012837  
 D012388

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be colonel*

ANDRE B. ABADIE  
 WILLIAM T. ADAMS  
 MATTHEW A. ANDERSON  
 JOEL R. ARELLANO  
 ROBERT C. ARMSTRONG  
 RICHARD R. BALESTRI  
 JOHN M. BARRY, JR.  
 ARCHIE L. BATES III  
 JOSEPH D. BECKER  
 AMOS R. BENNETT  
 DUSTIN D. BISHOP  
 CRAIG J. BONDR  
 STEPHANIE L. BOUNDS  
 DAN R. BRUE II  
 REGINALD E. BRYANT  
 WILLIAM W. BURCH  
 ANDRE L. BURKS  
 JOHN R. BUSSOLARI  
 TERENCE A. CALIGUIRE  
 GILBERT M. CARDONA  
 GWYN A. CARVER  
 ELIZABETH A. CASELY  
 ROBERT R. CASTILLO  
 JOHN C. CHECKO  
 DERRICK W. CHENG  
 GABRIEL A. CHINCHILLA  
 JAMES B. COGBILL  
 FAREN R. COLE  
 DANIELLE D. CORKE  
 ROBERT E. CROFT  
 PATRICK E. CURRY  
 MATTHEW F. DABKOWSKI  
 TIMOTHY G. DALTON  
 KEVIN K. DAMON  
 AIMEE S. DEJARNETTE  
 JASON W. DICKERMAN  
 ALAN H. DINERMAN  
 ALYSSA G. DREW  
 SKYE D. DUNCAN  
 PAUL F. EVANGELISTA  
 EDWARD R. EVANS III  
 MICHAEL J. FEILEY  
 MATTHEW J. FOULK  
 JOHN F. FRAVEL III  
 ERNEST A. FREUND  
 JOHN A. FRICK  
 CANDICE E. FROST  
 JOSEPH A. FUNDERBURKE  
 ROBERT A. GLECKLER  
 ADELAIDA GODINEZ III  
 RICHARD S. GRAMMER  
 EUGENE J. GREGORY  
 JAMES D. HALLOCK  
 JAMES M. HALLORAN  
 SANG D. HAN  
 REGINALD M. HARRIS  
 PAUL R. HAVERSTICK, JR.  
 JOSH W. HELMS  
 JASON L. HESTER  
 KAREN E. HOBART  
 WILLIAM W. HORN V  
 CHARLES E. HORNICK, JR.  
 TREVOR W. HOUGH  
 BLUE HUBER  
 CHRISTOPHER G. HURLBURT  
 CHRISTOPHER INGELS  
 HEATHER A. JACKSON  
 JAMES E. JENKINS II  
 JEREMIAH J. JETTE  
 CHRISTOPHER G. JOHNSON  
 GARRETT P. JONES  
 DEXTER A. JORDAN  
 CHRISTOPHER E. KEESHAN  
 RAYMOND A. KIMBALL



DAVID C. KNAPP  
 GARY R. KRAMLICH II  
 KRISTOFER S. LABOWSKI  
 NORMAN S. LAWRENCE  
 BRYAN C. LECLERC  
 WILLIAM R. LEGGETT III  
 JASON S. LIGGETT  
 JEFFERY L. LONG  
 BRYAN M. LOVE  
 H C. LYLE  
 KEVIN M. MACNEIL  
 LAWRENCE D. MARTIN  
 CARLOS I. MARTINEZ  
 BRIAN J. MARZAN  
 WILLIAM C. MCDOWELL  
 JOHN W. MEEK  
 ROBERT E. MEINE  
 GLENN O. MELLOR  
 JOHN C. MICHAUD  
 BENJAMIN D. MILLER  
 HAROLD S. MONTOYA  
 LAWRENCE A. MULLANY  
 DELTON NIX, JR.  
 BRIAN C. NORTH  
 BUCKLEY E. ODAY III  
 ERIC R. OLSON  
 MATTHEW N. OLSON  
 OSVALDO ORTIZ  
 CHRISTOPHER E. OXENDINE  
 TYLER J. OXLEY  
 ANDREW F. PEKALA  
 DWIGHT E. PHILLIPS, JR.  
 JESSE A. PHILLIPS  
 SEAN R. PIRONE  
 MICHAEL J. PONCHAK  
 COREY S. PRESSLEY  
 TAGE J. RAINSFORD  
 CHRISTOPHER C. RANKIN  
 DAVID J. RAPONE  
 JAMES S. RAWLINSON  
 WALTER E. RICHTER  
 RYAN K. ROSEBERRY  
 GREGORY S. ROSS  
 DANIEL W. RUECKING  
 DARCY R. SAINTAMANT  
 ADAM R. SANDERSON  
 ANTHONY SCHEVALIER  
 CHAD C. SCHOOLS  
 MICHAEL A. SHEKLETON  
 MATTHEW J. SKAGGS  
 LAWRENCE E. SKELLY III  
 CRAIG C. SMITH  
 DIRK H. SMITH, JR.  
 JENNIFER J. SMITHEYS  
 JAMES L. SNYDER  
 KHOT SOUIMANIPHANH  
 SEAN F. STINCHON  
 ERIC N. STROM  
 JOHN D. SUGGS, JR.  
 MICHEAL C. SWINSON  
 ERIC S. TOLLEFSON  
 ALLEN D. WALKER  
 KRISTA L. WATTS  
 CATHERINE T. WILKINSON  
 DAVID M. WILLIAMS, JR.  
 SAMUEL J. WILLMON  
 STEVEN M. WINKLEMAN  
 ROBYN D. WOOD  
 GEOFFREY W. WRIGHT  
 MATTHEW M. ZAIS  
 JUAN C. ZAVALA  
 DANIEL M. ZERBY  
 G001052  
 G010302  
 G010463  
 D011646  
 G001060

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be colonel*

WINFIELD A. ADKINS  
 CHRISTOPHER S. ALFEIRI  
 BRANDON C. ANDERSON  
 WILLIAM C. ASHMORE  
 BRYAN L. BABICH  
 TIMOTHY M. BAER  
 MARK C. BAILEY  
 MICHAEL J. BAIM  
 EDWARD J. BALLANCO  
 DANIEL T. BARD  
 JOHN M. BAREFIELD  
 SHAWN M. BARNES  
 JEREMY A. BARTEL  
 GARY W. BEARD, JR.  
 ERIC D. BEATY  
 ANTHONY J. BEHRENS  
 JEFFREY S. BERGMANN  
 MICHAEL R. BINETTI  
 JAMES B. BIRD  
 W. M. BOCHAT  
 ROBERT G. BORN  
 BRADLEY L. BOYD  
 JOHN B. BROAM  
 TERRY A. BUTCHER  
 TOMMY L. CARDONE, JR.  
 BRADLEY M. CARR  
 SHANE D. CELEEN  
 JONATHAN M. CHUNG  
 TERRY L. CLARK  
 GLEN E. CLUBB  
 ADAM M. COBB  
 MICHAEL W. COBB  
 MATTHEW D. COBURN  
 JAMES M. COLLINS

JASON W. CONDREY  
 JORGE O. CORDEIRO  
 JACK D. CRABTREE III  
 CHRISTOPHER W. CRARY  
 PATRICK J. DAGON  
 CHRISTOPHER R. DANBECK  
 ANTHONY E. DANIELS  
 PATRICK S. DAULTON  
 LINN K. DESAULNIERS  
 DAVID P. DIAMOND  
 TIMOTHY E. DRUELL  
 BRADFORD T. DUPLESSIS  
 JAMES T. ELDREDGE IV  
 JOSEPH M. EWERS  
 STUART L. FARRIS  
 GRANT S. FAWCETT  
 DAVID E. FIELDER, JR.  
 JOHN A. FIVIAN  
 ALRIC L. FRANCIS  
 KENNETH J. FREY  
 ROGELIO J. GARCIA  
 WHITNEY B. GARDNER  
 LARRY V. GEDDINGS, JR.  
 HISE O. GIBSON  
 JOSEPH C. GOETZ II  
 KEVIN R. GOLINGHORST  
 SCOTT D. GOULD  
 CHAD D. GOYETTE  
 MATTHEW R. GRAGG  
 PHILIP E. GRAHAM  
 ETHAN L. HALL  
 JAMES J. HANDURA  
 WILLIAM C. HANNAN, JR.  
 KEVIN F. HANRAHAN  
 MICHAEL G. HARRIS  
 JAMES A. HAYES  
 REBECCA D. HAZELETT  
 GLENN A. HENKE  
 BART G. HENSLER  
 JOHN J. HERRMAN  
 ADAM W. HILBURGH  
 TREVOR W. HILL  
 ROBERT A. HILLIARD  
 DERIC J. HOLBROOK  
 SCOTT L. HOLLAND, JR.  
 EDWARD C. HUDSON III  
 MARK E. HUHTANEN  
 BRYAN W. HUNT  
 STUART M. JAMES  
 KARL D. JANSEN  
 JEREMY E. JELLY  
 BARTON L. JOHNKE  
 JASON E. KERER  
 PHILLIP J. KINIERY III  
 SETH A. KNAZOVICH  
 SCOTT P. KNIGHT, JR.  
 SIDNEY A. KNOX  
 MICHAEL J. KOVACEVIC  
 GLENN E. KOZELKA  
 PAUL T. KRATTIGER  
 JONATHAN M. KUPKA  
 CHRISTOPHER S. LANDERS  
 JACOB J. LARKOWICH  
 STEPHEN H. LEE  
 FRANCISCO J. LEJJA  
 MARK S. LENT  
 PHILIP V. LENZ  
 VYLIUS M. LESKYS  
 APISIT LEWIS  
 JOHN D. LITCHFIELD  
 BRYAN L. LOGAN  
 LUIS O. LOMAS  
 BENJAMIN R. LUPER  
 TIMOTHY J. MACDONALD  
 JOSEPH J. MALIZIA, JR.  
 MICHAEL C. MANNER  
 DANIEL K. MARK  
 DAMIEN E. MASON  
 CHARLES L. MASON  
 LEE C. MATTHEWS  
 DAVID N. MAYO, JR.  
 RYAN E. MCCORMACK  
 MATTHEW Y. MCCULLEY  
 JOHN F. MCDANIEL  
 JAMES T. MCGAHEY  
 EDWARD MEYERS  
 ZACHARY L. MILLER  
 NATHAN A. MINAMI  
 ANDREW J. MORGAN  
 BRYAN A. MORGAN  
 JUSTIN T. MUFALLI  
 TIMOTHY R. MUNGIE  
 STEPHEN R. MURPHY  
 JON P. MYERS  
 SCOTT A. MYERS  
 ALEXIS A. NEAL  
 ROSS F. NELSON  
 DON A. NESTOR, JR.  
 JOEL D. NEWSOM  
 ERIC M. NOE  
 CHRISTOPHER M. NYLAND  
 JAMES M. OBRIEN II  
 RYAN P. OCONNOR  
 MARK A. OLSEN  
 RALPH W. OVERLAND  
 JEFFREY O. PAINE  
 JAMES G. PANGELINAN  
 DUANE M. PATIN  
 TIMOTHY P. PAYMENT  
 FELIX A. PEREZ  
 JACOB A. PETERSON  
 CARL A. POPPE  
 SCOTT S. PRESTON  
 RALPH W. RADKA  
 BRIAN R. RAUEN  
 JAMES G. RIELY  
 WILLIAM A. RODGERS

RAFAEL A. RODRIGUEZ  
 KEVIN C. SAATKAMP  
 AMADO SANCHEZ IV  
 JOHN W. SANNES  
 ANDREW O. SASLAV  
 TODD A. SCHMIDT  
 MICHAEL D. SCHOENFELDT  
 JENNIFER L. SCHULKE  
 JOHN G. SCHWEMMER, JR.  
 DAVID S. SENTELL  
 SCOTT A. SHAW  
 JONATHAN A. SHINE  
 ANDREW J. SHORT  
 APRIL D. SKOU  
 KENNETH D. SLOVER  
 JASON E. SMITH  
 MICHAEL T. SQUIRES  
 CHRISTOPHER M. STALLINGS  
 JENNESS F. STEELE  
 PATRICK T. STICH  
 MARK W. STOUFFER  
 STEVEN L. TABAT  
 JASON C. TALIAFERRO  
 BRANDON S. TEAGUE  
 FREDERICK J. TOTI  
 MICHAEL F. TREMBLAY  
 JASON B. TUSSEY  
 TRENT D. UPTON  
 TIMOTHY R. VAIL  
 JAMES P. VELESKY  
 JONATHAN M. VELISHKA  
 GEORGE WALTER  
 ANDREW J. WATSON  
 CHRISTOPHER M. WEATHERS  
 CHRISTOPHER B. WELLS  
 JOHN T. WHELAHAN, JR.  
 CHRISTINE M. WHITMER  
 GEOFFREY A. WHITTENBERG  
 JASON T. WILLIAMS  
 JEREMY R. WILLINGHAM  
 THOMAS G. WILSON, JR.  
 MICHAEL L. WISER  
 DAVID C. WOODRUFF, JR.  
 JOSEPH W. WORTHAM II  
 RYAN L. WORTHAN  
 LEO J. WYSZYNSKI  
 D011853  
 D001730  
 D005484  
 D012357  
 D004201  
 D001087  
 D011368  
 D013960

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

*To be colonel*

DEVRY C. ANDERSON

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

SUZANNE T. ALFORD  
 LUIS E. AYBAR  
 DOMINIC M. BENNETT  
 ROBERT L. BOND, JR.  
 MICHAEL C. BORJA  
 CHARIS M. BRACY  
 JENNIFER K. BRIDGES  
 AMY D. BRUCE  
 WILLIAM J. BULLEN III  
 TIMOTHY R. CAMERON  
 CHRISTOPHER M. CASEY  
 GRANT J. CASSINGHAM  
 GREGORY A. CHASSE  
 JULIE E. CHRISTIE  
 JOSEPH J. CROWLEY  
 GODFREY CUNNINGHAM, JR.  
 SANDRA M. DEERING  
 SARA M. DIMMICK  
 WILLIAM J. ELLIOTT  
 JOSHUA A. EVIRS  
 CHRISTOPHER M. FERRANTE  
 NEAL J. FERRY  
 BRIGID C. FIELDS  
 STEPHEN A. FLOYD  
 JOHN G. GIBSON III  
 DECLAN B. GLYNN  
 JAMES C. GUGER  
 MATTHEW D. GRAHAM  
 KYLE S. GREEN  
 MARK P. GRISSOM, JR.  
 NICHOLAS P. R. GRITZ  
 CASSIE L. HANBLIN  
 KURT W. HANSEN  
 DARCY A. HERBERICK  
 NATHANIEL B. HOLDEN  
 MATTHEW T. HOLDEN  
 VANESSA K. HANSEN  
 ADAM J. KEECH  
 IAN S. KELLEY  
 EDWARD R. KELLUM  
 JEANANNE B. KIM  
 JEFFREY W. LAUPOLA  
 CLIFFORD T. LOOS  
 CHRISTOPHER R. LOPER  
 JABE LOPEZ  
 DAVID S. MADISON  
 AMY M. MANGL

JENNIFER M. MANGARAN  
 EDDIE L. MARTIN  
 MATTHEW M. MCKENZIE  
 TYSON B. MEADORS  
 JOHN E. D. MEYER  
 KATRINA C. MOFFETT  
 TODD P. MOULTON  
 WESTON P. MURRAY  
 MICHAEL F. NATARO  
 ANDREW L. ORCHARD  
 LESLIE C. PAISLEY  
 JEREMY D. PARSON  
 JACOB E. PIKE  
 DAVID L. PROSSER  
 KEVIN J. PUDAS  
 JASON T. RETTINGER  
 SAMANTHA F. SCARBOROUGH  
 JOSEPH G. STAINS  
 AARON R. STOMSKI  
 ANTONIO R. SWAIN  
 DAVID I. TANG  
 ANDY M. THAXTON  
 DAVID M. TRUESDELL  
 CALEB S. TUCKER  
 WILLIAM R. WALSH  
 BRIAN K. WEHLE  
 JAMIE N. WHITMAN  
 TIMOTHY L. WIES  
 ERIC R. WRIGHT  
 DAVID A. YANCEY  
 LAURA C. YOON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

ROY A. ADUNA  
 QUENTIN ALBEA  
 PAUL M. ALLEN  
 CHRISTOPHER L. AMBROSI  
 BLAIR W. ASHBY  
 RICHARD F. BAIER  
 ADAM M. BARONI  
 MARVIN E. BARTHOLOMEW  
 MICHAEL P. BAUTISTA  
 COREY A. BELL  
 CORY S. BENFIELD  
 BEAU J. BLANCHARD  
 KURT A. BOGART  
 CHARLES E. BONAFILIA  
 CHRISTOPHER W. BRANDT  
 JOEL B. BROVERO  
 JOSHUA W. BUNTE  
 MICHAEL J. CARR  
 BRANDON D. CARVER  
 JAIME CASTRO  
 JAVIER CASTROMARTINEZ  
 ROQUE E. CHASE  
 JAMES B. CLARK  
 KEITH A. CLARK  
 ROBERT J. COATS  
 JEROD L. COLE  
 DARRELL L. COOK  
 RALPH S. COOK  
 MICHAEL S. COOKE  
 WILLIAM J. CORRIGAN, JR.  
 PRAXEDUS COTRINA  
 MATTHEW W. CRANDALL  
 KEVIN A. CURTIS  
 RAHSAN A. DEEVERS  
 MITCHEL M. DESHOTEL II  
 ALEXEY DIAZ  
 BRENT C. DUNAGAN  
 ALAN R. DUNLAP  
 ALOYSIUS V. ELZIE  
 CHRISTOPHER EMMETT  
 AMY N. EVANS  
 SCOTT D. EVANS  
 ROGER J. EYROLLES  
 GREGORIO V. FAMILIA  
 ROSS E. FARROW  
 MALVIN L. FIKES  
 ROBERT A. FILES, JR.  
 MICHAEL J. E. FISK  
 MIGUEL FLORES, JR.  
 MICHAEL R. FOUGHT  
 DOMINIC R. FRANK  
 MARK J. GACKOWSKI  
 LAWRENCE J. GAZAFY  
 DAMON C. GILBERT  
 JOHN J. GNIK  
 WILLIAM B. GODWIN, JR.  
 DAVID M. GREEN  
 CHAD W. HAACK  
 TENNILLE M. HAIRSTON  
 JERROLD S. HALL  
 EVELYN S. HALL  
 DOUGLAS E. HAWK  
 CATHERINE L. HAYNES  
 QUINCY P. HEBERT  
 DARRELL R. HEIDE  
 JOSHUA M. HEMMING  
 LINDA C. HILTON  
 GREGORY E. HITT  
 STEVEN HOFFEN  
 AARON E. HOLDREN  
 STEVEN L. HOOD  
 CHRISTOPHER M. HUDSON  
 GARY L. HUDSON  
 JAMISON R. HUNTER  
 KEVIN W. IRONS  
 MICHAEL C. JARRIEL  
 JOHN M. JERNIGAN  
 MYRON C. JOHNSON  
 CARLTON JONES

RONALD D. JONES, JR.  
 VINCENT A. JUNOR  
 MICHAEL A. KALMAN  
 STANLEY F. KEMPINGER, JR.  
 SHANNON J. KEUSS  
 PATRICK J. KEY  
 KERRY L. KING  
 CHRISTOPHER A. KISER  
 SHAWN L. KLINE  
 JEFFREY T. KNIGHT  
 ROB E. R. KOERNKE  
 VICTOR S. KOUW  
 WINSTON B. LANGHAM  
 JAMES C. LEASURE III  
 MICHAEL D. LEMMONS  
 ROBERT J. LILLY  
 MARLON D. LOVE  
 CRAIG W. LYNES  
 DAVID S. MACMELVILLE  
 THOMAS A. MADERA  
 CHRISTOPHER G. MARLEY  
 LUCAS J. MARTINEZMENDIETA  
 STEWART C. MATHEWS  
 KEVIN T. MATSON  
 ROBERT L. MCCALLISTER  
 JAMES R. MCCARTY II  
 SEAN R. MCDONNELL  
 CHRISTOPHER R. MCHENRY  
 MATTHEW T. MCMAHON  
 MATTHEW D. METZ  
 LISA D. MILLIGAN  
 SHANNON N. MORRIS  
 DUANE L. MOTLEY  
 TODD A. MOUSEL  
 CRAIG L. MUELLER  
 JAMES J. MUELLER  
 GREGORY L. MULL  
 SCOTT A. MYTHEN  
 MARK D. NAGORNIUK  
 JEREMIAH J. NELSON  
 LEONARDO A. NICASIO  
 ELOY D. NUNEZ  
 LEE D. OCONNOR  
 SEAN R. OWENS  
 SHAUN M. PAGE  
 KENNETH B. J. PAYNE  
 CHAD E. PELLETTIER  
 RYAN J. PLATT  
 GARY P. PLUTTA  
 DAMIEN M. PORTER  
 BRIAN R. PURVIS  
 DAVID M. RACKLEY  
 MARK A. REDDY  
 MICHAEL G. REILLY, JR.  
 BRADLEY W. REMPFER  
 BRENT E. RICKER  
 DAVID R. RINEHART  
 DAVID W. ROACH  
 CHRISTOPHER P. ROCHE  
 ROMEO G. SALAZAR  
 RICARDO SANCHEZ  
 JOEY SANDERS  
 SUZANNE E. SCHRUMP  
 CHRISTOPHER W. SHEPHERD  
 JAMES C. SIMPSON  
 CHRISTOPHER R. SMITH  
 RODERICK B. SMITH  
 REGGIE L. SMOOT  
 CHRISTOPHER J. STEFENACK  
 JOHNNY L. STEVENSON, JR.  
 KYLE P. STROBECK  
 PIO STROLIGO  
 JOHN R. SULLIVAN  
 MICHAEL A. SWORD  
 WILLIAM O. TEMPLLET, JR.  
 DANIEL J. TOPPER  
 JACOB A. UPTEGROVE  
 VICTOR R. VASQUEZGARCIA  
 MICHAEL A. VAUGHAN  
 CARLOS A. VEASLEY  
 PETER H. WARD  
 YVETTE M. WASHINGTON  
 EDWARD E. WEEKLEY, JR.  
 LARRON D. WHITE  
 MICHAEL S. WHITEHEAD  
 DAVID N. WILCOX  
 ANTONIO WILLIAMS  
 MARK S. WILLIAMS  
 THOMAS H. WILLIAMS, JR.  
 JOHN P. WOJCIK  
 FRED WOOD  
 JAMES W. WORLEY II  
 COREY K. WRIGHT  
 KIRTTLEY N. YEISER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

*To be commander*

CALVIN LOPER  
 KELVIN B. MCGHEE

*To be lieutenant commander*

KEVIN J. ALTEMARA  
 MARIAN D. HILL  
 STEVEN A. SHEPSKI  
 BILLY W. YOUNG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

MAUREEN M. DERKS  
 KRISTA B. KALICK  
 JEFFERY J. RIGGS, JR.

JEFFREY P. SHARP

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

DANIEL T. BARNES  
 CHRISTIANE A. BENZING  
 JAMES K. BROWN  
 DAVID P. BUNDY  
 STEVEN S. CHOI  
 NICHOLAS S. HAMILTON  
 CHELSEA M. HASSETT  
 SEAN J. JIN  
 KIMBERLY R. LAHNALA  
 TONY T. G. LE  
 JOHN T. MONEY  
 JEREMIAH A. STIEFEL  
 JACQUELYN O. VERMILLOHERMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

SHAMIRE E. BRANCH  
 KELLY L. BYRNE  
 JASON M. DAWSON  
 JACK C. DOUGHERTY  
 STEPHAN D. GALLAGHER  
 RINO M. GUERRERO  
 CHRISTOPHER R. MACHADO  
 MICHAEL A. MARTIN  
 JESSICA A. ORR  
 NICHOLAS S. PATRIA  
 THAI Q. PHUNG  
 MATTHEW C. REFFITT  
 TYONNA N. RESPICIO  
 JUSTIN P. VANES  
 KA XIONG  
 ALANNA B. YOUNGBLOOD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

DAVID L. AGUILAR  
 MICHELLE E. J. AKINS  
 JODI M. D. BIERMANN  
 KATY T. BOCK  
 KENNETH P. BOND  
 LEAH P. CARTER  
 JASON D. DOAN  
 CHARICKI J. EVANS  
 LAUREN P. GARCIA  
 RUBEN J. GARCIA  
 TIMOTHY L. HENDERSON  
 ANTHONY M. HRUBY  
 MICHAEL G. MANASKIE  
 WILLIAM V. MAUGERI III  
 BENJAMIN E. ONEILL  
 RYAN C. ROELING  
 WILLIAM C. SOUDER III  
 DANIEL J. WALKER  
 DAVID K. ZIVNUSKA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

REBECCA L. ANDERSON  
 JOHN M. BEAVER  
 AARON R. BURDT  
 DAVID A. CROCHET  
 JEREMY P. DORSCHNER  
 DAVID T. DOYLE  
 MICHAEL W. FLOYD  
 KEVIN W. JACK  
 GREGORY R. JONES  
 DEVON B. KIBBONS  
 WESLEY C. LASSITER  
 JESSICA B. MAHONEY  
 GLORIA V. MCCRAY  
 CLINTON E. NEWMAN  
 THEODORE R. PERSON  
 CHRISTOPHER J. RICARD  
 LAWRENCE L. SCHUMAN, JR.  
 JASON P. SHAW  
 TOOCHIKWU O. UDEINYA  
 KENNETH R. VANHOOK, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

ARTHUR D. ANDERSON III  
 JILLIAN E. BAHLMAN  
 MICHAEL A. BINGHAM  
 SHANNON R. BUCKLEY  
 BRIAN T. CURRAN  
 NICHOLAS A. DADDS  
 JUDE C. EZEKIE  
 JOSE M. FERNANDEZ  
 DAVID L. FERRIS  
 KARL R. HENKE  
 THEMA D. HINKE  
 RACHEL S. JELLSMA  
 PUYAN A. KHESHTI  
 MICHELLE M. KINGSLAND  
 BRAD W. KINNAMON  
 JOSEPH W. LEAVITT  
 PATRICK A. LIVASAY  
 ARTHUR M. MANGOSING  
 ASHLEY R. MAXSON

JASON Q. MCCLINTIC  
TANYA W. MCKNIGHT  
MICHAEL S. MERZ  
KYLE M. MILLER  
JUSTIN R. PARKER  
NICOLE R. RAMOS  
STEAMBOAT B. ROCK  
ROBERT L. ROSS  
JACOB E. RUSSELL  
TARA J. SALADIN  
BRIAN M. SCHAUS  
OLUYEMISI H. SERIKI  
WILLIAM D. SWAN  
EMILY C. WARD  
JOHN E. WEAVER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

JOSHUA D. ALBRIGHT  
KEVIN D. ARMENDARIZ  
THOMAS A. BAILLIE  
MANUEL BENITEZ  
MARK S. COLLINS  
BEVERLY A. S. CRAWFORD  
JONATHAN A. CULBERT  
LEONARD A. DEPRISCO  
LAUREN E. FLEMING  
LACY A. FORD  
JAMIE A. FUJIMOTO  
TIMOTHY D. GALLEGOS  
JASON N. GERONTES  
BRANDON J. GILSTRAP  
BENJAMIN T. HARPER  
TRAVIS D. HOWARD  
SENECA R. JOHNS  
CARL M. JOHNSON  
JASON G. JOO  
HYUN S. KIM  
JACOB E. KUEHL  
RALPH L. LAFFEY  
SEAN M. LARUE  
REX G. LLOREN  
JEFFRY P. MACY II  
NICHELE R. MAGREE  
RICHARD L. MARKRAY  
JAMES A. MCDOWELL  
TYRELL L. MITCHELL  
DERRICK V. MOORE  
KEVIN C. MOTT  
RICHARD M. PINTO  
JESUS RINCON, JR.  
CHRISTOPHER P. ROGERS  
JASON W. SABATER  
ANTHONY M. SANTOS, JR.  
PHILIP R. SAULNIER  
NOADIAH K. SIKINGER  
LISA L. SNOH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

*To be lieutenant commander*

JOE F. MORALEZ II

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

JESSICA B. ANDERSON  
ELIZABETH J. DOUGHERTY  
JASON S. FISCHER  
DAVID M. GARDNER  
TIMOTHY P. GORMAN  
MICHAEL A. HATFIELD  
JOSEPH W. HONTZ  
MIRANDA V. WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

MARCO A. ACOSTA  
BRIAN E. ACTON  
THOMAS M. ADAMS  
WILLIAM M. ADAMS  
RYAN M. AGTE  
JHON ALCIDÉ  
DENIS P. ALFORD  
BRIAN M. ALLEN  
GARRETT N. ALLEN  
SEAN O. ALLEN  
STANLEY E. ALLEN, JR.  
BENJAMIN C. ALMOND  
FRANCISCO A. ALONSO  
WHITNEY M. ALVARADO  
LUIS B. ALVAREZ  
MONICA N. AMAGNA  
MICHAEL W. AMEGNA  
DEREK J. ANASTASIADES  
JEREMIAH K. ANDERSON  
DOUGLAS R. ANDRADE  
CHRISTOPHER N. ANDREWS  
DAVID M. ANDREWS  
MAXIMO A. ANGELES  
BRADEN W. APPERSON  
RYAN P. APPELMAN  
PAUL A. ARCHER  
GUILLERMO M. ARGUELLO  
GERALD E. ARMSTRONG  
BRAMWELL B. ARNOLD III  
DANIEL R. ARSENAULT  
JOSE A. AYALA

CHRISTOPHER M. BABCOCK  
JONATHAN S. BACH  
MICHAEL R. BAKER  
DUSTIN I. BALDWIN  
JAMES S. BALL  
BRETT M. BALLARD  
PATRICK N. BANTA, JR.  
ANDRE L. BARBER  
CARL W. BARLOW III  
TODD M. BARRIGER  
TAYLOR C. BARROW  
JON B. BAUMAN, JR.  
JEREMIAH B. BAUTISTA  
CARLTON T. BAYES  
MARK A. BEALE  
TRAVIS F. BEAN  
VANCE R. BEATY  
MATTHEW E. T. BECK  
JACOB T. BECKELHYMER  
WILLIAM E. BECKER III  
STEVEN C. BEDNASH  
SHANE R. BEENER  
RONALD G. BELANY, JR.  
JOSHUA M. BERGEN  
SARAH J. BERGMAN  
SEAN K. BERGSTROM  
ROBERT H. BERKSTRESSER  
ERIKA BETANCOURT  
WILLIAM G. BICKEL  
MATHEW J. BIRD  
BRIAN T. BITTNER  
JAMES J. BLACK  
CHARLES R. BLACKWELL  
SAMUEL H. BLAIR  
RYAN D. BLANKENSHIP  
PETER R. BLEDAY  
GREGORY S. BLOK  
WILLIAM R. BOGDANOWICZ  
ERIC W. BOKHOVEN  
CHRISTOPHER J. BONGARD  
TIMOTHY D. BONHAM  
CLARENCE R. BOSWELL  
PATRICK J. BOUCHOUX  
PATRICK R. BOURQUE  
WILLIAM A. BOWEN III  
ADAM M. BOYD  
JON N. BOYER  
MICHAEL D. BOYLE  
TAYLOR B. BRASHEAR  
CHRISTOPHER J. BRASS  
SCOTT A. BRAZELTON  
PAUL D. BRAZIER  
PAUL A. BRIDGERS  
JAMES E. BRIDGEN  
PATRICK W. BRINKMAN  
JAMES B. BRODTMANN  
JOSHUA K. BROWN  
THOMAS N. BROWN  
ANDREW D. BROYLES  
DERRICK E. BRUCE  
LOWELL E. BRUHN  
SAMUEL BRYANT  
JEFFREY S. BUCK  
FREDERICK T. BUCKLEY  
JEFFREY C. BUENAVENTURA  
DANIEL E. BURKE, JR.  
DAVID M. BURKETT  
JEFFREY L. BURKHOLDER  
WILLIAM R. BURKLAND  
JAMISON K. BURKS  
MATTHEW A. BURMESTER  
JOHN A. BURNS  
JASON M. BURROUGHS  
ALEXANDER T. BUSCHOR  
JOHNATHAN S. BUSS  
AARON B. BUTLER  
BRETT A. BUTTERFIELD  
MATTHEW D. BYINGTON  
DANIEL K. BYRNE  
NATHANIEL C. CALCAMUGGIO  
JAMES P. CALLAHAN  
WILSON M. CALLES  
DAVID M. CAMP  
ALEXANDER J. F. CAMPBELL  
SYLVESTER CAMPOS III  
JOHN T. CANNY II  
MATTHEW J. CAPALDO  
JEREMY M. CAPPALO  
ASHLEY H. CARLINE  
CAMERON A. CARLSON  
JARED L. CARRIER  
JASON A. CARSON  
WILLIAM M. CARSON  
GREGORY W. CARTER  
MICHAEL W. CARTER  
JOHNATHAN A. CASEY  
ANDREW W. CASSITY  
SEAN C. CASTLE  
TOMAS G. CAVERO  
PATRICK M. CERONE  
THOMAS P. CHAMBERAS II  
IAN CHAMBERLIN  
NICHOLAS A. CHAMBERS  
PIA M. CHAPMAN  
MIGUEL D. CHARLES  
NICHOLAS S. CHARNAS  
JEN C. CHEN  
MATTHEW R. CHESNEY  
ANDREW J. CHESS  
JONMICHAEL CHOMBEAU  
SARAH H. CHOMBEAU  
WILLIAM P. CICHILLO, JR.  
JOEL M. CINCOTTA  
STEPHEN L. CLAGETT  
JACOB Z. CLARK  
ROBERT D. CLARKSON  
COLIN M. CLEARY

NICHOLAS J. CLENDENNING  
MILTON D. COCHRAN  
ANDREW C. COE  
TIMOTHY J. COENNEN  
JUSTIN A. COHEE  
JAMES C. COLEMAN  
JOHN W. COLEMAN III  
KEENAN L. COLEMAN  
DEIRDRE E. COLLINS  
JOSE L. COLON  
JOHN A. COLVIN  
PAUL J. COLWELL  
LETA M. COMER  
ANDREW W. CONNER  
ARLEN M. CONNOLLY  
CHRISTOPHER J. CONWAY  
DAVID A. COOK  
EVAN J. COOK  
LEE E. COOK  
RUSSELL J. COOK  
JEFFREY A. CORNIELLE  
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KYLE J. ZINK  
KEITH E. ZUMAR

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

*To be commander*

WILLIAM J. ROY, JR.

*To be lieutenant commander*

RAQUEL T. BUSER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

GREGORY F. ALLEN  
MILES G. ALVAREZ  
LAURA G. ANDERSON  
LINDSAY K. BARNES  
KENNETH C. BAUGESS  
ERIK J. BOOHER  
RYAN P. BRECKENRIDGE  
KELLY L. CARMACK  
SAMUEL K. CHUNG  
BRANDON F. CLARE  
PETER J. CRIMMINS, JR.  
MIGUEL CUEVA, JR.  
RYAN P. DEGHELDER  
JOSHUA E. DOMAGALSKI  
LIAM J. DORNEY  
AMANDA M. ECKERT  
PATRICK J. EMERY  
SCOTT E. FINLEY  
JOSHUA L. FISHER  
TIMOTHY S. FOLEY  
TEBIN H. T. GLEBUS  
MILTON L. GRAY  
NICOLE W. HAHN  
MICHAEL C. HAMMOND  
COLLEEN P. HANDBURY  
ERIC R. HAYDEN  
NATHANIEL J. HAYES  
ANDREW S. JACKSON  
MICHAEL S. JENKS  
JAMIE L. JOHNSON  
DAVID JUSTAMANTE  
WILLIAM R. KATZ  
ERIK S. KNEBEL  
JASON R. KNUDSON  
ROBIN S. LAFRANCE  
BRYAN J. MARTIN  
REID A. MASON  
LEAH K. MCGUFFE  
RYAN P. MCGEOUGH  
TRAVIS C. MILLER  
MEAGHAN K. MURRAY  
JEREMY J. NERIUS  
MELISSA L. OCASIO  
MARY A. OSHLO  
STEPHEN H. PINERO  
JOHN C. PRESSLEY, JR.  
PEYTON T. PRICE  
NATHAN H. RICHARDSON  
DYLAN H. RICHMOND  
JEN G. SCHUMACHER  
LINDSAY M. SHEPHERD  
FRANK T. SISTO, JR.  
ERIC C. SMITH

JOHN E. SMITH III  
GREGORY A. SUDDERTH  
MATTHEW R. TIMMERMAN  
HILLARY A. TOKARCZYK  
ROBERT U. TUOHY IV  
JENNIFER C. TURNER  
LESLIE E. WARD  
PAUL M. WARD  
JORDAN T. WEINSHANK  
MARK A. WESS  
CLINTON M. WOODS

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MA-  
RINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be major*

JOHN J. STRAUB

OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL

HENRY KERNER, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE SPECIAL COUN-  
SEL, OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL, FOR THE TERM OF  
FIVE YEARS.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CALLISTA L. GINGRICH, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AMBAS-  
SADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE HOLY SEE.

**CONFIRMATIONS**

Executive nominations confirmed by  
the Senate October 16, 2017: