House of Representatives

The House met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. Comstock).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC, April 9, 2018.
I hereby appoint the Honorable Barbara Comstock to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Reverend Vincent DeRosa, St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

God our Creator and Guide, as this House seeks to participate in Your own loving care for our people, grant its Members likewise a participation in Your wisdom, prudence, and perseverance in good.

Rouse in their hearts a humble reverence for those who have gone before us and joyous hope for the future.

In particular, excite in their deliberation a lively concern for the most vulnerable among us so that each and every person may be assured of needed comfort when their hour of need inevitably comes.

We ask these and all other blessings in accord with Your will for these United States of America.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 2(a) of House Resolution 796, the Journal of the last day’s proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER 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.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 6, 2018.
Hon. PAUL RYAN,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER RYAN: It has been an honor and privilege to serve the people of Texas’ 27th Congressional District as their representative in Congress. While I had intended to serve out the remainder of my term, after much thought and prayer, my family and I have decided that now is a good time for me to step aside.

Therefore, effective at 5PM today, April 6, 2018, I resign my position as a member of the United States House of Representatives representing the 27th District of Texas.

Helping people, especially veterans with their problems with the government was the high point of my career. I feel like I have made a difference for lots of people individually, the district and the country, but for a variety of reasons, I know in my heart that my time in Congress is over.

I wish all the best and may God bless us all.

Sincerely,

BLAKE FARENTHOLD,
Member of Congress.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Farenthold), the whole number of the House is 429.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on April 3, 2018, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills:

H.R. 4547. To amend titles II, VIII, and XVI of the Social Security Act to improve and strengthen the representative payment program.

H.R. 1865. To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to clarify that section 230 of such
Act does not prohibit the enforcement against providers and users of interactive computer services of Federal and State criminal and civil law relating to sexual exploitation of children or sex trafficking, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 2(a) of House Resolution 796, the House stands adjourned until noon on Tuesday, April 10, 2018, for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 11 o’clock and 3 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, April 10, 2018, at noon for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS.

ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

4378. A letter from the Secretary of the Navy, Department of Defense, transmitting a report on an action in the Program Acquisition Unit Cell for the Littoral Combat Ship Mission Modules, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2413(d)(3); Public Law 97-252, Sec. 1107(a)(1) (as amended by P.L. 110-141, Sec. 811(c)); (122 Stat. 4522); to the Committee on Armed Services.

4379. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General William C. Mayville, Jr., United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1570(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 280); to the Committee on Armed Services.

4380. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Department of the Navy, Department of Defense, transmitting a notice to Congress of the anticipated use of Selected Reserve units that will be ordered to active duty, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1115(b); Public Law 110-116, Sec. 3; (124 Stat. 3867); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4381. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Amendment 39-19207; AD 2018-04-11; [Docket No.: FAA-2017-0111; Product Identifier 2016-SW-079-AD; Amendment 39-2017-0972; Airspace Docket No.: 16-ANM-9] received March 26, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4382. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Amendment 39-19211; AD 2018-04-11; [Docket No.: FAA-2017-0103; Product Identifier 2016-SW-086-AD; Amendment 39-19207; Airspace Docket No.: FAA-2016-9275; Admt. No(s).: 27-50, 29-27, 57 (RIN: 2120-AR91) received March 26, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4383. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Amendment 39-19216; AD 2018-04-11; [Docket No.: FAA-2017-0103; Product Identifier 2016-SW-086-AD; Amendment 39-19207; Airspace Docket No.: FAA-2016-9275; Admt. No(s).: 27-50, 29-27, 57 (RIN: 2120-AR91) received March 26, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4384. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Amendment 39-19217; AD 2018-04-11; [Docket No.: FAA-2017-0103; Product Identifier 2016-SW-086-AD; Amendment 39-19207; Airspace Docket No.: FAA-2016-9275; Admt. No(s).: 27-50, 29-27, 57 (RIN: 2120-AR91) received March 26, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4385. A letter from the Chief Administration Officer, transmitting the quarterly report of receipts and expenditures of appropriations and other funds for the period January 1, 2018 to March 31, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 104(a)(5); (H. Doc. No. 115-112); to the Committee on House Administration and ordered to be printed.

4386. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace, Rangely, CO [Docket No.: FAA-2017-0972; Airspace Docket No.: 16-ANM-9] received March 26, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.
H3063

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

April 9, 2018

2018-04-03 (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 26, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

410. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service’s IRB only rule — Guidance Regarding the Implementation of Section 958(b)(4) [Notice 2018-18] received April 2, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

411. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service’s IRB only rule — Guidance Concerning Advance Pricing Agreements [Announcement 2016-61] received April 2, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

412. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service’s IRB only rule — Age 100 Guidance for 2017 CSO Tables (Rev. Proc. 2018-20) received April 2, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.


414. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service’s final rule — Additional Identities for the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; Guidance Under Sections 965, 966, 965(2), and 965(h) in Connection With Section 965; and Penalty Relief Under Sections 6324 and 6325 in Connection With Section 965 and Repeal of Section 958(b)(4) [Notice 2018-20] received April 2, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

415. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report entitled, as follows:

Mr. PAULSEN (for himself and Mr. Lewis of Georgia): H.R. 5437. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to establish a program for the issuance of identity protection personal identification numbers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. HOLDING (for himself and Mr. Lewis of Georgia): H.R. 5438. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow officers and employees of the Department of the Treasury to provide to taxpayers information regarding low-income taxpayer clinics; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. RENACCI (for himself and Mr. Lewis of Georgia): H.R. 5439. A bill to provide for a single point of contact at the Internal Revenue Service for the taxpayers who are victims of tax-related identity theft; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. HANDEL (for herself and Mr. O’HALLORAN): H.R. 5440. A bill to require notice from the Secretary of the Treasury in the case of any closure of a Taxpayer Assistance Center; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. CARBAJAL: H.R. 5441. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for energy opportunity zones; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. NORMAN: H.R. 5442. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to provide for a legislative line-item veto to expedite consideration of rescissions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers

granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. PAULSEN:
H.R. 5437.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. HOLDING:
H.R. 5438.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States.
By Mr. RENACCI:
H.R. 5439.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1:
The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mrs. HANDEL:
H.R. 5440.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically Clause 1 and Clause 18.

By Mr. CARBAJAL:
H.R. 5441.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1—The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mr. NORMAN:
H.R. 5442.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 7

**ADDITIONAL SPONSORS**

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:
H.R. 184: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 785: Mrs. WALORSKI.
H.R. 788: Mr. WILLIAM.
H.R. 800: Mr. O’ROURKE.
H.R. 1150: Mr. CURBELO of Florida.
H.R. 1216: Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 1322: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 1384: Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 1472: Mr. MCTACHIN and Mr. MACARTHUR.
H.R. 1475: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 1479: Mr. GHJALVA, Mr. A MODEI, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 1516: Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 1617: Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee.
H.R. 1676: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 1683: Mr. RUFFERSBERGER.
H.R. 1801: Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. LOUDERMILK, and Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 1953: Mr. KEATING, Mr. KATKO, and Mr. HOGGINS of New York.
H.R. 2063: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 2379: Mrs. BRATTY.
H.R. 2556: Mr. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 2856: Mr. RUCKPUL.
H.R. 2857: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2858: Mr. RATCHPF.
H.R. 2860: Mr. Yoder and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 3214: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 3331: Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 3478: Ms. LEE.
H.R. 3639: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 3679: Ms. NORTON and Mr. ESPAILLAT.

H.R. 3894: Mr. SHERES.
H.R. 3945: Mr. COHEN and Mr. CRAMER.
H.R. 3956: Mr. HUIZZENA, Mr. AMODI, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. DIEFARZ.
H.R. 4062: Mrs. BRATTY.
H.R. 4312: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.
H.R. 4489: Mr. SHERES.
H.R. 6084: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 4736: Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 4747: Mr. WEBER of Texas.
H.R. 5004: Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 6038: Mr. DUFFY, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. YARMUTH, and Mr. NEAL.
H.R. 5065: Mr. MEADOWS and Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 5102: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 5180: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 5192: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 5337: Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 5338: Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. MECKS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. ROEN, Mr. CLAY, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. VELÁREZ, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. NADLER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. MOORE, Mr. COOPER, and Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.J. Res. 2: Mr. BANKS of Indiana, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. ABRAHAM, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H. Res. 199: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
H. Res. 732: Mr. SHEAR.
The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

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

Let us pray.

Our Father, God, as we bow our heads in Your presence, may we also lift our hearts to the guidance of Your Divine Providence.

Remind our lawmakers that they will seek and find You when they have passionately pursued You. May Your Holy Spirit bring them new life and hope, making them equal to their experiences and responsibilities. Lord, lead them on the upward way to a higher plane of unity and peace as they strive to hold aloft Your banners of truth, justice, and love.

Lord, we will continue to rejoice in You, for You are the God of our salvation.

We pray in Your Holy 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.

LETTERS OF RESIGNATION
The Vice President. The Chair lays before the Senate the letters of resignation from former Senator Thad Cochran of Mississippi and of Cindy Hyde-Smith from the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce, which, without objection, are deemed read and spread upon the Journal and printed in full in the Record.

The letters follow:

U.S. Senate, Washington, DC, April 1, 2018.
Hon. Phil Bryant, Governor, State of Mississippi, Jackson, Mississippi.

Dear Governor Bryant: Serving as a Senator from Mississippi has been one of the greatest privileges and honors of my life. However, after much deliberation, I have decided I must leave the Senate before the end of my term. I am, therefore, resigning my Senate seat effective 11:59 p.m. EST, April 1, 2018.

Respectfully,

Thad Cochran, U.S. Senator.

State of Mississippi, Department of Agriculture and Commerce, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Commissioner.

March 30, 2018.
Governor Phil Bryant, Office of the Governor, Jackson, MS.

Dear Governor: I hereby tender my resignation as Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce, effective 11:59pm, April 1st, 2018.

Sincerely,

Cindy Hyde-Smith.

Certificate of Appointment
The Vice President. The Chair lays before the Senate the certificate of appointment to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Thad Cochran of Mississippi. The certificate, the Chair is advised, is in the form suggested by the Senate.

If there be no objection, the reading of the certificate will be waived and it will be printed in full in the RECORD.

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

State of Mississippi
Certificate of Appointment
To the President of the Senate of the United States:

This is to certify that, pursuant to the power vested in me by the Constitution of the United States and the laws of the State of Mississippi, I, Phil Bryant, the Governor of said State, do hereby appoint Cindy Hyde-Smith a Senator from said State to represent said State in the Senate of the United States until the vacancy therein caused by the resignation of William Thad Cochran, is filled by election as provided by law.

Witness: His excellency our Governor Phil Bryant, and our seal hereto affixed at Jackson, Mississippi this 2nd day of April in the year of our Lord 2018.

By the Governor:

Phil Bryant, Governor.

C. Delbert Hosemann, Jr., Secretary of State.

(Seal Affixed)

Administration of Oath of Office
The Vice President. If the Senator-designate will now present herself at the desk, the Chair will administer the oath of office.

The Senator-designate Cindy Hyde-Smith, escorted by Mr. Wicker, advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath prescribed by law was administered to her by the Vice President; and she subscribed to the oath in the Official Oath Book.

The Vice President. Congratulations, Senator. (Applause, Senators rising.)

Reservation of Leader Time
The Presiding Officer (Mr. Young). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

Recognition of the Majority Leader
The Presiding Officer. The majority leader is recognized.

Remembering Zell Miller and Daniel Akaka
Mr. McConnell. Mr. President, I would like to begin with a few words of tribute to two retired colleagues who passed away since we were last together.

On Friday, March 23, former Senator Zell Miller departed this life at the age...
of 86. Those of us who served with Zell knew him as a kind and honorable man and a committed public servant.

He rose from a childhood without electricity and running water well into his school years to serve the State of Georgia as Governor and later as Senator. Zell Miller did so with grit and determination, never afraid to buck partisanship in favor of his principles.

Also, this past Thursday, Senator Daniel Akaka, our former colleague from Hawaii, passed away at the age of 93. He worked closely with Senator Inouye and others to advocate for his State. As the Senator himself once put it, he always preferred being a workhorse to a show horse.

The Senate offers our condolences to their families.

WELCOMING SENATOR HYDE-SMITH

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on an entirely different matter, we just welcomed a new colleague to this Chamber today. Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith was sworn in. She became the 51st Senator and the first woman to represent Mississippi here in the Senate. Senator Hyde-Smith brings experience as a State legislator and as the Mississippi commissioner of agriculture and commerce.

I know I speak for all Senators on both sides of the aisle in welcoming our new colleague. We look forward to working together and continuing this record of accomplishment for the American people.

NOMINATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on another matter, this week the Senate will turn to one of its most important constitutional responsibilities, the personnel business. We have a number of nominees to consider in the next several days.

First is Claria Horn Boom, President Trump’s pick to serve as a Federal district judge for both the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky. Through her work in both the public and private sectors, Ms. Boom has distinguished herself as a problem-solver, a trusted adviser to clients and her private sectors, Ms. Boom has distinguished herself as a problem-solver, a trusted adviser to clients and her community.

Letters in support of her nomination share a theme: She has the skills and experiences to excel as a district judge. “High standards, ample preparation, and a fears intellect”; “unfailingly thoughtful, gracious, and diligent”—these are just some of the ways Ms. Boom is described by those she served and worked with in Kentucky. The Judiciary Committee came to the same conclusion, advancing her nomination on a voice vote.

Later today the full Senate will vote to advance this talented and noncontroversial nominee and I hope we will be able to quickly confirm her.

Then, in the coming days, we will consider several more judges and important nominees for the Department of Labor, the EPA, and the National Labor Relations Board. These and many other positions remain vacant nearly a year and a half into the Trump administration.

Qualified nominees stand ready, but Senate Democrats are using the procedural playbook to obstruct and delay. In many cases, for example, they are insisting that the Senate exhaust postcloture time even on unobjectionable district court nominees who have overwhelming confirmation—for examples, Walter Counts, who was confirmed 96 to 0, or Karen Gren Scholer, who was confirmed 95 to 0.

I will have more to say on these partisan tactics in the coming days. For now, let me make one thing clear. The Senate’s workweek will not end—with not end—until all of these amply qualified nominees are confirmed.

TAX REFORM

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, now on one final matter, there is just one more week until the deadline for Americans to file our 2017 tax returns. It is not exactly a national holiday, but this year there is a silver lining. This April is the last time Americans will file taxes under the outdated Tax Code that is on its way out, thanks to historic tax reform.

A year from now, families will be filing under a simpler and fairer tax code that lets them keep more of what they have earned and send less to the IRS. They will benefit from a doubled standard deduction, from major expansions in key provisions like the child tax credit, and, of course, from significantly lower tax rates.

All told, the average family of four earning a median income of around $70,000 could see a tax cut of over $2,000. But let’s remember, the American people do not need to wait until next year to start seeing the fruits of once-in-a-generation tax reform.

Job creators are already implementing plans to hire, expand, and invest in their American workers. Millions of workers have already received word of a tax reform bonus, permanent raise, or other new benefits, such as paid family leave policies or expanded retirement assistance. That includes thousands of employees of Southwire, a wire manufacturer that employs hundreds of Kentuckians at its location in Hawesville. For hard-working men and women at Southwire, tax reform means bonuses and expanded educational opportunities.

The benefits of our new 21st century Tax Code are certainly no secret. As Americans put the finishing touches on their tax returns under the old, outdated framework, there is good news to look forward to, and there is good news that is actually already here.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2630 AND H.R. 5247

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The leader is correct.

Mr. MCCONNELL. In order to place the bills on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to further proceedings en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objecting, having been heard, the bills will be placed on the calendar.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

WELCOMING SENATOR HYDE-SMITH

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, first, let me welcome back my fellow Senators after a productive State work period. Let me welcome our newest Senator, Cindy Hyde-Smith, the junior Senator from Mississippi. She is the first woman to represent the State of Mississippi, and I welcome her warmly to this Chamber.

REMEMBERING DANNY AKAKA

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, over the past weeks, as we have been away, we have heard of the passing of two of our Senators: Zell Miller and Danny Akaka.

I would like to say a few words about Danny Akaka, who was a good friend of mine. In everything he did, he was a soldier, a teacher, and a statesman. He embodied the spirit of Hawaii. He was so sincere in his beliefs and such a kind and gentle man that Senators went out of their way to help him and, of course, he fought so hard for his State. He taught us so much in his modesty, in his persistence, and in his love of his constituents.

So for all he taught us, for his service and for his friendship, we say “mahalo” one final time.

CONGRATULATING SENATOR DUCKWORTH

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, it was Tammy Duckworth who first informed me of Senator Akaka’s passing, and it shows God’s rhythms of life, the passing of Danny Akaka, after a long service and wonderful life, and now we have
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CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

S1995

just learned of the birth of TAMMY DUCKWORTH’s child. It is a milestone. TAMMY DUCKWORTH, a few hours ago, became the first Senator to give birth while in office. We are very glad to hear that she and her newborn daughter are happy and healthy.

COMMONSENSE VALUES

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, like all of my colleagues, I spent the past few weeks crisscrossing my State meeting with constituents. I am always struck by their commonsense values. Folks want to be able to afford quality healthcare. That is probably their greatest worry. They know healthcare is so vital to them and for families. They know costs keep going up. They are worried about premiums, especially after the Republican Congress has done so much to sabotage our healthcare system; talking about tearing down the healthcare system but never doing it in any way.

Folks also want a good job with decent benefits and higher wages, but they are not seeing much of that in the wake of the Republican tax bill. In fact, many of them are disappointed that they don’t see much of a bump in their paychecks. The bottom line is, they ask: Why are the wealthy getting so much more money in the tax break than we are? I have heard that from one end of my State to the other.

Another problem: folks want to be able to send their kids to school and know they will be safe. I talked to one mom whose daughter just doesn’t want to go to school after what happened in Parkland. She is afraid. She is 7 years old.

A few weeks ago, I marched with hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers in the March For Our Lives. Their energy and optimism and dedication give me hope that finally the time has come for Congress to take meaningful action on gun safety.

Another example where our Republican colleagues who run this Senate haven’t done enough—not close to enough—is on the issue of gun safety. On these issues and more, the Republican majority has done very little. What they have done has been on behalf of entrenched special interests: tax cuts for corporations and the super-wealthy, gutting healthcare to pay for more tax cuts, and holding back on commonsense gun safety laws like universal gun safety checks because the NRA owns them.

The American people are fed up with large, special, and powerful interests getting their way, while average folks get left behind. That is what I heard while traveling my State.

In November, the American people will have a chance to move this country in a dramatically different direction, away from the corporate special interest-driven politics, away from the swamp—I will talk more about that later, but President Trump has made it worse, despite claims that he is making it better—and toward politics that work for the middle class and those struggling to get there. The enthusiasm among voters is not just core Democrats but others—of going to the polls and making their voices heard because they want a change in direction in this country was heartening and strengthening to me.

The Democratic majority is working to get away from those special interest politics. That is what a Democratic majority will deliver if elected in November.

NOMINATION OF ANDREW WHEELER

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, this week the Senate will consider several nominations, including the nomination of Andrew Wheeler to be Deputy Administrator at the Environmental Protection Agency. Mr. Wheeler—not atypical of this administration, not atypical of the dense swamp that they have made a whole lot worse—is, what else, an energy lobbyist. Wheeler, who already has worked on behalf of big polluters and climate change deniers. He spent years working to undermine or lobby against environmental protections he may soon oversee. As a lobbyist, he helped raise money for at least 15 Republican Senators who sit on the committee that recently approved his nomination.

Swamp, President Trump? You are creating it; you are making it a lot worse. Wheeler’s nomination fits the pattern in the Trump administration of nominating industry lobbyists to lead agencies that are supposed to be a watchdog over those very industries. The nerve it takes for President Trump and his allies to preach “draining the swamp” over all the President has done to fill the swamp since coming to Washington. His Cabinet is filled with multimillionaires, hedge fund managers, corporate executives, and former lobbyists with spraying conflicts of interest. Mr. Wheeler is only the latest in a long line of swamp nominees. I will be opposing his nomination.

EPA ADMINISTRATOR PRUITT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, the Wheeler nomination sheds even more light on the current storm surrounding EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt. If there was ever somebody who characterizes the swamp, it is Scott Pruitt, and all Americans should believe that, regardless of your views on the environment or whether wind or solar or natural gas or oil or coal is the right form of energy.

What Pruitt is doing is just incredible. In a relatively brief tenure at EPA, he has amassed an embarrassing list of scandals. He has ordered the construction of an expensive sound-proof office at the EPA for reasons unknown, when none of his predecessors, Democratic or Republican, saw any need for such a facility. He has typically flown coach when paying for travel out of his own pocket but elected to fly first class when the taxpayers foot the bill. After moving to Washington, Administrator Pruitt rented an apartment for a cut-rate price from—who—an energy lobbyist and former campaign donor who represents multiple clients with businesses before the EPA during Pruitt’s tenure.

The level of hypocrisy in this administration is staggering. President Trump says he is going to drain the swamp. Pruitt characterizes the swamp in just about all of his actions, and Trump sticks by him. If you want to drain the swamp, Mr. President, get rid of Mr. Pruitt.

Unfortunately, President Trump has stood by Pruitt, despite obvious abuses of the taxpayers’ money and trust. Why? Well, he likes what he is doing to unnil critical environmental protections on behalf of powerful industries.

The bottom line is simple. President Trump is so beholden to the special interests that support Administrator Pruitt and his extreme, anti-green, industry-driven agenda that he is willing to turn a blind eye to serious ethical problems. If Big Oil and Big Gas are happy with EPA Administrator Pruitt, so it seems, is President Trump.

In supporting Administrator Pruitt, President Trump is lowering the bar of government ethics and accountability to the floor. What abuse of the American people’s trust will President Trump not tolerate if Administrator Pruitt is allowed to continue in his position despite flagrant graft? How can the President, with a straight face, say he aims to drain the swamp when he allows man like Pruitt to stay? How much will President Trump let the standards for ethical conduct in his administration deteriorate?

I say to President Trump: The corruption and incompetence of this administration has reached a fever pitch. President Trump, if you truly mean to drain the swamp—and it doesn’t seem that you do—you ought to fire Administrator Pruitt immediately. Accept his resignation. Let him leave, which alone will clean up Washington in a way that Pruitt has not cleaned up our environment.

CBO REPORT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, now, on the CBO report.

Today CBO came out with a report that revised its projections of the deficit, saying there has been “increased uncertainty” since the March budget bill added about $1.9 trillion to the deficit. By 2020, the annual deficit will surpass $1 trillion.

It is a reminder of just how wrong the predictions were that the Republican tax bill would somehow pay for itself. It is also a reminder of how unconcerned the current Republican Party is about deficits.
When it comes to tax cuts for big corporations and the rich, deficits are no impediment, but now that these tax cuts are in place, I predict that deficits will once again morph into a dire problem, a scourge on the Nation, an excuse for Republicans to target Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security. That has been the playbook since the Bush era: explode the deficit with tax cuts for the rich and powerful, then use the deficit they created as a reason to cut Social Security and Medicare. 

Lo and behold, this week the majority in the House will vote on a balanced budget amendment—a way for Republicans to force cuts to Medicare and Medicaid and Social Security. It is hard to believe they can say it with a straight face, but we will hear Republican Members say this week that Washington needs to get its fiscal house in order, only a few months after they added $1.5 trillion to the deficit by tax cuts that mainly benefited the wealthy and the powerful. It is the height of hypocrisy.

The American people deserve better than this patronizing Kabuki theater. They deserve a Congress squarely focused on helping the middle class, not the powerful, not the special interests, not those at the very top of the economic ladder. So far, this Republican Congress has shown it is not up to the job, and every day more and more Americans realize that.

I yield the floor.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to place a maile lei on the lectern during my remarks.

When I was elected to the Senate, I requested Senator Akaka’s desk to be my desk. I did this because it represented continuity as Senator Akaka’s successor, and the desk is a symbol to me of his years of service and the “aloa” spirit. From meeting nearly every Hawaii family who came to his office for a Capitol tour to serving as a tireless advocate for veterans, the Native Hawaiian community, and Hawaii families, Senator Akaka’s care, empathy, and compassion were evident to everyone who knew him.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the mail lei be extended. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll. The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the mail lei be extended. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll. The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Clark Horn Boom, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to place a maile lei on the lectern during my remarks.

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

LATER HE AND SENATOR INOUE SUCCESSFULLY INCLUDED LANGUAGE IN THE 2009 STIMULUS BILL THAT PROVIDED ONETIME PAYMENTS FOR THESE FILIPINO VETERANS THROUGH THE NEWLY CREATED FILIPINO VETERANS EQUITY COMPENSATION FUND.

Senator Akaka also championed bipartisan legislation to allow these veterans to reunite with their children and families in the United States. While this bill did not pass, President Obama established through executive order the Filipino World War II Veterans to Allow Children to Unite with Parents Program in 2016 to allow the children of these veterans to reunite with their parents in the United States. Some of these veterans have been waiting for decades to reunite with their children.

Although Senator Akaka had retired, his insistence on bipartisanship helped to build broad support for President Obama’s decision to issue this executive order.

Senator Akaka was also a champion for America’s Native people and served as chairman of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee. As the first Native Hawaiian to serve in the U.S. Senate, Senator Akaka fought to expand funding for Native Hawaiian healthcare, education, and housing programs.

In 1993, President Clinton signed into law Senator Akaka’s apology resolution, which acknowledged the Federal Government’s role in the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom in 1893. The resolution’s unanimous passage marked the 100th anniversary of the overthrow and was a watershed moment for Native Hawaiians. It served as the first official admission by the United States of the role it played in the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom.

Senator Akaka later worked on the Hawaiian Home Lands Recovery Act. This law required the United States to make the Hawaiian homelands whole by ensuring a repayment of lost use of lands originally set aside by Congress but which were nevertheless transferred to or otherwise acquired by the Federal Government.

The apology resolution and the Lands Recovery Act provided the foundation for Senator Akaka’s enforcement legislation—the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act, often referred to as the Akaka bill, to establish a process to secure Federal recognition for Native Hawaiians to achieve parity with the Alaska Natives and American Indians.

When I served in the House of Representatives, I introduced the House companion to the Akaka bill and testified about the importance of passing this legislation in both the U.S. House and the U.S. Senate. Senator Akaka re-introduced the Akaka bill for more than 10 years, but it did not pass before he retired.
A former longtime Akaka staff member reflected on the Senator’s commitment to the Native Hawaiian community. She said:

Senator Akaka worked tirelessly to address the longstanding issues resulting from the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii. He felt strongly that there needed to be a process to bring all parties to the table because without such a process these issues remained festering emotional wounds that would stand in the way of Hawaii being able to move forward as a state and for Native Hawaiians to move forward as indigenous peoples.

Building on his work, in 2016, the Department of the Interior adopted rules creating a process that could reestablish a government-to-government relationship between the United States and Native Hawaiians. While the Native Hawaiian community has differences on the issue of Federal recognition, everyone can agree that Senator Akaka pushed for the passage of the Akaka bill because he wanted equity and justice for Native Hawaiian people.

Senator Akaka’s advocacy for our country’s Native people could best be summarized in his own words during his farewell address to the Senate, where he said:

"The United States is a great country. One of the things that makes us so great is that though we have made mistakes, we change, we correct them, we right past wrongs. It is our responsibility as a nation to do right by American native people, those who exercised sovereignty on lands that later became part of the United States. While we can never change the past, we have the power to change the future."

Many people also may not know that Senator Akaka was just as committed to protecting Hawaii’s land and water resources as he was to improving the lives of Hawaii’s people. In 1992, Senator Akaka successfully passed his Tropical Forest Recovery Act into law, which served as a basis for Federal conservation efforts that protect Hawaii’s plants and forests.

As with so many of his initiatives, the Senator worked on this much ahead of his time. This act provided a vision and blueprint for tomorrow’s conservation ethic, one that stressed the integration of ecology, livelhoods, and culture; in short, an ethic that emphasized shared responsibility between people and place, community and sustainably managed resources.

Senator Akaka also leaves behind a demonstrated commitment to bipartisanship. He was widely known for his faithfulness to the Senate Prayer Breakfast every week. Colleagues who attend that breakfast regularly asked me about how he and Millie were doing.

During his farewell speech, Senator Akaka said:

"In Congress and in our nation, we are truly all together, in the same canoe. If we paddle together in unison, we can travel great distances. If the two sides of the canoe paddle in opposite directions, we will only go in circles.

Senator Akaka is deeply missed by all the people in Hawaii, and I dare say he will be deeply missed by his colleagues in both the U.S. House and the Senate. The maile lei is here to signify the devotion and commitment to the people of Hawaii. I yield the floor to my colleague Senator Brian Schatz of Hawaii."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

Mr. SCHATZ. Madam President, I thank Senator HIRONO for her poignant remarks, and I want to offer my condolences to the family.

Senator Daniel Kahikina Akaka died on Friday at the age of 93, leaving behind a legacy of integrity, kindness, and service to Hawaii and to the Nation.

In Washington, Senator Akaka was an ambassador of “a‘oloha.” He showed people kindness, respect, and hospitality rarely seen in this town. He didn’t just represent Hawaii’s interests in Congress; he showed the world what Hawaii valued—deeply rooted respect for President Kennedy, “all that we are and all that we hope to be."

He started that service as a welder in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He fought in World War II in the Pacific arena, traveling to places like Tinian and Saipan. During World War II employment, he took advantage of the GI bill to attend the University of Hawaii to become a teacher—an occupation he never fully left behind.

Senator Akaka served for 36 years in Congress—long in the House and 22 in the U.S. Senate. He was loved by colleagues in both parties because he was kind to everyone. In fact, he never said a bad word about anyone, not even in private. The foundation for his kindness came from his faith, which he learned from his mother Annie.

He was a faithful attendee of the weekly Senate Prayer Breakfast, where he would lead Members singing hymns. He always began with the history of each song—each song that he passed on to our own Chaplain, Chaplain Black, who continues it today.

Danny Akaka was also very humble. There were times he didn’t get credit for the work he did here because he didn’t care about the credit. He cared about the work, about making a difference for people, especially those whom he represented.

He was deeply convinced that the government could improve people’s lives because he had seen that in his own life as a beneficiary of the GI bill. He would become the Senator who modernized that bill, bringing it into the 21st century. He always fought hard for veterans—for their benefits and their recognition, no matter the color of their skin or their country of origin. When someone once challenged him on the cost of benefits for veterans, he answered by saying: “The price has already been paid, many times over, by the service of the brave men and women who wore our nation’s uniform.”

Senator Akaka never forgot the costs of war on our country, and he did everything he could to make sure his colleagues didn’t either. He voted against the Iraq war and advocated for peace and nuclear nonproliferation throughout his career.

He was unrelenting when it came to those causes that were most important to him. As the only Native Hawaiian to ever serve in the U.S. Senate, he never stopped working to see Native Hawaiians recognized in a government-to-government relationship with the United States.

In his years on the Indian Affairs Committee, including as the chairman, he successfully sponsored the apology resolution, which recognized that the overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy in the United States—was illegal and facilitated by agents of our own Federal Government.

This was the theme of Senator Akaka’s career—to advocate for people who were vulnerable. He was a champion for the Federal Government employees who, to this day, continue to be a punching bag for some. He sponsored the 2012 Whistleblower Protection Act, which ensures that Federal workers cannot be retaliated against if they report waste, fraud, and abuse.

That was just one of the many things he did to make the Federal Government a better employer.

Senator Akaka also fought for consumers. He helped people who were trying to get out of credit card debt. He made sure investors had an advocate at the Securities and Exchange Commission, so that people never sent remittances around the world so they weren’t swindled out of their hard-earned money.

Every morning he would begin his day by meeting visitors from Hawaii. The Senator would host his constituents—to home—drove his work and kept him focused on helping Hawaii.

Much of his work was possible because of the bipartisan relationships he built with other Senators. Of his best friends—Senators INHOFE, COCHRAN, and BARRASSO—were people with whom he did not agree very often. Every Member of this body—those who knew Senator Akaka and those who didn’t—can learn from his legacy—a legacy of quiet leadership, of treating others the way you want to be treated, and focusing on the things that matter to the people we are here to represent.

I want to end with a few words from Chaplain Black. This is what he had to say about Senator Akaka:

"There’s something called ethical congruence—it refers to when your actions back up your rhetoric. And most of us struggle with this. Our rhetoric may mean nothing but much more difficult to live. There’s a verse in Scripture that says, we are living letters, so our lives should be something that people should be able to read. Francis of Assisi said: preach the gospel everywhere you go; when necessary, use words. Senator Akaka preached the gospel everywhere he went, with very rare words. That’s the kind of ethical congruence that he had."
The U.S. Senate and our country would be better off if there were more leaders like Danny. He fought for the vulnerable, promoted peace, and looked for common ground. Most of all, he embodied the “aloha” spirit and showed us all what it means to have a pure heart and be a true public servant.

Our thoughts are with the family of Senator Akaka today, with Millie, his children, his grandchildren, his great-grandchildren, and his staff. He will be remembered and greatly missed.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

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

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

REMEMBERING ZELL MILLER

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, on the 23rd day of March, 2018, just a little over 2 weeks ago, Zell Bryan Miller of the State of Georgia—former Member of this body, former Governor of the State of Georgia, former Senator in the State of Georgia, former chairman of the Democratic Party in the State of Georgia—who contributed immensely to his State, passed away at his beloved home in Young Harris, GA, in Town County.

I am here to pay tribute to Zell and his life and his contributions to our country, both for a purposeful reason, as far as a fellow Member, but also for a very personal reason for me, because he is an individual I met through politics, became one of my best friends and first lady together but also because they were Governor and first lady together and Lieutenant Governor and first lady separately for three things: college scholarships for eligible Georgia students, 4-year-old voluntary prekindergarten for Georgia pre-Ks to the age of 4, and technology and innovation and wiring and infrastructure in our public schools.

The election was in 1990. He was elected in 1990 as the Governor of Georgia. He served two terms, but by the end of the decade, the lottery had passed. Since its passage, 1.8 million Georgia children have gotten their college education—1.8 million—and 1.6 million Georgia 4-year-olds gone to prekindergarten voluntarily. Georgia’s public schools are wired. They are on the internet. We deliver content through distance learning. It is at the leading edge of technology in public education of any State in the country. Now, politicians can take credit for a lot of things, but I don’t know of any body who can take credit for 1.8 million college degrees, 1.4 million pre-kindergarten programs, wiring schools for the information technology of the 21st century, and doing it all based on a personal effort and commitment to see to it that the more we are educated, the better the State will be.

I said that Zell was an author. He was an author and a marine. He served in the Marine Corps from 1953 to 1956. He wrote a number of books about the Marine Corps. He wrote a number of articles about the Marine Corps. He wrote one book called “Corps Values.”

The values he learned in the Marine Corps he used throughout his life in education, as Governor, as a father, and as a family man.

Zell’s wife is Shirley Miller. Shirley is a wonderful lady, and I got to be good friends with Zell and Shirley and their children. Shirley was a partner with Zell. She wasn’t just his wife. Shirley worked tirelessly for Zell and for the State of Georgia, and to this day, she works tirelessly for our State. During Zell’s more difficult years—over the last few years having the difficulties he had with his health—where to be with Zell every single day.

Zell Miller came to the Congress of the United States in a very unique way. Paul Coverdell, who had the seat that I hold today, died. Paul was a Republican. He was in his second term as a Republican. Roy Barnes was the Governor of Georgia, a Democrat, and when Paul Coverdell died, Roy Barnes called Zell up, who was then the immediate past Governor. Zell, I need you to go to Washington and serve for me because the body is getting pretty close politically up there. We need to make sure a Democrat is in that place to replace Paul.

I was involved in the conversation because I was hoping they were going to call me up, which I will get to in a minute. They didn’t, but they did later. But they hadn’t done it at that time. Roy said to Paul: You just have to do it for me, Governor Miller. You have to make sure that Georgia stays Democratic.

Zell went on public television and said: I want to accept this appointment to the U.S. Senate to fill this seat, but I am going to vote like Paul Coverdell.

He knew how important Paul’s service had been in the State. He knew the conservative movement had taken the State and was moving in that direction. Zell was a man of conscience and principle. He said: I will not seek reelection. That decision not to run again. I was in the U.S. House at that time, and he ran a press conference here in Washington to say: I will not seek reelection. That was in 2003.

I got on the phone, called my wife, and said: I am going to go see Zell. If he is not going to run, I am going to go run for that seat. That would be a good way for me to serve for me because the body is getting pretty close politically up there.

I called Zell, and I said: Governor, can I come to see you this weekend in Young Harris.

He said: Yes, come on.

So I got in my pickup truck, which is a good way to drive in North Georgia, where a pickup truck is a standard operating vehicle. It was kind of a snowfall morning in North Georgia and the North Georgia mountains in Young Harris. I sat down with Zell at the fire place, with Woodrow and Gus, the two dogs, talking about politics. Finally, I got around to the subject of saying: Well, Zell, the reason I am here is that you announced that you are not going to run for reelection. I want to know if you have any issue with my running to replace you.

He said: Put your shoes on, son. You can win that seat. Let me know what I can do to help you.

I have never forgotten the encouragement, I never forgotten what he said, and never forgotten the challenge I felt I had to thank the guy who had beaten me for Governor in 1990—to make a
statement like that when I was going to seek to replace him in the U.S. Senate 24 years later. It made a lot of difference to me in my life.

Zell was a unique individual, and there has never been one like him. He was a Democrat the day he was born, and he was a Democrat the day he died.

A lot of people remember he wrote a book, “A National Party No More,” which made a lot of Democrats mad. He spoke at the Democratic National Convention, made a lot of Republican friends, and then he spoke at the Republican National Convention—the only elected person in history to deliver the keynote address at both national conventions, Republican and Democratic—not in the same year but in the same decade.

Zell said what he thought, he thought what he said was right, and he delivered on everything he ever said, and if he ever was wrong, he apologized. In his latter years, he appointed many of his former opponents to offices of importance in our State.

For me, this is the first time I can publicly say thank you to Zell Miller, having shared with his family and many others who loved him as I have over the years during those 2 days in Atlanta, let me close by saying that one of Georgia’s greatest citizens and probably our greatest Governor, Georgia’s first family in perpetuity, Zell and Shirley Miller, will be missed greatly by our State and will be missed greatly by me. I thank God I had the opportunity to know Zell Bryan Miller and learn from him in the best way you can, and that is by working for him.

God bless you, Zell. Thank you for what you did on behalf of the people of Georgia. God bless you and the United States of America.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOSURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOSURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close the debate on the nomination of Claria Horn Boom, of Kentucky, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky, shall be brought to a close? The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) is necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 96, nays 2, as follows:

[Recall Vote No. 64 Ext.]

YEAS—96

Alexander
Baldwin
Barrasso
Bennett
Binkema
Burr
Boozman
Brown
Brink
Booker
Boyle
Barrasso
Brown
Cantor
Capito
Carper
Cassidy
Collins
Coons
Corker
Cory
Cornyn
Cortez Masto
Cotton
Crapo
Cruz
Daines
Donnelly
Durbin
Roubaix
Ernst
Feinstein
Fischer
 Flake

AYES—96

Alexander
Baldwin
Barrasso
Bennett
Binkema
Burr
Boozman
Brown
Cantor
Capito
Carper
Cassidy
Collins
Coons
Corker
Cory
Cornyn
Cortez Masto
Cotton
Crapo
Cruz
Daines
Donnelly
Durbin
Roubaix
Ernst
Feinstein
Fischer
 Flake

NAYS—2

Hirono
Nelson
Young

NOT VOTING—2

Duckworth

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 96, the nays are 2.

The motion is agreed to.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by the majority leader, in consultation with the Democratic leader, the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 376. I ask consent that there then be 10 hours of debate, equally divided in the usual form; that following the use or yielding back of the time, the Senate vote on nomination with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid
Mo graciously, and with no political gain in sight that Mo could see, took John under his generous, broad wing. Mo taught John the power of consensus and bipartisanship, and, in turn, John had the guts to buck his own party. Together, they forged a remarkable partnership.

Mo is marked by graciousness, humility, and humor; John by bombast, independence, and courage. They were a perfect match. They sided together to protect the Grand Canyon. They sided together to improve the lives of our first Americans. They sided together to upend the campaign finance system, to try to make sure politicians are beholden to their constituents, not to special interests.

John took these positions in sharp contrast to his party. After Mo retired from the House and John had entered the Senate, John continued to take fearless positions. He championed immigration reform. He supports curtailing methane emissions.

Many Americans will never forget—and I was standing right about here when this happened—when, on July 28, 2017, John McCain stepped into the annals of the Senate and gave the unexpected thumbs down to his party’s desperate attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

In 1982, Mo and John appeared to be worlds apart—Arizona politicians representative to conservative Phoenix, who would necessarily be at odds, yet they shared so much. Both stood by their principles, but both believed in working across the aisle to get things done for the American people. Both put country over personal ambition, fame, and fortune.

Both were men of integrity, and both were courageous. All of us can learn from their duty to country over selves, their commitment to working for all Americans, and their dedication to working with the party across the aisle to reach consensus.

Morris King Udall and John Sidney McCain III were unlikely political allies and even more unlikely friends, but they were both, and both are true American heroes.

Heroism is not born of words and bravado and bragging; heroism is born of silent deeds that help others. Mo and John accomplished much by deed. Both are true Arizonans, true Americans, and true heroes.

I am privileged to have known both men—to have grown up with Uncle Mo, to have campaigned with him, and to have shared his stories and stolen his jokes and to have served in the Senate and to serve with John McCain. John and I have worked together on many issues. We have traveled internationally. Our work together on the Senate Indian Affairs Committee has produced real results for Native Americans.

After this Grand Canyon event I described in some of the remarks up there, I went to visit John at his ranch in Sedona. He is working hard to recover and wants to return to the Senate. His spirits are good. He was returning calls and working on statements while we visited. He was planning ranch projects right in front of us that he had to do while he was in the hospital. What a unique and loving partnership.

John, we wish you and Cindy the very best and look forward to your speedy return.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, notwithstanding rule XXII, I ask unanimous consent that at 12:10 p.m. on Tuesday, April 10, the Senate vote on confirmation of the Boom nomination and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action; further, that the cloture vote in relation to the Ring nomination occur at 2:15 p.m.

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

NOMINATIONS DISCHARGED

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Energy Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: PN1637, PN1653, and PN1680.

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

The clerk will report the nominations en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nominations of James Reilly, of Colorado, to be Director of the United States Geological Survey; Theodore J. Garrish, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (International Affairs); and James Edward Campos, of Nevada, to be Director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact, Department of Energy.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; 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 nominations be printed in the Record.
Deborah Skaggs Speth. We discussed the importance of Members preserving their records, which shed important light on what we do on behalf of the American people, and how we do it.

In 2008, Congress unanimously passed H.Con.Res. 307. It recommended that Members’ offices maintain, that each Member take all necessary measures to manage and preserve their records, that they arrange for the deposit or donation of their records with a research institution that is properly equipped to care for them, and that they make them available for educational purposes at an appropriate time.

Organizations like the McConnell Center and the Dole Institute, in collaboration with the ACSC, are diligently working to ensure the preservation of records for generations of students and scholars.

I encourage my colleagues to preserve the records of their service in a research institution, where they can contribute to this vital, necessary, and growing component of our Nation’s documentary heritage.

REMEMBERING SERGEANT WILLIE SANDLIN

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to remember a man called Kentucky’s greatest hero, who served our Nation in the First World War and later received the highest military recognition, the Medal of Honor. Sgt Willie Sandlin, a native of Leslie County, KY, single-handedly attacked and disabled three German machine gun nests during the Battle of the Argonne Forest in 1918. With only a rifle, an automatic pistol, and four hand grenades, Sergeant Sandlin’s heroism resulted in the death of 24 German soldiers and the capture of 200 more.

At that time, Sergeant Sandlin was under the command of John J. “Blackjack” Pershing, the commander of the American Expeditionary Force, who personally recommended him for the Medal of Honor and presented the award to him in February 1919.

In a recent edition of the Kentucky Humanities Magazine, Dr. James M. Gifford, the CEO and senior editor of the Jesse Stuart Foundation, published a profile on the life of Sergeant Sandlin. Dr. Gifford traced his journey, from his birth in Appalachian poverty, through his remarkable service in the First World War. He emerged as one of the greatest heroes of the First World War and was soon on his way to Europe as part of the American Expeditionary Force. Sandlin arrived on France’s bloody Western Front in time to take part in the Battle of the Argonne Forest, the massive Allied offensive that stretched along the entire Western Front. It was fought from September 26, 1918, until the Armistice of November 11, 1918, a total of 47 days. The Meuse-Argonne Offensive was the largest in United States military history, involving 1.2 million American soldiers.

SANDLIN: MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT

[From the Kentucky Humanities Magazine, Fall 2017]
carefully placed machine gun nests, two guns to each nest. At 7 a.m., orders were given to "halt and lie down." While others were trying to stay below the hail of deadly gunfire, Willie Sandlin was curious about the new German machine gun that changed his life forever. Sandlin observed the narrow lane between the firing line of the two guns. Arming himself with four hand grenades and a sniping rifle, he charged the nests alone. Advancing within 75 yards of the guns, he threw his first grenade, which fell short and exploded without effect. Blazed with courage, he emptied two automatic revolvers at him. When he was less than 50 yards away from the inflexible fire, he threw his second grenade, which struck the nest. He then threw two more grenades, charged the nest, and killed three more German soldiers with a burst of automatic fire, making a total of eight enemy combatants that he killed there.

Sandlin's platoon advanced and he again took command of his men. The Americans moved forward and flanked another machine gun nest and Sandlin dispatched it in the same way, utilizing grenades. When his grenades were spent, four men still defended the nest. He quickly joined them all with his bayonet by the time his platoon arrived. The line continued to advance and at 2 p.m. Sandlin killed two German soldiers, three machine gun nests, and its occupants in similar fashion. His heroic assaults resulted in the death of 24 German soldiers and the capture of 200 more. Sandlin's commanding officer, General John J. "Blackjack" Pershing, praised him for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty" and recommended him for the Medal of Honor, detailing his heroic actions and praising the 23-year-old Sandlin's "splendid example of bravery and coolness to his men". Pershing personally presented the Medal of Honor to Sandlin in February of 1919 at Chaumont, the general headquarters of the AEF. Pershing would later describe Sandlin as the outstanding regular army soldier of World War I.

When the war ended, Sandlin returned home to Leslie County for six months. In December, 1919, because of his exemplary military record, he was appointed special escort for the bodies of soldiers who had died overseas. Sandlin left for France in January 1920. Later that year, Sandlin returned home and married the former Belvia Roberts, a woman he had met at a box dinner social after he first returned from Europe. Their happy family included five children and one daughter. All the children reached adulthood: Vorres, born in 1921, followed by Leona, Nancy Ruth, Florence, and Robert E. Lee Sandlin. Cora and Rose died of childhood diseases before their fourth birthdays.

Like his more famous counterpart, Tennessee's Alvin York, Sandlin returned home with a heightened commitment to education and community service. In the years following WWI, eastern Kentuckians were flooded with returning veterans. They were eager to help stamp out illiteracy in Kentucky."'''

Some of America's greatest leaders were Mary Breckinridge, founder of the Frontier Nursing Service at Hyden in 1925, and Robert E. Lee Sandlin. Cora Wilson Stewart Sandlin was so devoted to Mrs. Stewart and her campaign to help stamp out illiteracy in Kentucky.'''

Willie Sandlin and his family settled into a life of peace. Willie's room.

Senator Harry P. Cain, a member of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, presented a bill to Congress in 1928, legislation that changed his life forever. Sandlin observed a narrow lane between the firing line of the two guns. Arming himself with four hand grenades and a sniping rifle, he charged the nests alone. Advancing within 75 yards of the guns, he threw his first grenade, which fell short and exploded without effect. Blazed with courage, he emptied two automatic revolvers at him. When he was less than 50 yards away from the inflexible fire, he threw his second grenade, which struck the nest. He then threw two more grenades, charged the nest, and killed three more German soldiers with a burst of automatic fire, making a total of eight enemy combatants that he killed there.

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Like his more famous counterpart, Tennessee's Alvin York, Sandlin returned home with a heightened commitment to education and community service. In the years following WWI, eastern Kentuckians were flooded with returning veterans. They were eager to help stamp out illiteracy in Kentucky. Sandlin observed a narrow lane between the firing line of the two guns. Arming himself with four hand grenades and a sniping rifle, he charged the nests alone. Advancing within 75 yards of the guns, he threw his first grenade, which fell short and exploded without effect. Blazed with courage, he emptied two automatic revolvers at him. When he was less than 50 yards away from the inflexible fire, he threw his second grenade, which struck the nest. He then threw two more grenades, charged the nest, and killed three more German soldiers with a burst of automatic fire, making a total of eight enemy combatants that he killed there.

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TRIBUTE TO TED HAMPTON

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate Ted Hampton, of Knox County, KY, who was named the 2017 Man of the Year by the Knox County Chamber of Commerce during an event at Union College's student center. For more than 50 years, Ted has served as the CEO of Cumberland Valley Rural Electric Cooperative. At his hiring, Ted was one of the youngest distribution managers in the country. Now, he has the distinction of being the second longest serving in the country.

Throughout his tenure leading the organization, Ted has overseen the building of a new headquarters, a branch office, and the hiring of hundreds of employees. One of his colleagues spoke highly of Ted's service, saying his greatest accomplishment has been keeping his employees as safe as possible.

At the awards ceremony, Ted was joined by his wife, Margie, and their 8-year-old granddaughter Tori. During his remarks to accept the award, Ted warmly acknowledged all of his co-workers for their work to serve the area. I would like to join the Knox Country community in congratulating Ted on this award, and I urge my colleagues to join me.

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 days to take action.
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 intent, we raise the issue of the sale of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. We are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 16-48, concerning the Department of the Army’s proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for defense articles and services estimated to cost $1.31 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.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 16-48
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 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
(ii) Total Estimated Value: $1.31 billion.
(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services Under Consideration: The M109A6/M109A5 Medium Self-Propelled Howitzer system.

The proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of an important partner which has been and continues to be a leading contributor to the coalition forces in the Middle East. This sale will increase the Royal Saudi Land Forces’ (RSLF) interoperability with U.S. forces and convey U.S. commitment to Saudi Arabia’s security and defense.

The proposed sale will improve Saudi Arabia’s ability to meet current and future threats and provide greater security for its territory and borders. The RSLF currently has M109A2, A3 and A5 howitzers in its inventory. These modernized howitzers will enhance Saudi Arabia’s ability to support its deployed forces and defend its borders. Saudi Arabia will have no difficulty absorbing these vehicles into its armed forces.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. or contractor representatives to Saudi Arabia. Support teams will travel to the country on a temporary basis.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 16-48
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: This sale will take place in the areas of survivability, reliability, availability, maintainability, responsiveness, and terminal effects. The M109A6 is an armored, fully tracked howitzer carrying 37 rounds of conventional ammunition. It can be operated by a crew of four. It is designed with a new turret structure that facilitates integration of the weapon system’s survivability reduction measures. It improves overall crew compartment layout and space. The howitzer travels at a speed of 40 kilometers per hour and has a maximum cruising range of 186 miles. The M109A6 can operate independently, from the move, it can receive a mission, combine its select and take up its firing position, automatically unlock and point its cannon, fire and move—all without external technical assistance. Firing the first round following a move in under 60 seconds, a “shoot and scoot” capability, this system protects the crew from counterbattery fire. The M109A6 is capable of firing up to 10 rounds per minute from a 28-kilometer range.

2. The Electronic Fire Control System (EFCS), commonly referred to as the Paladin Fire Control System (PFCS), is the major change for the Paladin Medium Self-Propelled Howitzer from the manual fire control system on the M109A5. The integrated electronic FIRE Control System includes an Embedded Trainer and the ability to operate over a widely dispersed area and to move and emplace using the onboard fire control system (Dynamic Reference Unit Hybrid Replacement Inertial Navigation System) and a plug-in AN/PCN-13A Defense Advanced Global Positioning System Receiver with a Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM). The M109A6 can move and position within an assigned position area, process technical firing data, and fire a mission without relying on any external navigation wire. The M109A6 can change position more frequently, an advantage against enemy fire.
and display video from multiple external cameras on the vehicle. The driver can electronically pan through the 107° total horizontal field of view allowing the driver the ability to see any part of the road. The vehicle wheel track indicators aid the driver in clearly identifying any potential impediments to safe operation. The DVE Wide is fully backwards compatible with all fielded DVE units, which means that any vehicle currently equipped with a DVE system can be readily upgraded. It is also forward compatible to see newer, higher resolution, touch-screen displays. The DVE Wide is an UN-CLASSIFIED system.

5. If a technologically advanced adversary were to become knowledgeable of the specific hardware and software elements of the M109A6, the information could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems which might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

6. A determination has been made that Saudi Arabia can provide the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary to further the foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

7. All defense articles and services listed in this transmission have been authorized for release and export to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY, Arlington, VA.

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. 18–04, concerning the Air Force’s proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the United Kingdom for defense articles and services estimated to cost $500 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. 18–04
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: United Kingdom.
(ii) Total Estimated Value: Major Defense Equipment* $ 0 million. Other $500 million.
Total $500 million.
(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Non-MDE: Defense articles and services for continued follow-on support to the MQ-9 Reaper program: articles and services logistics support, manpower and base support, publication and technical documentation, depot and organizational level maintenance and equipment, modifications and upgrades, software support, spare and repair/replacement parts, program studies, U.S. Government and contractor engineering and technical support, and other related elements of program support.

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: UK-D-SM1-$375m—23 Feb 2007; UK-D-SMJ-$69m—11 Oct 2007;

UK-D-YAC-$230m—1 May 2008;
UK-D-GAA-$122k—19 Nov 2008;
UK-D-YAF-$24m—3 Mar 2011;
UK-D-SMK-$32m—27 Nov 2011;
UK-D-QBH-$230m—6 Aug 2013;
UK-D-GAY-$106m—10 Dec 2014;
UK-D-QBM-$105m—22 Mar 2015;
UK-D-QBH-$35m—30 Mar 2017;
UK-D-QBM-$39m—27 Mar 2018;
UK-D-YAI-$132m—8 May 2017;

(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: None.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY, Arlington, VA.

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. 17–71, concerning the Navy’s proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the United Kingdom—MO–9–Continuing Contractor Logistics Support

The Government of the United Kingdom has requested to buy defense articles and services for continued follow-on support to the MQ-9 Reaper program including: contractor logistics support, manpower and base support, publication and technical documentation, depot and organizational level maintenance and equipment, minor modifications and upgrades, software support, spare and repair/replacement parts, program studies, U.S. Government and contractor engineering and technical support, and other related elements of program support. The total estimated program cost is $500 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security policies of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally which has been, and continues to be, an important partner on critical foreign policy and defense issues.

The proposed sale is required to maintain the operational readiness of the United King- dom’s MQ-9 Reaper program and enable the United Kingdom to continue to operate its fleet of MQ-9 Reapers in support of coalition operations. The United Kingdom will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

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

The prime contractors will be General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. in San Diego, CA, and in Woodland, VA. At this time, there are no known offset agreements. Any offset agreements will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor(s).

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the United Kingdom.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY, Arlington, VA.

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. 17–71, concerning the Navy’s proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the United Kingdom—MO–9–Continuing Contractor Logistics Support

The proposed sale is required to maintain the operational readiness of the United Kingdom’s MQ-9 Reaper program and enable the United Kingdom to continue to operate its fleet of MQ-9 Reapers in support of coalition operations. The United Kingdom will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

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

The prime contractors will be General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. in San Diego, CA, and in Woodland, VA. At this time, there are no known offset agreements. Any offset agreements will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor(s).

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the United Kingdom.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY, Arlington, VA.

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. 17–71, concerning the Navy’s proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the United Kingdom—MO–9–Continuing Contractor Logistics Support

The proposed sale is required to maintain the operational readiness of the United Kingdom’s MQ-9 Reaper program and enable the United Kingdom to continue to operate its fleet of MQ-9 Reapers in support of coalition operations. The United Kingdom will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

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

The prime contractors will be General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. in San Diego, CA, and in Woodland, VA. At this time, there are no known offset agreements. Any offset agreements will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor(s).

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the United Kingdom.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY, Arlington, VA.

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. 17–71, concerning the Navy’s proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the United Kingdom—MO–9–Continuing Contractor Logistics Support

The proposed sale is required to maintain the operational readiness of the United Kingdom’s MQ-9 Reaper program and enable the United Kingdom to continue to operate its fleet of MQ-9 Reapers in support of coalition operations. The United Kingdom will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

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

The prime contractors will be General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. in San Diego, CA, and in Woodland, VA. At this time, there are no known offset agreements. Any offset agreements will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor(s).

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the United Kingdom.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.
parts, tools and test equipment, ground support equipment, flight test support, airworthiness support, personnel training and training devices, applicable software, hardware, and technical data, facilities and maintenance support, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics supports services, and other elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total case value is $230 million.

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

Germany is one of the major political and economic powers in Europe and NATO and a key partner of the United States in ensuring global peace and stability. The proposed sale of the MQ-4C Triton will support legitimate national security interests of Germany and significantly enhance Germany’s intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities and the overall collective security of the European Command.

The proposed sale of the MQ-4C Triton will close a crucial capability gap and will enhance bilateral and NATO interoperability and deter potential regional threats. As the aircraft is deployed, the German Armed Forces will have no difficulty absorbing these systems into its armed forces.

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

The prime contractor will be Northrop Grumman Corporation, Palmdale, CA. It is responsible for design, integration, and functional platform compatibility testing of the payload. Airbus Defence and Space, located in Germany, will be the prime contractor to Germany for the development and manufacturing, and will be responsible for the functional test, end-to-end test and installation. There are no offset agreements in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of contractor representatives to Germany to perform contractor logistics support and to support establishment of required security infrastructure.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17-72
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 MQ-4C Triton hardware and software procured for this potential sale are UNCLASSIFIED. The MQ-4C is optimized for long endurance, high-altitude reconnaissance missions. The MQ-4C Triton will be a forward deployed, land-based, autonomously operated system that provides a persistent maritime Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance (ISR) capability to include data collection, analysis, and situational reporting. Aircraft system, sensor, and navigation status data continue to be continuously sent to ground operators through a health and status downlink for mission monitoring.

2. In a technologically advanced adversary war, to obtain a stepped-up level of offensive and defensive countermeasures, the information could be used to develop capabilities that might reduce weapons system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

3. A determination has been made that Germany can provide substantially the same degree of protection for sensitive technology as those in the United States. The proposed sale provides for Germany to maintain a high level of security with respect to the data and related information. This proposed sustainment program is necessary to the furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the policy justifications.

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

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. 17-72, concerning the Army’s proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Australia for defense articles and services estimated to cost $148 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.
The proposed sale of 155mm howitzer ammunition will improve Australia's capability to meet out-year Operational Readiness Training requirements. Australia will use this capability to strengthen its homeland defense and deter regional threats. Australia will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The principal contractor will be determined at a later date. Material could potentially be sourced from a combination of stock and procurement. 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 or contractor representatives to Australia.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–65
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 M795 Insensitive Munitions Explosive (IME) 101 Explosive P115mm HE Projectile is UNCLASSIFIED. The M231/M232A1 Modular Artillery Charge System (MACS) consists of two propelling charges, the M231 and the M222/222A1, and associated packaging. The system is compatible with all current and planned 155mm field artillery weapons. MACS uses a "build-a-charge" concept in which increments are identical to all others in the same lot designation, retained for future use. The M231 is fired either singly (Charge–1L) or in pairs (Charge–2L) to engage targets; the M222/222A1 is fired in groups of 3 (Charge–3H) or groups of 4 (Charge–4H) or groups of 5 (Charge–5H) to engage targets. The highest classification level of the charge is UNCLASSIFIED.
2. Although the charges are UNCLASSIFIED, they have associated technology that is sensitive. Certain aspects of the performance, engineering and interior ballistics characteristics, and some of the design features are considered sensitive data. This UNCLASSIFIED sensitive data could be used by a technologically advanced potential enemy to duplicate the charges through reverse engineering. No technical data packages or test information should be supplied.
3. Australia has been made aware that Australia can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

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. 17–65, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Spain for defense articles and services required to implement customer-unique modifications to twenty-one (21) Common Missile Warning System (CMWS) AN/AAR–57A(V)8 Forty-two (42) Embedded Global Positioning System (GPS) Inertial Navigation System (INS) EGI, and mode–four Twenty-one (21) CH–47F cargo helicopters with customer-unique modifications.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–65
Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Spain.
(ii) Total Estimated Value: Major Defense Equipment $900 million. Other $400 million.
(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: The Government of Spain has requested the possible sale of seventeen (17) CH–47F cargo helicopters with customer-unique modifications.


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 CH–47F aircraft has been identified as a Major Defense Equipment (MDE). The CH–47F is a medium lift, newly manufactured Aircraft. The CH–47F has the common avionics architecture system (CAAS) cockpit, which provides aircraft system, flight, mission, and communication management systems. The CAAS consists of two dual-redundant MIL–STD–1553B data busses and an Extended LAN capable of both IEEE 802.3 and ARINC 664. The CAAS includes five multifunction displays (MFDs), two general purpose processor units (GPPUs), two control display units (CDUs) and two data concentrator units (DCUs). The Navigation System will have two Embedded GPS/INS (EGIs), two Digital Advanced Flight Control System (DAFCS), one ARN–147 (VOR/ILS marker Beacon system), one ARN–153 Tactical Air Navigation System (TACAN), two air data computers, and one ARN–299 Radar Altimeter System. The communications suite is as follows: two each AN/ARC–21 Multi-mode radios providing VHF FM, VHF–AM, UHF, HQ II and Demand Assigned Multiple Access (DAMA) SATCOM, one each AN/ARC–201D SINCGARS radios associated HF Radio, the Identifier, Friend or Foe (IFF) and the Radar Signal Detecting Set (RSDS), AN/AAR–39A(V)1, special tools and test equipment, airframe and engine spare parts, technical data, publications, MWO/ECPs, technical assistance, transportation of aircraft and training, and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (SP–B–WBE).
(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.
(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–65
Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

SPAIN—CH–47F Aircraft

The Government of Spain has requested to buy seventeen (17) CH–47F cargo helicopters with customer-unique modifications, twenty-one (21) Common Missile Warning System (CMWS) AN/AAR–57A(V)8, and forty-two (42) Embedded Global Positioning System (GPS) Inertial Navigation System (INS) EGI. Also included are mission equipment, aircraft and engine spare parts, technical data, publications, MWO/ECPs, technical assistance, transportation of aircraft and training, and other related elements of logistics and program support.

As defined in Section 47(f) of the Arms Export Control Act.
specialized special operations aircraft against the threat posed by infrared guided missiles.

d. The Radiometric Signal Detection Set AN/APR-39R (R-S) provides the pilot with visual and audible warning when a hostile fire-control threat is encountered.

e. The AN/ASQ-32(V) Common Cryptographic Module for Identification, Friend or Foe (IFF) that provides Mode 4/5 capability. The KIV–

77 Applique physical dimensions are 3.5 in. x 4.25 in. x 1 in., 16-oz. The KIV–77 can be moved from the host and stored as an Unclassified Controlled Cryptographic Item (CC)

(f). The AN/PYQ–10 (C) Simple Key Loader (SKL) is a ruggedized, portable, hand-held fill device used for securely receiving, storing, and transferring electronic key material and data between compatible end cryptographic units (ECU) and communications equipment. It supports both the DS-101 and DS-102 interfaces, as well as the Crypto Ignition Key and is compatible with existing ECUs.

2. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of specific hardwar

3. A determination has been made that Spain can provide substantially the same de

4. All defense articles and services listed on this transmittal are authorized for release

COOPERATION AGENCY

Arlington, VA.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the re

Notification of Transmittal of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 16–10, concerning the Air Force's proposed Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer and Acceptance to the Gov

April 3, 2018.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Slovakia—F–16 Block 70/72 V Configuration A

The Slovak Republic has requested to buy fourteen (14) F–16 Block 70/72 V configuration aircraft; up to sixteen (16) F–16 F110 General Electric or F100 Pratt & Whitney engines (MDE); fourteen (14) M61 Vulcan 20mm Guns (MDE); twelve (12) AIM–9X Captive Air Training Missile (CATM).

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April 9, 2018
S2008


15. M61 Vulcan 20mm Guns (MDE); twelve (12) AIM–9X Captive Air Training Missiles, two (2) AIM–

16. LN260 EGI Embedded Global Positioning System Inertial Navigation Systems (EGI) (MDE); fourteen (14) Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing Systems (MDE); fourteen (14) Link-16 Multifunctional Information

This proposed program is necessary to the for the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

Also included are fourteen (14) Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing System II; fourteen (14) AN/ALQ–213 Electronic Warfare Management Systems; sixteen (16) AN/ALQ–211 Advanced Integrated Defensive Electronic Warfare Suite; sixteen (16) AN/ALQ–213 Electronic Warfare Management Systems; sixteen (16) AN/ALQ–211 Advanced Integrated Defensive Electronic Warfare Suite; sixteen (16) AN/ALQ–47 Countermeasures Dispensers; Advanced Identification Friend or Foe (AIF), Secure Communications and Cryptographic Appl;

LYN–16 (MIDS–JTRS) secure communication systems (MDE); six

Six (6) AN/AAS–33 Sniper Pods.

Non-MDE: Also included are fourteen (14) Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing System II; fourteen (14) AN/ALQ–213 Electronic Warfare Management Systems; sixteen (16) AN/ALQ–211 Advanced Integrated Defensive Electronic Warfare Suite; sixteen (16) AN/ALQ–213 Electronic Warfare Management Systems; sixteen (16) AN/ALQ–211 Advanced Integrated Defensive Electronic Warfare Suite; sixteen (16) AN/ALQ–47 Countermeasures Dispensers; Advanced Identification Friend or Foe (AIF), Secure Communications and Cryptographic Appl;

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

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a partner that is important to U.S. national security, and to enhance stability in the region. The proposed sale will support Slovakia’s needs for its own self-defense and support the National Defense Strategy goals. To use these F–16s to modernize its Air Force and strengthen its homeland defense

Slovakia intends for this aircraft to replace its current fleet of MiG–29s. Slovakia’s current fighters are not interoperable with U.S. forces or regional allies. Purchase of the F–16V will provide Slovakia with fourth generation fighter aircraft capability that is interoperable with the United States and NATO.

The proposed sale of new F–16V’s to Slo

Fuzes; and six (6) AN/AAQ–33 Sniper Pods.

One hundred-fifty (150) KMU–572F/B Guid

Six (6) AN/AAS–33 Sniper Pods.

No Offset Program is proposed.

Sixteen (16) APG–83 Active Electroni

And a modest number of contractor rep

Some offset program is proposed.

Eight hundred (800) MK–82 or BLU–111 5001b Bomb Bodies;

the global alliance, with friendly nations, to ensure peace and stability in Europe. The proposed sale will support Slovakia’s needs for its own self-defense and support power and air-to-air missiles; twelve (12) AIM–9X Captive Air Training Missiles; two (2) AIM–

The prime contractor will be Lockheed Martin, headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland. There are no known offset agreements in conjunction with this sale, however, we encourage Slovakia to request some amount of industrial participation. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the buyer and the contractor.

This proposed sale may require assignment of a small number of U.S. Government representatives (less than 10) to supervise the work, and a modest number of shadow representatives (less than 50) to Slovakia. It is likely that no permanent U.S. persons will actually be required in country.

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

Sixteen (16) LN260 EGI Embedded Global Positioning System Inertial Navigation Systems (EGI) (MDE); fourteen (14) Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing Systems (MDE); fourteen (14) Link-16 Multifunctional Information

This proposed program is necessary to the for the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

Sixteen (16) LN260 EGI Embedded Global Positioning System Inertial Navigation Systems (EGI) (MDE); fourteen (14) Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing Systems (MDE); fourteen (14) Link-16 Multifunctional Information

Sixteen (16) LN260 EGI Embedded Global Positioning System Inertial Navigation Systems (EGI) (MDE); fourteen (14) Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing Systems (MDE); fourteen (14) Link-16 Multifunctional Information

Six (6) AN/AAS–33 Sniper Pods.

Non-MDE: Also included are fourteen (14) Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing System II; fourteen (14) AN/ALQ–213 Electronic Warfare Management Systems; sixteen (16) AN/ALQ–211 Advanced Integrated Defensive Electronic Warfare Suite; sixteen (16) AN/ALQ–213 Electronic Warfare Management Systems; sixteen (16) AN/ALQ–211 Advanced Integrated Defensive Electronic Warfare Suite; sixteen (16) AN/ALQ–47 Countermeasures Dispensers; Advanced Identification Friend or Foe (AIF), Secure Communications and Cryptographic Appl;

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The prime contractor will be Lockheed Martin, headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland. There are no known offset agreements in conjunction with this sale, however, we encourage Slovakia to request some amount of industrial participation. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the buyer and the contractor.

This proposed sale may require assignment of a small number of U.S. Government representatives (less than 10) to supervise the work, and a modest number of shadow representatives (less than 50) to Slovakia. It is likely that no permanent U.S. persons will actually be required in country.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.
April 9, 2018

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE
S2009

TRANSMITTAL NO. 18–10
Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensors and Technology:

1. This sale involves the release of sensitive technology to Slovakia. The F-16 V Block 70/72 weapon system is UNCLASSIFIED, except as noted below. The F-16 V Block 70/72 uses the F16 airframe, and features advanced avionics and systems. It contains the General Electric F110 engine or Pratt & Whitney F100 engine, AN/ASG-66 data link, digital flight control system, internal and external electronic warfare (EW) equipment, Advanced Identification friend or foe (AIFPP), LINK-16 data link, operational flight trainer, and software development computer programs.

2. The AN/APG-83 is an Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) radar developed for the F-16. It includes higher processor power, higher transmission power, more sensitive receiver electronics, and synthetic aperture radar (SAR) capability incorporated in the sensor. SAR produces the first detailed map of the ground passed by the platform, allowing a modern fighter cockpit to locate threats long before they are visible.

3. The AN/ALQ-211 AIDEWS provides passive radar warning, wide spectrum radio frequency (RF) countermeasures control and jamming of the entire EW system. The commercially developed system software and hardware is UNCLASSIFIED. The system is classified SECRET when loaded with a U.S. derived (threat) database.

4. The AN/APX-126 AIFP is a system capable of providing identification and control information to a Mode 5. It is UNCLASSIFIED unless Mode 4 or Mode 5 operational evaluator parameters are loaded in to the equipment. Classified elements of the AIFP system include software object code, operating characteristics, parameters, and technical data.

5. The Embedded GPS-INS (EGI) LN-290 is a sensor that combines GPS and inertial sensor information to provide accurate location information for navigation and targeting. The EGI LN-290 is UNCLASSIFIED. The GPS cryopyrographic device for highest GPS accuracy are classified up to SECRET.

6. Multifunctional Information Distribution System (MIDS) is an advanced Link-16 communication system that integrates Common (C) system incorporating high-capacity, jam-resistant, digital communication links for exchange of near real-time tactical information, including both data and voice, among air, ground, and sea elements. The MIDS terminal hardware, publications, and technical data and documentation are classified at the CONFIDENTIAL level. Potential compromise of these data and documentation are classified at the SECRET level. The components and subsystems range from UNCLASSIFIED to SECRET.

7. AIM-120C7 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile (AMRAAM) is a guided missile featuring digital technology and miniature solid-state electronics. AMRAAM contains components that were derived from countermeasures which might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of systems with similar capabilities. The components were derived from this sale in the furtherance of the US foreign policy and national security objectives, as outlined in the Policy Justification. The software and other data that could result if the sensitive technology were revealed to unauthorized persons.
22. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification. Moreover, the benefits to be derived from the proposed sale in the Policy Justification, outweigh the potential damage that could result if the sensitive technology were revealed to unauthorized persons.

23. The bill as transmitted is authorized for release and export to the Government of Slovakia.

STRENGTHENING PROTECTIONS FOR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFICIARIES ACT OF 2018

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I rise today in support of H.R. 6457, the Strengthening Protections for Social Security Beneficiaries Act of 2018, a bipartisan bill developed by House Ways and Means Social Security Subcommittee Chairman SAM JOHNSON and Ranking Member JOHN LARSON. This bill updates the representative payee program, by strengthening oversight and beneficiary protections, while improving payee selection and quality. As a true testament to Chairman JOHNSON and Ranking Member LARSON’s bipartisan work, the bill passed with the House of Representatives and the Senate unanimously just before Congress adjourned in March.

Social Security’s Representative Payment program provides financial management for the Social Security and Supplemental Security Income, SSI, payments of beneficiaries who are incapable of managing their Social Security or SSI payment. Today almost 6 million representative payees manage benefits on behalf of about 8 million Social Security beneficiaries and SSI recipients. Most often, the representative payee is a family member, like a spouse or a parent. When friends or family are not available to serve as payees, Social Security can use qualified organizations to be representative payees.

Most payees perform their duties responsibly and with care. Some do not, and stakeholders in this process have raised concerns. The Social Security Advisory Board, the National Academy of Sciences, the Government Accountability Office, and Social Security’s inspector general have uncovered problems with current policy and ideas for improvement. It has been almost 15 years since the last significant change to the area, and this bill makes several needed policy changes and common sense improvements.

The bill strengthens oversight of representative payees by requiring additional types of reviews of payee performance and draws on the expertise of the protection and advocacy system of each state to conduct the reviews. The bill reduces the burden on families by eliminating the requirement to file the annual accounting form for representative payees who are parents or spouses and only requires the beneficiary to sign the form.

The bill requires data exchanges between SSA and State foster care agencies to identify when there is a change in status of a beneficiary in foster care and reassess whether the payee is appropriate. The bill allows new beneficiaries to make an advance payee designation. Finally, the bill codifies current policy that bars felons from serving as a payee and requires SSA to recheck all payees.

In 2016, my office was contacted by Lexie Gruber, a former foster youth from Connecticut. Lexie’s story brought a human face to this issue and showed where the system had gone wrong. This young woman had recently aged out of foster care, graduated college at the top of her class, and moved to Washington, DC, for a new job, a success story that is unfortunately all too rare for children who have grown up in foster care. Lexie was working hard, but still struggled to afford living expenses in an expensive city while trying to work hard to save for law school. That was before the IRS notified her that the value of outstanding SSI overpayments to be withheld from her tax returns. This was outstanding debt she didn’t know she had or benefits she never even got. To me, this is the definition of unjust. She had to contact Congress for help and since then has worked tirelessly to help ensure that other former foster youth aren’t forced through her experience. This bill fixes this flaw in the system to ensure that youth aging out of care, struggling to make it on their own, aren’t held liable for the mistakes of or misinformation from foster care agencies.

I thank Chairman JOHNSON, Ranking Member LARSON, and their staff for putting together this bipartisan bill. It is another example of what can be accomplished when working together.

HONORING DEPUTY JACOB PICKETT

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and honor the extraordinary service and sacrifice of Boone County Deputy Jacob Pickett of Zionsville, IN. His life was characterized by selflessness, dedication to his community, and a deep love for his family and faith.

Jake graduated from Brownsburg High School in 2002. He graduated from the Marion County Sheriff’s Office Training Academy in 2010 and the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy in 2014. He was employed as a detention deputy with the Marion County Sheriff’s Office for 3 years. After serving the Marion County Sheriff’s Office, he served as a deputy at the Tipton County Sheriff’s Department from 2013 to 2015. In 2015, he began his work in Boone County as a taser instructor, K-9 team leader, and a member of the Fraternal Order of Police No. 110. From the start, his colleagues say they knew he would be a great officer and that he was the one who would be there to help if anyone ever needed him.

Jake grew up with a kind heart, always standing up for those in need. He was described by Rev. Steve Reeves, his little league coach and pastor who baptized him as a teenager, as someone who “had a kindness about him. He wanted to do well.” His selflessness carried over into adulthood; whether it was serving in uniform, organizing a Christmas card drive, driving to rescue animals, he continuously gave back to his community. Ultimately, Jake put his life on the line to protect the community he loves, and for his service, we are forever grateful.

On Friday, March 2, 2018, Jake was fatally shot following a pursuit in Lebanon, IN. He was kept on life support for 80 days while the service could continue through organ donation. After he was taken off life support, his heart was donated to a patient in need at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis.

A devoted and loving father and husband, he is survived by his wife, Jennifer Pickett, a teacher at White Lick Elementary School; his two sons; parents Marlin and Rebecca Pickett; sister Kristi M. Woo; nieces Hannah N. Woo; parents-in-law Jon and Carol Lindstrom; brothers-in-law Jeremy Lindstrom and Christopher Lindstrom; his faithful K-9 partner Brik; and many other relatives and friends. Jake went about his day as a loving husband, and it was well known that the happiest day of his life was when he became a father. He was often seen giving his sons rides around the yard on the lawnmower for fun, and he will be remembered by his loving family.

Jake set an example for others and will be remembered for his love for his family, his faith in God, and his bravery. Let us remember and emulate the example this man set for us and honor his commitment to serving his fellow citizens.

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

RECOGNIZING NAPERVILLE RESPONSES TO OUR VETERANS

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, today I wish to applaud the “Strength and Honor” event being hosted by Naperville Responds to Our Veterans on April 11, 2018. This event aims to honor and give thanks to veterans around the community. This year’s featured speaker, Mike Barbour, is a well-known Army veteran who has devoted his life to advocating for those who have so bravely fought for our country. I encourage veterans around the community to attend this event, enjoy a free lunch, and be paid the respect they so well deserve.

I applaud the commendable work being done by Naperville Responds to
TRIBUTE TO DR. WILLIAM “BILL” TUCKER

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Dr. William Tucker as he celebrates his 90th birthday. Bill is an entrepreneur and former government official and presently serves as president of Penn Century Corporation.

In 1951, Bill married the Honorable Dorothea Tucker, who later went on to become the first African-American woman to serve as Pennsylvania’s Secretary of State. As a young man, Bill proudly served in the U.S. Army from 1951 to 1953. Shortly after, he attended Lincoln University where he graduated in 1960 with a bachelor of arts degree. In May 2011, he received an honorary doctorate in humane letters from Lincoln University.

Before retiring from government service in 1991, Bill served as a confidential assistant to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce during the Carter administration and later served as associate director of the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Office of Business Liaison, working as an assistant to the secretary. Bill provided years of invaluable service to the Department and embodied what it means to be a public servant.

Bill went on to become vice chair of the Bethune DuBois Institute, and it was in this role that he founded the annual Children’s Christmas Dinner Party for disadvantaged children, first held in Washington, DC. In 2004, through the Philadelphia Martin Luther King, Jr. Association for Nonviolence, Inc., he orchestrated the first Annual Children’s Christmas Dinner Party for underserved children from the Philadelphia and surrounding areas at the Wyndham Franklin Plaza Hotel, which serviced over 3,800 children that year.

As a committed community activist, Bill has dedicated his life to defending those in need. He has served as president of the Associated Real Estate Brokers of Philadelphia and a board member of the National Negro Business League, the Carolinas League of Philadelphia, the Philadelphia Chapter NAACP, and many others. His commitment to helping shape his community has been an inspiration to us all.

Bill set the prime example of leadership and courage during his life. His activism and many years of community and public service are significant to many who have been touched by his work. I wish Bill a happy 90th birthday and express my gratitude for all the work he has done.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RBC HERITAGE PRESENTED BY BOEING GOLF TOURNAMENT

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, each year Hilton Head Island’s South Carolina Hosts the RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing Golf Tournament at the Harbour Town Golf Links at the Sea Pines Resort. With Harbour Town’s red and white striped lighthouse as a backdrop, a world-class golf tournament is held annually the week after the Masters. Our tournament champions have included a notable number of Hall of Fame golfers: Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Nick Faldo, Hale Irwin, Bernhard Langer, Johnny Miller, Greg Norman, Nick Price, Tom Watson, and Payne Stewart.

More than 1,200 volunteers staff the tournament during the week. Their work is felt and seen by the more than a hundred thousand people who attend the tournament every year and the millions more who watch the tournament broadcast in 226 countries. Last year, the tournament infused over $96 million into the State of South Carolina’s economy.

Even more notable than the golf is the impact the Heritage Classic Foundation has on the local communities in South Carolina and Georgia. Since 1987, $38 million has been distributed to those in need in these two States. Since 1992, 922 high school seniors have received more than $1.1 million for four-year college scholarships. This fall, 31 Beaufort County collegians will receive foundation grants at an expenditure of $159,000.

Last year, the foundation helped facilitate more than $2.9 million in donations. The Heritage Champions Fore Charity has produced more than $7.2 million for participating nonprofit groups. Last year, the Birdies for Charity program distributed in pledge donations, bringing the total to $5.7 million since it was created in 2000. The nonprofit groups that staff the tournament concession stands made $247,706 for their charities in 2017.

On behalf of all South Carolinians, I want to express my deep appreciation and congratulations to the RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing Golf Tournament on the occasion of its 50th anniversary and wish them another successful tournament this week.

REMEMBERING SHANE QUILLING

Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to memorialize Shane Quilling, Carson High School’s physical education teacher and head football and softball coach who unexpectedly passed away at the age of 53.

Shane is remembered as a compassionate teacher and coach. Mr. Quilling’s loss will have a profound impact on Carson High School and the greater Carson community. As the Reno Gazette Journal recently noted, Coach Quilling’s “main goal in life was to help make every- body a better person, to strive for their best, no matter what they did in life.”

Born in Sidney, MT, Mr. Quilling attended Sidney High School, where he was a football, track, and basketball athlete. After graduating from high school, he studied at Montana State University-Bozeman on a football scholarship where he helped lead the
football team to a Division 1-AA national championship title in 1985. Following his college graduation, Mr. Quilling began his coaching and teaching career in Montana, as well as at high schools in Denver, CO, San Antonio, TX, and Roy, UT. Before coming to Carson City in 2000, Mr. Quilling also worked at Box Elder High School for 7 years in Brigham, UT, where he won several regional championships and a State championship in 1995.

As Nevada’s senior U.S. Senator, I know that Mr. Quilling will be sorely missed by the thousands of students and athletes he came across and mentored during his career. My thoughts and prayers go out to his three children, family, and loved ones during this difficult time.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

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

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

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the enrolled bill was signed on March 23, 2018, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. Hatch).

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the enrolled bill was signed on March 23, 2018, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. Hatch).

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on April 2, 2018, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S.772. An act to amend the PROTECT Act to make Indian tribes eligible for AMBER Alert grants.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. Hoeven, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. 1870. A bill to amend the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 to secure urgent resources vital to Indian victims of crime, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115–220).

By Mr. Thune, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 1668. A bill to rename a waterway in the State of New York as the “Joseph Sanford Jr. Channel” (Rept. No. 115–221).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first time, and referred to committees:

By Mr. Wyden (for himself and Mr. Paul):

S. 2631. A bill to amend section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, to require that the annual budget submissions of the President include the total dollar amount requested for intelligence or intelligence-related activities of each element of the Government engaged in such activities; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. Rubio (for himself and Mr. Nelson):

S. 2632. A bill to accelerate the income tax benefits for charitable cash contributions for the relief of the families of the slain or injured victims of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. Kennedy (for himself, Mr. Cotton, Mr. Graham, Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Heller, and Mr. Sasse):

S. 2635. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act and the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act to modify the offenses relating to certain seized animals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Portman (for himself and Mr. Isakson):

S. 2634. A bill to free States to spend gas taxes on their transportation priorities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. Kennedy (for himself, Mr. Cotton, Mr. Graham, Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Heller, and Mr. Sasse):

S. 2633. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act and the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act to modify the offenses relating to certain seized animals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 263. A bill to amend title XVII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items as items of durable medical equipment.

S. 262. A bill to amend section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, to require that the annual budget submissions of the President include the total dollar amount requested for intelligence or intelligence-related activities of each element of the Government engaged in such activities; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. Rubio (for himself and Mr. Nelson):

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At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 550, a bill to restore statutory rights to the people of the United States from forced arbitration.

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 569, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide consistent and reliable authority for, and for the funding of, the Land and Water Conservation Fund to maximize the effectiveness of the Fund for future generations, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 573, a bill to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission.

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 611, a bill to amend the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to meet the needs of homeless children, youth, and families, and to honor the assessments and priorities of local communities.

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mrs. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 611, a bill to ensure that organizations with religious or moral convictions are allowed to continue to provide services for children.

At the request of Mr. KING, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 913, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to establish an initiative, carried out by the Assistant Secretary for Aging, to coordinate federal efforts and programs for home modifications enabling older individuals to live independently and safely in a home environment, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 980, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for payments for certain rural health clinic and Federally qualified health center services furnished to hospice patients under the Medicare program.

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1122, a bill to support States in their work to save and sustain the health of mothers during pregnancy, childbirth, and in the postpartum period, to eliminate disparities in maternal health outcomes for pregnancy-related and pregnancy-associated deaths, to identify solutions to improve health care quality and health outcomes for mothers, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1170, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons responsible for gross violations of internationally recognized human rights against lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) individuals, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. HARRIS, and the Senator from California (Mr. NELSON) was added as a co-sponsor of S. 1180, a bill to prohibit discrimination in adoption or foster care placements based on the sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status of any prospective adoptive or foster parent, or the sexual orientation or gender identity of the child involved.

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1520, a bill to expand recreational fishing opportunities through enhanced marine fishery conservation and management, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1890, a bill to improve the undercounting of, and promote access to treatment for, chronic kidney disease, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1923, a bill to prohibit firearms dealers from selling a firearm prior to the completion of a background check.

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1939, a bill to repeal the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act.

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCCHAR) was added as a co-sponsor of S. 1945, a bill to regulate large capacity ammunition feeding devices.

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCCHAR, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DONNELLY), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. TESSTER) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1989, a bill to enhance transparency and accountability for online political advertisements by requiring those who purchase and publish such ads to disclose information about the advertisements to the public, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2088, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the issuance of the Gold Star Installation Access Card to the surviving spouse, dependent children, and other next of kin of a member of the Armed Forces who dies while serving on certain active or reserve duty, to ensure that a remarried surviving spouse with dependent children of the deceased member remains eligible for installation benefits to which the surviving spouse was previously eligible, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2143, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to strengthen protections for employees wishing to advocate for improved wages, hours, or other terms or conditions of employment, to expand coverage under such Act, to provide a process for achieving initial collective bargaining agreements, and to provide for stronger remedies for interference with these rights, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2203, a bill to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration.

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a co-sponsor of S. 2341, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the processing of veterans benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs, to limit the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recover overpayments made by the Department and other amounts owed by veterans to the United States, to improve the due process accorded veterans with respect to such recovery, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma April 9, 2018
At the request of Mr. Peters, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. Rubio) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2427, a bill to establish a task force to identify countervailable subsidies and dumping.

At the request of Mr. Kennedy, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. Whitehouse) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2498, a bill to provide for the issuance of a rule to advance next-generation technologies to provide alternatives to hydrofluorocarbons, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Donnelly, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. Heitkamp) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2461, a bill to allow for judicial review of certain final rules relating to national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants for brick and structural clay products or for clay ceramics manufacturing before requiring compliance with the rules by existing sources.

At the request of Mr. Rubio, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. Nelson) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2497, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the Arms Export Control Act to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriation of funds to Israel, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Brown, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. Klobuchar) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2578, a bill to amend title 13, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Commerce to provide advance notice to Congress before changing any questions on the decennial census, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Menendez, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. Feinstein) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2580, a bill to amend title 13, United States Code, to make clear that each decennial census, as required for the apportionment of Representatives in Congress among the several States, shall tabulate the total number of persons in each State, and to provide that no information regarding United States citizenship or immigration status may be elicited in any such census.

At the request of Ms. Baldwin, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. Gillibrand) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2605, a bill to prohibit public companies from repurchasing their shares on the open market, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Johnson, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McConnell) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 432, a resolution congratulating the Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania on the 100th anniversary of their declarations of independence.

At the request of Mr. Menendez, the names of the Senator from New York (Ms. Gillibrand) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. Udall), the Senate, a from Minnesota (Ms. Klobuchar) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. Blumenthal) were added as cosponsors of S. 2578, a bill to amend title 13, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Commerce to provide advance notice to Congress before changing any questions on the decennial census, and for other purposes.

Whereas October 18, 1915, marked the arrival at the Navy Installation of Connecticut of the submarines G–1, G–2, and G–4 under the care of the tender USS Oar; and
Whereas the arrival of the submarines E–1, D–1, and D–3 under the care of the tender USS Tonopah, and on November 1, 1915, the arrival of the first ship built as a submarine tender, the USS Fulton; and
Whereas, on June 21, 1916, Commander Yates Stirling, Jr., assumed the command of the newly designated Naval Submarine Base New London, the New London Submarine Flotilla, and the Submarine School; and
Whereas, in 1918, Naval Submarine Base New London extended along the east side of the Thames River occupies approximately 678 acres, and houses more than 100 major facilities and more than 15 nuclear submarines; and
Whereas the USS George Washington, the first nuclear ballistic submarine of the United States Navy, created further changes at Naval Submarine Base New London when it was commissioned there in 1959; and
Whereas, in 2018, Naval Submarine Base New London supports fleet readiness by providing quality service and facilities to its fleet, fighters, and families; and
Whereas the mission of Naval Submarine Base New London is—
(1) to homestep and put submarines to sea; and
(2) to support the Submarine Center of Excellence, which trains submariners to take submarines to sea;
Whereas nearly every submariner in the United States Navy will be stationed at Naval Submarine Base New London for training; with a potential tour of duty in one of the attack submarines homeported at the installation, or with a pre-commissioning unit for a new submarine under construction at General Dynamics Electric Boat Shipyard in Groton, Connecticut;
Whereas Naval Submarine Base New London supports fleet readiness by providing quality service and facilities to its fleet, fighters, and families; and
Whereas Naval Submarine Base New London is one of the largest employers in southeastern Connecticut and employs more than 9,500 active duty, reserve, and civilian personnel; and
Whereas Naval Submarine Base New London will always be regarded as the first and finest submarine base of the United States Navy and the home of the submarine force: Now, therefore, be it

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE
April 9, 2018
S2014

SENATE RESOLUTION 452—DESIGNATING APRIL 11, 2018, AS THE "SEQUENTIEL LICAL" OF CONNEC TICUT'S NAVY INSTALLATION" Mr. Blumenthal (for himself and Mr. Murphy) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:
S. Res. 432

Whereas the Navy Installation of Connecticut, regarded as Naval Submarine Base New London, had its beginning as a naval yard and storage depot on April 11, 1868; and
Whereas the people of Connecticut made the installation possible when a deed of gift from the State of Connecticut and city of New London was signed, conveyed, and presented to Secretary of the Navy Gideon Welles; and
Whereas the Navy Installation of Connecticut was first used for laying up inactive ships, then for refueling small naval ships traveling the waters of Long Island Sound, and ultimately as the first submarine base of the United States Navy;
Resolved, That the Senate—
(1) designates April 11, 2018, as the "Sesquicentennial of Connecticut's Navy Installation;"
(2) commends the longstanding dedication and contribution to the Navy by the people of Connecticut, both through the initial deed of gift that established the Navy Installation of Connecticut and through their ongoing commitment to support the mission and people assigned to the installation, presently known as Naval Submarine Base New London;
(3) honors the sailors and submariners who have trained and served at the Naval Installation of Connecticut throughout the 150-year history in support of the naval and undersea superiority of the United States;
(4) recognizes the indispensable role Naval Submarine Base New London plays in verifying the national security of the United States at a time when adversaries seek to challenge the United States; and
(5) pledges continued support for the operation of Naval Submarine Base New London for years to come.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 114-198, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Creating Options for Veterans' Expedited Recovery (COVER Commission): Matthew Amidon of Texas (Veteran).

The Chair announces, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 106-398, as amended by Public Law 109-7, and in consultation with the chairmen of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission: Roy Kamphausen of Connecticut.

AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT AND MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE ACT MODERNIZATION ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 304, H.R. 3445.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:
A bill (H.R. 3445) to enhance the transparency and accelerate the impact of programs under the African Growth and Opportunity Act and the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 3445) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN TO FULLFILL REPEATED PROMISES OF ASSISTANCE IN THE CASE OF ROBERT LEVINSON

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consider the resolution, which has been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment and an amendment to the preamble, as follows:

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 85) calling on the Government of Iran to fulfill repeated promises of assistance in the case of Robert Levinson, the longest held United States civilian in our Nation's history.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution, which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment and an amendment to the preamble, as follows:

(1) recognizes that March 9, 2017, marks 10 years since the disappearance of Robert Levinson from Kish Island, Iran;
(2) recognizes that Robert Levinson is the longest held United States civilian in our Nation's history;
(3) notes that repeated pledges by officials of the Government of Iran to provide their Government's assistance in the case of Robert Levinson have not led to any meaningful progress in locating and returning Robert Levinson;
(4) urges the Government of Iran to take meaningful steps towards fulfilling its repeated promises to assist in locating and returning Robert Levinson, including immediately providing all available information from all entities of the Government of Iran regarding the disappearance of Robert Levinson to the United States Government at every opportunity to locate and return Robert Levinson, notwithstanding ongoing and serious disagreements the United States Government has with the Government of Iran on a broad array of issues, including Iran's ballistic missile program, sponsorship of international terrorism, and human rights abuses;
(5) expresses sympathy to the family of Robert Levinson for their anguish and expresses hope that their ordeal can be brought to an end in the near future.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment be agreed to, the resolution be amended, and the committee-reported amendment to the preamble be agreed to, the preamble, as amended, be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

Whereas, on January 16, 2016, the Government of Iran released five United States citizens detained in Iran;
Whereas, on January 17, 2016, President Obama stated that "even as we rejoice in the return of others, we will never forget about Bob," referring to Robert Levinson, and that "each and every day but especially today our hearts are with the Levinson family and we will never rest until their family is whole again..."
Whereas, on January 19, 2016, White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest stated that the United States Government had "secured a commitment from the Islamic Republic of Iran that has now been opened to secure the release of those individuals that we know were being held by Iran ... to try and gather information about Mr. Levinson's whereabouts..."

Whereas the Government of Iran's most recent commitment to assist in locating and returning Bob Levinson has not yielded any meaningful results;

Whereas, on November 23, 2016, the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (UNWGAD) adopted Opinion No. 50/2016, concerning Robert Levinson in which the UNWGAD found Iran responsible for the arbitrary detention of Mr. Levinson;

Whereas, on November 26, 2013, Mr. Levinson became the longest held United States civilian in our Nation's history; and

Whereas the Federal Bureau of Investigation continues to offer up to a $5,000,000 reward for information leading to Mr. Levinson's safe return:

Resolved, That the Senate—
(1) recognizes that March 9, 2017, marks 10 years since the disappearance of Robert Levinson from Kish Island, Iran;
(2) recognizes that Robert Levinson is the longest held United States civilian in our Nation's history;
(3) notes that repeated pledges by officials of the Government of Iran to provide their Government's assistance in the case of Robert Levinson have not led to any meaningful progress in locating and returning Robert Levinson;
(4) urges the Government of Iran to take meaningful steps towards fulfilling its repeated promises to assist in locating and returning Robert Levinson, including immediately providing all available information from all entities of the Government of Iran regarding the disappearance of Robert Levinson to the United States Government at every opportunity to locate and return Robert Levinson, notwithstanding ongoing and serious disagreements the United States Government has with the Government of Iran on a broad array of issues, including Iran's ballistic missile program, sponsorship of international terrorism, and human rights abuses;
(5) expresses sympathy to the family of Robert Levinson for their anguish and expresses hope that their ordeal can be brought to an end in the near future.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment be agreed to, the resolution be amended, and the committee-reported amendment to the preamble be agreed to, the preamble, as amended, 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 amendment was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 85), as amended, was agreed to.

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

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution, as amended, with its preamble, as amended, reads as follows: S. Res. 85

Whereas United States citizen Robert Levinson is a retired agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), a resident of Coral Springs, Florida, the husband of Christine Levinson, father of their seven children, and grandfather of their six grandchildren; Whereas Robert Levinson traveled from Dubai, United Arab Emirates, to Kish Island, Iran, on March 8, 2007; Whereas after traveling to Kish Island and checking into the Hotel Maryam, Robert Levinson disappeared on March 9, 2007; Whereas in December 2007, Robert Levinson’s wife, Christine, traveled to Kish Island, Iran, and met with officials of the Government of Iran who pledged to help in the investigation; Whereas the United States Government has continually pressed the Government of Iran to provide any information on the whereabouts of Robert Levinson and to help ensure his prompt and safe return to his family; Whereas officials of the Government of Iran promised their continued assistance to the relatives of Robert Levinson during the visit of the family to the Islamic Republic of Iran in December 2007; Whereas in November 2010, the Levinson family received a video of Mr. Levinson in captivity, representing the first proof of life since his disappearance and providing some initial indications that he was being held somewhere in southwest Asia; Whereas in April 2011, the Levinson family received a series of pictures of Mr. Levinson, which provided further indications that he was being held somewhere in southwest Asia; Whereas Secretary of State John Kerry stated on August 28, 2013, “The United States respectfully asks the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to cooperate with us in our efforts to help U.S. citizen Robert Levinson.”; Whereas, on September 28, 2013, during the first-ever conversation between the heads of governments of the United States and Iran since 1979, President Barack Obama raised the case of Robert Levinson to President Hassan Rouhani and urged the President of Iran to help locate Mr. Levinson and reunite him with his family; Whereas, on August 29, 2014, Secretary of State John Kerry stated that the United States “respectfully request[s] the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran work cooperatively with us to find Mr. Levinson and bring him home safely.”; Whereas, on January 16, 2016, the Government of Iran released five United States citizens detained in Iran; Whereas on January 17, 2016, President Obama stated that “even as we rejoice in the safe return of others, we will never forget about Bob,” referring to Robert Levinson, and that “each and every day but especially today our hearts are with the Levinson family and we will never rest until their family is whole again.”; Whereas, on January 19, 2016, White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest stated that the United States Government had “secured a commitment from the Iranians to use the channel that has now been opened to secure the release of those individuals that we know were being held by Iran . . . to try and gather information about Mr. Levinson’s possible whereabouts”; Whereas the Government of Iran’s most recent commitment to assist in locating and returning Robert Levinson has not yielded any meaningful results; Whereas, on November 23, 2016, the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (UNWGAD) adopted Opinion No. 50/2016, concerning Robert Levinson in which the UNWGAD found Iran responsible for the arbitrary detention of Mr. Levinson; Whereas in November 2013, Mr. Levinson became the longest held United States civilian in our Nation’s history; and Whereas the Federal Bureau of Investigation continues to offer up to a $5,000,000 reward for information leading to Mr. Levinson’s safe return: Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the Senate— (1) recognizes that March 9, 2017, marked 10 years since the disappearance of Robert Levinson from Kish Island, Iran; (2) recognizes that Robert Levinson is the longest held United States civilian in our Nation’s history; (3) notes that repeated pledges by officials of the Government of Iran to provide their Government’s cooperation in the case of Robert Levinson have not led to any meaningful progress in locating or returning Robert Levinson; (4) urges the Government of Iran to take meaningful steps towards fulfilling its repeated promises to assist in locating and returning Robert Levinson, including immediately providing all available information from all entities of the Government of Iran regarding the disappearance of Robert Levinson to the United States Government; (5) urges the President and the allies of the United States to continue to press the Government of Iran at every opportunity to locate and return Robert Levinson, notwithstanding ongoing and serious disagreements the United States Government has with the Government of Iran on a broad array of issues, including Iran’s ballistic missile program, sponsorship of international terrorism, and human rights abuses; (6) notes that in addition to these other serious issues, facing locating and returning Robert Levinson remains a significant obstacle to improving United States-Iran relations; and (7) expresses sympathy to the family of Robert Levinson for their anguish and expresses hope that their ordeal can be brought to an end in the near future.

CONGRATULATING THE BALTIC STATES OF ESTONIA, LATVIA, AND LITHUANIA ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR DECLARATIONS OF INDEPENDENCE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 356, S. Res. 432.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 432) congratulating the Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania on the 100th anniversary of their declarations of independence.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution, which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment, as follows:

(The part of the resolution intended to be stricken is shown in boldface brackets and the part of the resolution intended to be inserted is shown in italics.)

S. Res. 432

Whereas, in 1918, the people of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania declared their independence; Whereas, on February 24, November 18, and February 16, respectively, as sovereign, democratic countries; Whereas, on July 28, 1922, the United States formally recognized Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania as independent countries; Whereas the United States refused to recognize the Soviet Union’s forcible incorporation of the Baltic states; Whereas, in August 1991, the Baltic states regained their de facto independence from the Soviet Union, and on September 2, 1991, President George H.W. Bush recognized the restoration of their independence, reestablishing full diplomatic relations between the United States and Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania several days later; Whereas, in the United States, communities of Baltic descent have contributed significantly to national security, prosperity, and stability and have helped strengthen United States relations with the Baltic states; Whereas relations between the United States and Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have developed into a robust partnership based on shared values and principles, including respect for the rule of law, human rights, freedom of speech, and free trade; Whereas Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have shown their resolve as responsible and dedicated members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) by contributing to regional and global security, including to operations in Afghanistan; Whereas the Baltic states have been leaders in addressing and combating 21st century security threats, exemplified by their leadership and advancement of the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defense Center of Excellence in Estonia, the NATO Strategic Communications Center of Excellence in Latvia, and the NATO Cyber Security Centre of Excellence in Lithuania; and Whereas Russia’s continued aggressive and provocative actions against its neighboring countries, including violations of sovereign Baltic airspace, test both the region and the NATO alliance: Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the Senate— (1) congratulates the people of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of their declarations of independence; (2) commends the people and Governments of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania for their successful reforms and remarkable economic growth since 1990; (3) applauds the productive partnership the United States enjoys with the Baltic states in many spheres, including NATO; (4) recognizes the restoration of the Governments of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania to strengthen transatlantic security through defense spending and host nation support for NATO deployments; (5) recognizes the commitment among the Baltic states to further respect for the values of democracy and human rights within their own countries and abroad; and (6) reiterates the continued support of Congress— (5) commends the Baltic states for their commitment to democracy and respect for human rights and for their leadership in furthering these values abroad; and
(6) reiterates the continued support of the Senate for the European Deterrence Initiative as a means for enhancing deterrence and increasing military capabilities on NATO’s eastern flank.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment be agreed to, the resolution, as amended, be agreed to, the preamble 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 amendment was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 432), as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, as amended, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. Res. 432

Whereas in 1918, the people of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania declared their independence from the Soviet Union, and on September 2, 1991, President George H.W. Bush recognized the Soviet Union’s forcible incorporation of the Baltic states;

Whereas in August 1991, the Baltic states regained their de facto independence from the Soviet Union, and on September 2, 1991, President George H.W. Bush recognized the restoration of their independence, reestablishing full diplomatic relations between the United States and Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania several days later;

Whereas in the United States, communities of Baltic descent have contributed significantly to American culture, prosperity, and security and have helped strengthen United States relations with the Baltic states;

Whereas relations between the United States and Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have developed into a robust partnership based on shared values and principles, including respect for the rule of law, human rights, freedom of speech, and free trade;

Whereas Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have demonstrated their resolve as responsible and dedicated members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) by contributing to regional and global security, including to operations in Afghanistan;

Whereas the Baltic states have been leaders in addressing and combatting 21st century security threats, exemplified by their active leadership and advancement of the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defense Center of Excellence in Estonia, the NATO Strategic Communications Center of Excellence in Latvia, and Energy Security Center of Excellence in Lithuania; and

Whereas Russia’s continued aggressive and provocative actions against its neighboring countries, including violations of sovereign Baltic airspace, test both the region and the NATO alliance: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the people of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of their declarations of independence;

(2) recognizes the people and Governments of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania for their successful reforms and remarkable economic growth since 1991;

(3) applauds the productive partnership the United States enjoys with the Baltic states in many spheres, including NATO;

(4) recognizes the determination of the Governments of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania to strengthen transatlantic security through defense spending and host nation support for NATO deployments;

(5) commends the Baltic states for their commitment to democracy and respect for human rights and for their leadership in furthering these values abroad; and

(6) reiterates the continued support of the Senate for the European Deterrence Initiative as a means for enhancing deterrence and increasing military capabilities on NATO’s eastern flank.

KEEP AMERICA’S REFUGES OPERATIONAL ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 3079.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3079) to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act to reauthorize the volunteer services, community partnership, and refuge education programs of the National Wildlife Refuge System, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

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

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Hearing no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 3079) was passed.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2018

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, April 10; 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. I further ask that following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Boom nomination under the previous order. Finally, I ask 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 6:57 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, April 10, 2018, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

REBECCA KELLY Slaughter, of Maryland, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner for the term of seven years from September 30, 2013, Vice Edith Ramirez, resigned.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WILLIAM CHARLES MCINTOSH, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Vice Michelle Delpass, resigned.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

MICHAEL PAULUNDER, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Vice Karen Dvyn.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

KENNETH S. GEORGE, of Texas, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Oriental Republic of Uruguay.

DAVID SCHNEIDER, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs), Vice Anne W. Patterson, resigned.

IN THE AIR FORCE

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 general

GEN. TERENCE J. O'SHAUGHNESSY

The following named 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. MICHAEL T. GEERCK

IN THE ARMY

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. STEPHEN G. FOGARTY

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 general

LT. GEN. STEPHEN R. LYONS

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army medical service corps to the grade indicated under Title 10, U.S.C., sections 612 and 636:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. RAYMOND S. DINGLE

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 major general

MAJ. GEN. FRANK V. FRAZER

The following named officer for appointment in the reserve of the Army to the grades indicated under Title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. EUGEN J. LIHEROF

BRIG. GEN. STEPHEN E. STRAND

To be brigadier general

COL. AIDA T. BORRAM

VINCENT E. HUGGS

BARBY S. DIEDRICH

CHERYL L. FASANO

STEPHEN IACOVELLI

To be colonel

COL. DONALD W. DENROSS

ROBERT D. COCHRAN

KARA M. SANFORD

STEVEN L. HANCOCK

TO BE ADJOURNED
IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 3064:

Michael J. Abbot
Roberto Ainiello
Laurelau Esther Barnes
Travis Tom Bolden
Matthew A. Bosco
Mark William Bradley
John A. Drengel
Keith A. Brown
Shaunti Y. Cooper
Scott Anthony Coradi
Joe A. Deisenberger
Lyndy R. Doyle
Michael W. Dunphy
Michael Shane Ervin
John William Erickson, Jr.
Brandon C. Evans
Louis Anthony Gallina
Derek Allan Gardner
William C. Green, Jr.
Norman Thomas Heffern
Robert Dustin Hodgdon
John W. Howard
Aaron G. Hughes
Thomas Gregory Isenbrig
Shawn M. Johnson
Ryan Keith Jones
Jason Otto Knopfler
Michael R. Kobylt
William A. Kopp
David L. Lashkim
Michael D. Kriete
Timothy L. Lentini
Robert Russell Wright
Donald Luther Wilson, Jr.
Todd Anthony Wiles
Lola Dalane Washington
Andrea H. Vanleeuwen
Mark Henry Ustaszewski
Thomas F. Territt
Christopher Bo Smith
James F. Quagliaroli
Thomas J. Jeffrey Nef
Kevin Alan Mulcahy
Mary W. Mild
Yvonne L. Mays
Jeffrey Clifford Matthews
Chad Thomas Martin
Jaypee B. Matthew
Robert Peaslee, of Colorado
Dao Le, of California
Ireas Cook, of Texas
Todd Avery, of Florida
Mary A. Jones, of California
Riccardo Otto, of Virginia
Vesna Reddy, of California
Miles Franklin Tuder, of Florida
Heidi Mary Pate, of Virginia
Sangibaten M. Patel, of Texas
William M. Patterson, of South Carolina
Tanya S. Urquiza, of South Dakota
The following-named career members of the senior foreign service of the United States of America, class of counselor:

Julie Chen, of California
Scott Gordon Dobberson, of Maryland
David Gosney, of California
Melissa A. Jones, of California
Riccardo Otto, of Virginia
Vesna Reddy, of California
Miles Franklin Tuder, of Florida
Heidi Mary Pate, of Virginia
Sangibaten M. Patel, of Texas
William M. Patterson, of South Carolina
Tanya S. Urquiza, of South Dakota

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate April 9, 2018:

JAMES REILLY, of Colorado, to be Director of the United States Geological Survey.

THEODORES J. GARRELL, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (International Affairs).

JAMES EDWARD CAMPO, of Nevada, to be Director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact, Department of Energy.
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

THEODORE J. GABRIEL, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS).

JAMES EDWARD CAMPOS, OF NEVADA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MINORITY ECONOMIC IMPACT, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

JAMES REILLY, OF COLORADO, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.
CONGRATULATING TONKA SWIMMING AND DIVING TEAM

HON. ERIK PAULESEN
OF MINNESOTA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 9, 2018

Mr. PAULESEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Minnetonka High School boys swimming and diving team on its state championship. It’s the second consecutive championship for the Skippers, who won their first state championship in 1978 and have taken home the state title nine times since. After winning two individual events and one relay, Minnetonka put up an impressive 217.5 points—beating out Shakopee who was able to tally just 181 points. It’s their first back-to-back title since 1997.

I want to recognize Senior Jack Dahlgren for winning first place and setting new state records in both the 200 Free and 100 backstroke. I also want to commend John Shelstad for winning the 200 IM and Erik Gessner for his victory in the 100 butterfly. A special congratulations goes out to the 200 meter freestyle relay team of Erik Gessner, Michael Shelstad, Isaac Alberts and John Shelstad for taking first place home for the Skippers.

Mr. Speaker, swimming and diving is a sport that takes endurance, extensive training and poise. It’s also important to recognize that these student athletes work hard in the classroom as well. Congratulations to Head Coach Dan Berne, the coaching staff, the parents, the fans and the entire swim and dive team on being state champs.

IN RECOGNITION OF FRANCIS WHITTY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING
OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 9, 2018

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Francis Whitty as he completes his term as Department Commander of the Massachusetts Disabled American Veterans (DAV).

Frank was born in Roslindale, Massachusetts. After graduating high school in 1962 Frank went on to have a successful banking career, working at State Street Bank in Boston as well as at the Federal Reserve. He later moved to Brockton to settle down and raise a family with his wife Mary.

Shortly after President Kennedy was assassinated, Frank enlisted in the Navy and proudly served in the Submarine Service on board the USS Piper (SS409) until 1967. Frank was an early member of the United States Submarine Veterans and rose to the office of National Commander. This was just the start of his service to our country and our veterans.

Inspired by his uncle Edile, a WWII veteran in the 10th Mountain Division, Frank used the help of the DAV and went on to become a member of their Brockton Chapter 76 where he was elected Chapter Commander. He served two terms in this position at a time when the public was far less supportive of veterans. Frank spearheaded initiatives to gather support to release prisoners of war in Vietnam and to account for soldiers Missing in Action. He led his chapter of the DAV to become a staple in the Brockton community, very much like Frank himself.

This past year, Frank served as Department Commander of the Massachusetts DAV and will now be completing his term. According to Frank, one of his biggest accomplishments during his years of service has been expanding the DAV’s outreach to include services to incarcerated veterans and better serve the community at large in Massachusetts.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Frank Whitty for his service and dedication to his community and country. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking him for his work and in wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING EDWARD MCLAUGHLIN

HON. DWIGHT EVANS
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 9, 2018

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Edward McLaughlin, military historian, for his dedicated voluntary service to our veteran community.

Edward McLaughlin has dedicated the last four years researching and cataloging the in-terment of over 1,000 Civil War Soldiers and Sailors of African American descent, who are buried at Philadelphia National Cemetery, within the Second Congressional District of Pennsylvania. They were soldiers of the United States Colored Troops, a fierce force of nearly 180,000 men that made up one-tenth of the Union Army during the Civil War.

As a volunteer historian, Edward McLaughlin spent four years downloading approx. 25,000 records, mostly from the National Archives as well as other sources. He then copied, sorted, and compartmentalized these records, and then had the information transferred into a book form. Edward McLaughlin’s research contains a 2 to 5-line history of all the African American Civil War soldiers and sailors at the cemetery, photographs of each headstone, as well as a name to plot number. What makes this achievement all the more remarkable is the fact that this history had never been uncovered. Until now...

After a study of the information for the first year, Edward McLaughlin realized that a storyboard needed to be erected to tell this story and went on a local speaking tour at libraries, historical societies and veteran’s groups requesting letters of support for a storyboard, of which I lent my support. Because of his efforts, the National Cemetery Administration has constructed and installed a storyboard dedicated to the memory of the United States Colored Troops interned at Philadelphia National Cemetery. The storyboard is installed in Section C, which along with the bottom half of Section G, contains the burial plots of the United States Colored Troops interned at Philadelphia National Cemetery.

This storyboard joins three others that were installed three years ago at the Philadelphia National Cemetery. One chronicles the 155-year history of the cemetery, founded to receive the bodies of Civil War veterans already interned in nearby graveyards. The other two are dedicated to soldiers buried there: Valley Forge native Galusha Pennypacker, at 20, the youngest-ever brigadier general, and 184 Confederate soldiers wounded at the Battle of Gettysburg who died at nearby hospitals. Without Edward McLaughlin’s expertise and tireless efforts, this proud chapter in American History would surely have been lost.

The 2nd Congressional District of Pennsyl-vania extends gratitude to Edward McLaughlin for his dedicated support and service to the Second Congressional District of Pennsylvania.

OATH OF CITIZENSHIP ON APRIL 13, 2018

HON. PETER J. VISCOSKY
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 9, 2018

Mr. VISCOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate thirty individuals who will take their oaths of citizenship on April 13, 2018. This memorable occasion will be held at the United States Courthouse and Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana. America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. Oath ceremonies are a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On April 13, 2018, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, will take their oaths of citizenship in Ham-mond, Indiana: Maria Rebolloso, Pablo Serrano, Armando Martinez, Cristina Olivia Vasquez, Ricardo Rivera, Alejandra Sandoval, Yang-Yi Avia Lin Shemesh, Juliana Isabel vanisita.

Alejandrina Perez de Davila, Mohammad Yousef Mustafa Hijaz, Ma del Carmen

This “bullet” symbol indicates statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.
IN RECOGNITION OF BRADFORD HOLMES

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 9, 2018

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bradford Holmes as he receives a Prisoner-Of-War medal for his service and sacrifice during World War II.

Bradford was born on September 29, 1925 and now resides in Onset, MA. Growing up he worked for a cranberry company. At the age of eighteen, Bradford was drafted into the United States Army, following the footsteps of his older brother.

Bradford started at Fort Devens in Massachusetts and then trained at several bases across the country, eventually ending up in Camp Atterbury in Indiana, where he joined the 106th division. He was later shipped overseas to England to receive more training. Bradford then headed through Belgium to the front lines as a part of the 423rd Regiment.

Moving through wood lines and digging fox holes through the frozen ground, they made their way to the front, but they were surrounded and Bradford was captured during the Battle of the Bulge on December 17, 1944. They walked for several days through snow, sleeping by the side of the road at night. They spent the holidays locked in train cars and his train was attacked by the Allies, not realizing that POWs were on board.

Bradford was taken to the German POW Camp, Stalag IV–B, where he volunteered to go on a work detail to escape the horrible conditions of the camp. Bradford was sent to start working in a furniture factory. Here he looked forward to air raids because they caused factory workers to flee and gave him an opportunity to run and find food. Later he and other POWs were forced to cut down and haul out trees in the mountains. Even with three men on each side of the tree, this was incredibly difficult and dangerous. They lost many men as a result. As air raids increased, they were forced to walk fifteen miles to the border of Czechoslovakia. Finally, they were abandoned by their captors as the Red Army advanced and the POWs followed German civilians to allied territory.

After returning to the United States, Bradford got married and started a family of his own.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Bradford Holmes for his service and dedication to his country. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking him for his work and in wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, 2018 may be found in the Daily Digest of today’s RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 11

10 a.m. Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Defense

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2019 for the Department of Defense.

SD–192

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities

To hold hearings to examine Special Operations Command’s efforts to transform the force for future security challenges; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217, following the open session.

SR–232A

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Patrick Fuchs, of Wisconsin, and Michelle A. Schultz, of Pennsylvania, both to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation.

SR–253

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kirsten Dawn Madison, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary (International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs), and Thomas J. Hushek, of Wisconsin, to be Ambassador to the Republic of South Sudan, both of the Department of State.

SD–419

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine an original bill entitled, “The Opioid Crisis Response Act of 2018”.

SD–430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Federal Emergency Management Agency, focusing on prioritizing a culture of preparedness.

SD–342

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Mark Jeremy Bennett, of Hawaii, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Nancy E. Brasel, and Eric C. Tostrud, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota, Robert R. Summerhayes, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, and Wendy Vitter, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

SD–226

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2019 for the Department of Agriculture.

SD–138

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine the Congressional Budget Office’s budget and economic outlook, focusing on fiscal years 2018–2028.

SD–608

2 p.m.

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine unleashing America’s economic potential.

SH–216

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2019 for the Department of Energy, including the National Nuclear Security Administration.

SD–138

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2019 for the Department of Transportation.

SD–192
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support
To hold hearings to examine the health of the Department of Defense industrial base and its role in providing readiness to the warfighter. SR-232A

Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Strategic Forces
To hold hearings to examine United States nuclear weapons policy, programs, and strategy in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2019 and the Future Years Defense Program. SD-124

Committee on Finance
Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness
To hold hearings to examine market access challenges in China. SD-215

Committee on Indian Affairs
Business meeting to consider S. 1250, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to improve the recruitment and retention of employees in the Indian Health Service, restore accountability in the Indian Health Service, improve health services, and S. 2513, to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to provide further self-governance by Indian Tribes; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2019 for Indian Programs. SD-628

Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism
To hold hearings to examine defeating fentanyl, focusing on addressing the deadliest drugs fueling the opioid crisis. SD-226

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Paul R. Lawrence, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Benefits, and Joseph L. Falvey, Jr., of Michigan, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. SR-418

APRIL 12

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Army in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2019 and the Future Years Defense Program. SD-G50

9:45 a.m.
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the 2018 hurricane season, focusing on the status of preparation and response capabilities. SR-253

10 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2019 for the Department of Labor. SD-538

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau’s semi-annual report to Congress. SD-215

Committee on Finance
To hold hearings to examine the 2018 tax filing season and future Internal Revenue Service challenges. SD-419

Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Mike Pompeo, of Kansas, to be Secretary of State. SD-342

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management
To hold hearings to examine the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs. SR-222

Committee on the Judiciary
Business meeting to consider S. 994, to provide for the protection of community centers with religious affiliation, and the nominations of John B. Nalbandian, of Kentucky, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, Karl A. Dooley, to be United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut, Dominic W. Lanza, to be United States District Judge for the District of Arizona, Jill Aiko Otake, to be United States District Judge for the District of Hawaii, Michael Y. Scudler, of Illinois, and Amy J. St. Eve, of Illinois, both to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, Charles J. Williams, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Iowa, and Joseph H. Hunt, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Timothy A. Garrison, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, Kenji M. Price, to be United States Attorney for the District of Hawaii, John Cary Bittick, to be United States Marshal for the Middle District of Georgia, David L. Lyons, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Georgia, and Rodney D. Ostermiller, to be United States Marshal for the District of Montana, all of the Department of Justice. SD-226

2 p.m.
Select Committee on Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-219

APRIL 17

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on SeaPower
To hold hearings to examine Navy shipbuilding programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2019 and the Future Years Defense Program. SR-232A

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Indian Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the 30th anniversary of tribal self-governance, focusing on successes in self-governance and an outlook for the next 30 years. SD-628

3:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Airland

APRIL 18

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Navy in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2019 and the Future Years Defense Program. SD-G50

APRIL 19

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2019 and the Future Years Defense Program. SD-G50

APRIL 24

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of Defense budget posture in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2019 and the Future Years Defense Program. SH-219
See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

Senator-designate Cindy Hyde-Smith, of Mississippi, was administered the oath of office by the Vice President.

**Senate**

**Chamber Action**

*Routine Proceedings, pages S1993–S2019*

Measures Introduced: Five bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2631–2635, and S. Res. 452.

Measures Reported:

- S. 1870, to amend the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 to secure urgent resources vital to Indian victims of crime. (S. Rept. No. 115–220)
- S. 1668, to rename a waterway in the State of New York as the “Joseph Sanford Jr. Channel”. (S. Rept. No. 115–221)

Measures Passed:

**AGOA and MCA Modernization Act:** Senate passed H.R. 3445, to enhance the transparency and accelerate the impact of programs under the African Growth and Opportunity Act and the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

**Calling on the Government of Iran:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 85, calling on the Government of Iran to fulfill repeated promises of assistance in the case of Robert Levinson, the longest held United States civilian in our Nation’s history, after agreeing to the committee amendment.

**Congratulating the Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania on the 100th anniversary of their declarations of independence:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 432, congratulating the Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania on the 100th anniversary of their declarations of independence, after agreeing to the committee amendment.

**Keep America’s Refuges Operational Act:** Senate passed H.R. 3979, to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize the volunteer services, community partnership, and refuge education programs of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

**Appointments:**

**Creating Options for Veterans’ Expedited Recovery (COVER Commission):** The Chair announced, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 114–198, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Creating Options for Veterans’ Expedited Recovery (COVER Commission): Matthew Amidon of Texas (Veteran).

**United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission:** The Chair announced, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 106–398, as amended by Public Law 108–7, and in consultation with the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission: Roy Kamphausen of Connecticut.

**Boom Nomination—Agreement:** Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Claria Horn Boom, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky.

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 96 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. 64), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding Rule XXII, that at 12:10 p.m., on Tuesday, April 10, 2018, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination; and that the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination
of John F. Ring, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board, occur at 2:15 p.m.

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, April 10, 2018.

Muniz Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Democratic Leader, Senate begin consideration of the nomination of Carlos G. Muniz, of Florida, to be General Counsel, Department of Education; that there then be ten hours of debate, equally divided in the usual form, and that following the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination, with no intervening action or debate.

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

James Reilly, of Colorado, to be Director of the United States Geological Survey.

Theodore J. Garrish, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (International Affairs).

James Edward Campos, of Nevada, to be Director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact, Department of Energy.

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Rebecca Kelly Slaughter, of Maryland, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner for the term of seven years from September 26, 2015.

William Charles McIntosh, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Michael Faulkender, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Kenneth S. George, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Oriental Republic of Uruguay.

David Schenker, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs).

2 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

20 Army nominations in the rank of general.

10 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.

23 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.


Messages from the House:

Measures Placed on the Calendar:

Enrolled Bills Presented:

Additional Cosponsors:

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Additional Statements:

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—64)

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:57 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 10, 2018. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S2017.)

Committee Meetings
(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 6 public bills, H.R. 5437–5442 were introduced.

Additional Cosponsors:

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 4609, to provide for the conveyance of a Forest Service Site in Dolores County, Colorado, to be used for a fire station (H. Rept. 115–624); and

H.R. 5133, to reauthorize the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–625).

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Comstock to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Rev. Vincent DeRosa, St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Washington, DC.

Member Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Farenthold, wherein he resigned as Representative for the Twenty Seventh Congressional District of Texas, effective at 5 p.m. on Friday, April 6, 2018.
Whole Number of the House: The Chair announced to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Texas, Mr. Farenthold, the whole number of the House is 429. Page H3061

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no Yea and Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

Committee Meetings
No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings
No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS
(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D337)

H.R. 1625, to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to include severe forms of trafficking in persons within the definition of transnational organized crime for purposes of the rewards program of the Department of State. Signed on March 23, 2018. (Public Law 115–141)

H.R. 2254, 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”. Signed on March 23, 2018. (Public Law 115–142)

H.R. 2302, 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”. Signed on March 23, 2018. (Public Law 115–143)

H.R. 2464, 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”. Signed on March 23, 2018. (Public Law 115–144)


H.R. 2815, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 30 East Somerset Street in Raritan, New Jersey, as the “Gunnery Sergeant John Basilone Post Office”. Signed on March 23, 2018. (Public Law 115–146)

H.R. 2873, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 207 Glenside Avenue in Wyncote, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Peter Taub Post Office Building”. Signed on March 23, 2018. (Public Law 115–147)


H.R. 3369, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 225 North Main Street in Spring Lake, North Carolina, as the “Howard B. Pate, Jr. Post Office”. Signed on March 23, 2018. (Public Law 115–149)

H.R. 3638, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 Kings Road in Jacksonville, Florida, as the “Rutledge Pearson Post Office Building”. Signed on March 23, 2018. (Public Law 115–150)

H.R. 3655, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1300 Main Street in Belmar, New Jersey, as the “Dr. Walter S. McAfee Post Office Building”. Signed on March 23, 2018. (Public Law 115–151)

H.R. 3821, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 450 Main Street in Clermont, Georgia, as the “Zack T. Addington Post Office”. Signed on March 23, 2018. (Public Law 115–152)


H.R. 4042, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1415 West Oak Street, in Kissimmee, Florida, as the “Borinqueneers Post Office Building”. Signed on March 23, 2018. (Public Law 115–154)


H.R. 1177, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to release on behalf of the United States the condition that certain lands conveyed to the City of Old Town, Maine, be used for a municipal airport. Signed on March 26, 2018. (Public Law 115–156)

H.R. 2154, to rename the Red River Valley Agricultural Research Center in Fargo, North Dakota, as the Edward T. Schafer Agricultural Research Center. Signed on March 27, 2018. (Public Law 115–157)

S. 188, to amend title 31, United States Code, to prohibit the use of Federal funds for the costs of painting portraits of officers and employees of the Federal Government. Signed on March 27, 2018. (Public Law 115–158)
S. 324, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of adult day health care services for veterans. Signed on March 27, 2018. (Public Law 115–159)

H.R. 3731, to provide overtime pay for employees of the United States Secret Service. Signed on April 3, 2018. (Public Law 115–160)


S. 2040, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 621 Kansas Avenue in Archison, Kansas, as the “Amelia Earhart Post Office Building”. Signed on April 3, 2018. (Public Law 115–162)

H.R. 4851, to establish the Kennedy-King Commemorative Site in the State of Indiana. Signed on April 4, 2018. (Public Law 115–163)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2018

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate


Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety, to hold hearings to examine cooperative federalism under the Clean Air Act, focusing on state perspectives, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women’s Issues, to hold hearings to examine the Summit of the Americas, focusing on a regional strategy for democratic governance against corruption in the hemisphere, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Sharon Fast Gustafson, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 2:30 p.m., SD–430.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold a joint hearing with the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation to examine Facebook, Social Media Privacy, and the use and abuse of data, 2:15 p.m., SH–216.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 4790, the “Volcker Rule Regulatory Harmonization Act”, 5 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Joint Meetings

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on the Judiciary, to hold a joint hearing with the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation to examine Facebook, Social Media Privacy, and the use and abuse of data, 2:15 p.m., SH–216.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of April 10 through April 13, 2018

Senate Chamber

On Tuesday, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Claria Horn Boom, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation of the nomination at 12:10 p.m.

At 2:15 p.m., Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of John F. Ring, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Appropriations: April 11, Subcommittee on Department of Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2019 for the Missile Defense Agency, 10 a.m., SD–192.

April 11, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2019 for the Department of Agriculture, 10:30 a.m., SD–138.

April 11, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2019 for the Department of Energy, including the National Nuclear Security Administration, 2:30 p.m., SD–138.

April 11, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2019 for the Department of Transportation, 2:30 p.m., SD–192.

April 12, Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2019 for the Department of Labor, 10 a.m., SD–124.


April 11, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, to hold hearings to examine Special Operations
Command’s efforts to transform the force for future security challenges; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC–217, following the open session, 10 a.m., SR–232A.

April 11, Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold hearings to examine the health of the Department of Defense industrial base and its role in providing readiness to the warfighter, 2:30 p.m., SR–232A.

April 11, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine United States nuclear weapons policy, programs, and strategy in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2019 and the Future Years Defense Program, 2:30 p.m., SR–222.

April 12, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Army in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2019 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: April 12, to hold hearings to examine the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau’s semi-annual report to Congress, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on the Budget: April 11, to hold hearings to examine the Congressional Budget Office’s budget and economic outlook, focusing on fiscal years 2018–2028, 10:30 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: April 11, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Patrick Fuchs, of Wisconsin, and Michelle A. Schultz, of Pennsylvania, both to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation, 10 a.m., SR–253.

April 12, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the 2018 hurricane season, focusing on the status of preparation and response capabilities, 9:45 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: April 10, Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety, to hold hearings to examine cooperative federalism under the Clean Air Act, focusing on state perspectives, 10 a.m., SD–406.

April 11, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine S. 2602, to support carbon dioxide utilization and direct air capture research, to facilitate the permitting and development of carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration projects and carbon dioxide pipelines, 10:15 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: April 11, Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness, to hold hearings to examine market access challenges in China, 2:30 p.m., SD–215.

April 12, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the 2018 tax filing season and future Internal Revenue Service challenges, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: April 10, Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women’s Issues, to hold hearings to examine the Summit of the Americas, focusing on a regional strategy for democratic governance against corruption in the hemisphere, 10 a.m., SD–419.

April 11, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kirsten Dawn Madison, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary (International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs), and Thomas J. Hushek, of Wisconsin, to be Ambassador to the Republic of South Sudan, both of the Department of State, 10 a.m., SD–419.

April 12, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Mike Pompeo, of Kansas, to be Secretary of State, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: April 10, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Sharon Fast Gustafson, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 2:30 p.m., SD–430.

April 11, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine an original bill entitled, “The Opioid Crisis Response Act of 2018”, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: April 11, to hold hearings to examine the Federal Emergency Management Agency, focusing on prioritizing a culture of preparedness, 10 a.m., SD–342.

April 12, Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management, to hold hearings to examine the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: April 11, business meeting to consider S. 1250, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to improve the recruitment and retention of employees in the Indian Health Service, restore accountability in the Indian Health Service, improve health services, and S. 2515, to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to provide further self-governance by Indian Tribes; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2019 for Indian Programs, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: April 10, to hold a joint hearing with the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation to examine Facebook, Social Media Privacy, and the use and abuse of data, 2:15 p.m., SH–216.

April 11, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Mark Jeremy Bennett, of Hawaii, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Nancy E. Brasel, and Eric C. Tostrud, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota, Robert R. Summervays, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, and Wendy Vitter, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana, 10 a.m., SD–226.

April 11, Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism, to hold hearings to examine defeating fentanyl, focusing on addressing the deadliest drugs fueling the opioid crisis, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

April 12, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 994, to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for the protection of community centers with religious affiliation, and the nominations of John B. Nalbandian, of Kentucky, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, Kari A. Dooley, to be United
States District Judge for the District of Connecticut, Dominic W. Lanza, to be United States District Judge for the District of Arizona, Jill Aiko Otake, to be United States District Judge for the District of Hawaii, Michael Y. Scudder, of Illinois, and Amy J. St. Eve, of Illinois, both to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, Charles J. Williams, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Iowa, and Joseph H. Hunt, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Timothy A. Garrison, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, Kenji M. Price, to be United States Attorney for the District of Hawaii, John Cary Bittick, to be United States Marshal for the Middle District of Georgia, David L. Lyons, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Georgia, and Rodney D. Ostermiller, to be United States Marshal for the District of Montana, all of the Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: April 11, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Paul R. Lawrence, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Benefits, and Joseph L. Falvey, Jr., of Michigan, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, 2:30 p.m., SR–418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: April 10, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

April 12, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH–219.

House Committees

Committee on Appropriations, April 11, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled “Rail Safety and Infrastructure—Stakeholder Perspectives”, 9:30 a.m., 2358–A Rayburn.

April 11, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the National Institutes of Health, 10 a.m., 2358–C Rayburn.

April 11, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, budget hearing on the Internal Revenue Service, 10 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

April 11, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of the Interior, 10 a.m., 2007 Rayburn.

April 11, Subcommittee on Defense, budget hearing on the U.S. Strategic Command, 10 a.m., H–140 Capitol. This hearing will be closed.

April 11, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 10:30 a.m., H–309 Capitol.

April 11, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, budget hearing on the Department of the Treasury International Programs, 10:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.


April 11, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, budget hearing on the U.S. Capitol Police, 2 p.m., HT–2 Capitol.

April 12, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Smithsonian Institution, 9:30 a.m., 2007 Rayburn.

April 12, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, budget hearing entitled “Investments in our Health Workforce and Rural Communities”, 10 a.m., 2358–C Rayburn.

April 12, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 10 a.m., H–309 Capitol.

April 12, Subcommittee on Defense, budget hearing on the U.S. National Guard and Reserve, 10 a.m., H–140 Capitol.

April 12, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, budget hearing on the Government Publishing Office, 10 a.m., HT–2 Capitol.

April 12, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on Energy, Installations, and Environment, 10 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

April 12, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, budget hearing on the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

April 12, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, budget hearing on the Architect of the Capitol, 2 p.m., HT–2 Capitol.

April 12, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Transportation, 2 p.m., 2358–A Rayburn.


April 11, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Member Day”, 1:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.


April 12, Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces, hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Request for Combat Aviation Programs”, 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

April 12, Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, hearing entitled “355 Ship Navy: Delivering the Right Capabilities”, 3:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget. April 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Congressional Budget Office’s Budget and Economic Outlook”, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Energy and Commerce. April 11, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Facebook: Transparency and Use of Consumer Data”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

April 11, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Update on the Restoration of Puerto Rico’s Electric Infrastructure”, 2 p.m., 2322 Rayburn.

April 11, Subcommittee on Health, begin hearing entitled “Combating the Opioid Crisis: Improving the Ability of Medicare and Medicaid to Provide Care for Patients”, 2:15 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

April 12, Subcommittee on Health, continue hearing entitled “Combating the Opioid Crisis: Improving the Ability of Medicare and Medicaid to Provide Care for Patients”, Time to be announced, 2322 Rayburn.

April 12, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled “The Fiscal Year 2019 Department of Energy Budget”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

April 13, Subcommittee on Environment, hearing entitled “High Octane Fuels and High Efficiency Vehicles: Challenges and Opportunities”, 9 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.


April 12, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Oversight of the Federal Housing Finance Agency”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

April 12, Subcommittee on Monetary Policy and Trade Subcommittee, hearing on H.R. 4311, the “Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act of 2017”, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs. April 11, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Financing Overseas Development: The Administration’s Proposal”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

April 11, Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, hearing entitled “North Korea’s Diplomatic Gamble: Will History Repeat Itself?”, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.


April 12, Subcommittee on Transportation and Protective Security, hearing entitled “Examining the President’s FY 2019 Budget Request for the Transportation Security Administration”, 2 p.m., HVC–210.

Committee on House Administration. April 12, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4631, the “Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports Act”; and H.R. 5305, the “FDLP Modernization Act of 2018”, 11 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

April 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Examining the Role of Shared Employees in the House”, 11 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary. April 11, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 5283, to make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions classified to title 7, title 20, and title 43, United States Code; H.R. 5293, to make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions that were formerly classified to title 50, Appendix, United States Code; H.R. 5335, to make technical amendments to update statutory references to provisions reclassified to title 34, United States Code; H.R. 5344, to make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions which were formerly classified to chapters 14 and 19 of title 25, United States Code; legislation to make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions classified to the United States Code; and legislation on the Music Modernization Act, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

April 12, Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law, hearing on legislation on the Permitting Litigation Efficiency Act of 2018; and H.R. 4423, the “North Texas Water Supply Security Act of 2017”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources. April 11, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 3144, to provide for operations of the Federal Columbia River Power System pursuant to a certain operation plan for a specified period of time, and for other purposes; H.R. 3392, the “Lake Bistineau Land Title Stability Act”; H.R. 3997, the “Free Veterans from Fees Act”; H.R. 4257, the “Advancing Conservation and Education Act”; and H.R. 5005, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing the birthplace of James Weldon Johnson in Jacksonville, Florida, as a unit of the National Park System, 10:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

April 11, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing on H.R. 1037, to authorize the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes; H.R. 1791, the “Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Act”; H.R. 2991, the “Lake Bistineau Land Title Stability Act”; H.R. 3392, the “Free Veterans from Fees Act”; H.R. 4257, the “Advancing Conservation and Education Act”; and H.R. 5005, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing the birthplace of James Weldon Johnson in Jacksonville, Florida, as a unit of the National Park System, 10:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

April 12, Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans, hearing entitled “Examining the Proposed Fiscal Year 2019 Spending, Priorities and Missions of the Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Four Power Marketing Administrations”, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

April 12, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled “The Benefits of the Navajo Generation Station on Local Economies”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.
April 12, Subcommittee on Government Operations; and Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs, joint hearing entitled “Improper Payments in State-Administered Programs: Medicaid”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, April 11, Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits and Administrative Rules, hearing entitled “Local Responses and Resources to Curtail the Opioid Epidemic”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

April 12, Subcommittee on Government Operations; and Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs, joint hearing entitled “Improper Payments in State-Administered Programs: Medicaid”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.


Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, April 11, Subcommittee on Oversight; and Subcommittee on Research and Technology, joint hearing entitled “Scholars or Spies: Foreign Plots Targeting America’s Research and Development”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, April 11, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The State of Trade for America’s Small Businesses”, 11 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

April 12, Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight, and Regulations, hearing entitled “Community Support: Entrepreneurial Development and Beyond”, 11 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, April 11, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, markup on H.R. 4335, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for headstones and markers for, and interment in national cemeteries of, deceased spouses and dependent children of members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty, and for other purposes; H.R. 4910, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide outer burial receptacles for remains buried in National Parks, and for other purposes; and H.R. 4958, to increase, effective as of December 1, 2018, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes, 10:30 a.m., 334 Cannon.

April 11, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, markup on H.R. 1206, to amend title 38, United States Code, to include the cost of applying to an institution of higher learning as part of the benefits provided under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program; H.R. 3023, to amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to pay reporting fees to educational institutions; H.R. 3940, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for housing stipends and supply fee payments under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program for individuals affected by extended school closures due to natural disasters; H.R. 4451, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a five-year extension to the homeless veterans reintegration programs and to provide clarification regarding eligibility for services under such programs; H.R. 4830, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the disapproval of any course of education for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs unless the educational institution providing the course permits individuals to attend or participate in courses pending payment by Department, and for other purposes; H.R. 4835, to extend the pilot program on off-base transition training for veterans and spouses; and H.R. 5044, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the treatment of certain surviving spouses under the contracting goals and preferences of the Department of Veterans Affairs, 2 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, April 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Hearing on the Effects of Tariff Increases on the U.S. Economy and Jobs”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

April 12, Subcommittee on Human Resources, hearing entitled “Jobs and Opportunity: Local Perspectives on the Jobs Gap”, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, April 12, Subcommittee on Department of Defense Intelligence and Overhead Architecture, hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Hearing”, 9 a.m., HVC–304. This hearing will be closed.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: April 11, to hold hearings to examine unleashing America’s economic potential, 2 p.m., SH–216.

Joint Hearing: April 10, Senate Committee on the Judiciary, to hold a joint hearing with the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation to examine Facebook, Social Media Privacy, and the use and abuse of data, 2:15 p.m., SH–216.
Résumé of Congressional Activity

SECOND SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House. The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY
January 3 through March 31, 2018

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<th>Senate</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>51</td>
<td>46</td>
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<td>Time in session</td>
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<td>Bills in conference</td>
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<td>Measures passed, total</td>
<td>115</td>
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<td>Senate bills</td>
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<td>House bills</td>
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<td>Senate joint resolutions</td>
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<td>Simple resolutions</td>
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<td>Measures reported, total</td>
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<td>House bills</td>
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<td>Senate joint resolutions</td>
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<td>House concurrent resolutions</td>
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<td>Special reports</td>
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<td>Conference reports</td>
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<td>Measures pending on calendar</td>
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<td>Measures introduced, total</td>
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<td>Bills</td>
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<td>Bills vetoed</td>
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<td>Vetoes overridden</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* These figures include all measures reported, even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 21 written reports have been filed in the Senate, 136 reports have been filed in the House.

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS
January 3 through March 31, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Senate</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civilian nominations, totaling 346 (including 146 nominations carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unconfirmed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawn</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Civilian nominations, totaling 719 (including 2 nominations carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unconfirmed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force nominations, totaling 1,362 (including 76 nominations carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unconfirmed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army nominations, totaling 2,857 (including 12 nominations carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2,744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unconfirmed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy nominations, totaling 140 (including 11 nominations carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unconfirmed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Corps nominations, totaling 1,312, disposed of as follows:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unconfirmed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summary

Total nominations carried over from the First Session 247
Total nominations received this Session 6,489
Total confirmed 5,653
Total unconfirmed 1,077
Total withdrawn 6
Next Meeting of the SENATE
10 a.m., Tuesday, April 10

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Claria Horn Boom, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation of the nomination at 12:10 p.m.

At 2:15 p.m., Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of John F. Ring, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
12 p.m., Tuesday, April 10

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE
Evans, Dwight, Pa., E405
Keating, William R., Mass., E405, E406
Paulsen, Erik, Minn., E405
Visclosky, Peter J., Ind., E405