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WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2016

No. 180

House of Representatives

The House met at 2:30 p.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,
December 13, 2016.

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 Dr. Dan C. Cummins, Skyline Wesleyan Church, San Diego, California, offered the following prayer:

Almighty Father, Creator of Heaven and Earth, and Governor of all Nations, we give praise to Your Name as we stand on this 159th anniversary of the opening of this beautiful Chamber that has witnessed this Nation's rich history. May God bless the House of Representatives with another century and a half of doing the people's bidding in maintaining family, faith, life, and freedom.

We pray that the wisdom of King Solomon be given its leadership for guidance to lead us in the paths of righteousness. And may they possess the ingenuity of King Uzziah to craft and create new means to prosperity for us all. Lastly, give them the fear of the Lord, for without it, no man shall possess Your wisdom.

We pray for peaceful transition of power, for racial reconciliation, for civility in governance, and peace and goodwill for all mankind.

In that Holy Christmas Child's name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 2(a) of House Resolution 944, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 12, 2016.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 12, 2016, at 3:12 p.m.:

That the Senate concurs in the House amendment to the bill S. 2971.

That the Senate concurs in the House amendment to the bill S. 2854.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 12, 2016.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 12, 2016, at 3:55 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 3084.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 12, 2016.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 12, 2016, at 5:44 p.m.:

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 40.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6282.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6138.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4680.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5612.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4465.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5948.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6323.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4352.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5099.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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



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H7579

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5790.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 875.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6304.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6477.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6452.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6130.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6450.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6451.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6431.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6400.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

FRANK R. WOLF INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ACT

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 1150) to amend the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to improve the ability of the United States to advance religious freedom globally through enhanced diplomacy, training, counterterrorism, and foreign assistance efforts, and through stronger and more flexible political responses to religious freedom violations and violent extremism worldwide, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and concur in the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Frank R. Wolf International Religious Freedom Act”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Findings; policy; sense of Congress.

Sec. 3. Definitions.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF STATE ACTIVITIES

Sec. 101. Office on International Religious Freedom; Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom.

Sec. 102. Annual Report on International Religious Freedom.

Sec. 103. Training for Foreign Service officers.

Sec. 104. Prisoner lists and issue briefs on religious freedom concerns.

TITLE II—NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
Sec. 201. Special Adviser for International Religious Freedom.

TITLE III—PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

Sec. 301. Non-state actor designations.

Sec. 302. Presidential actions in response to particularly severe violations of religious freedom.

Sec. 303. Report to Congress.

Sec. 304. Presidential waiver.

Sec. 305. Publication in the Federal Register.

TITLE IV—PROMOTION OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Sec. 401. Assistance for promoting religious freedom.

TITLE V—DESIGNATED PERSONS LIST FOR PARTICULARLY SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Sec. 501. Designated Persons List for Particularly Severe Violations of Religious Freedom.

TITLE VI—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 601. Miscellaneous provisions.

Sec. 602. Clerical amendments.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; POLICY; SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—Section 2(a) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6401(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by inserting “The freedom of thought, conscience, and religion is understood to protect theistic and non-theistic beliefs and the right not to profess or practice any religion.” before “Governments”; and

(2) in paragraph (4), by adding at the end the following: “A policy or practice of routinely denying applications for visas for religious workers in a country can be indicative of a poor state of religious freedom in that country.”; and

(3) in paragraph (6)—

(A) by inserting “and the specific targeting of non-theists, humanists, and atheists because of their beliefs” after “religious persecution”; and

(B) by inserting “and in regions where non-state actors exercise significant political power and territorial control” before the period at the end.

(b) **POLICY.**—Section 2(b) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6401(b)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (5) as subparagraphs (A) through (E);

(2) by striking the matter preceding subparagraph (A), as redesignated, and inserting the following:

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The following shall be the policy of the United States:”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) **EVOLVING POLICIES AND COORDINATED DIPLOMATIC RESPONSES.**—Because the promotion of international religious freedom protects human rights, advances democracy abroad, and advances United States interests in stability, security, and development globally, the promotion of international religious freedom requires new and evolving policies and diplomatic responses that—

“(A) are drawn from the expertise of the national security agencies, the diplomatic services, and other governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations; and

“(B) are coordinated across and carried out by the entire range of Federal agencies.”.

(c) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) a policy or practice by the government of any foreign country of routinely denying visa applications for religious workers can be indicative of a poor state of religious freedom in that country; and

(2) the United States Government should seek to reverse any such policy by reviewing the entirety of the bilateral relationship between such country and the United States.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

Section 3 of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6402) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (13) as paragraph (16);

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (10), (11), and (12) as paragraphs (12), (13), and (14), respectively;

(3) by inserting after paragraph (9) the following:

“(10) **INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**—The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the meaning given that term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

“(11) **NON-STATE ACTOR.**—The term ‘non-state actor’ means a nonsovereign entity that—

“(A) exercises significant political power and territorial control;

“(B) is outside the control of a sovereign government; and

“(C) often employs violence in pursuit of its objectives.”;

(4) by inserting after paragraph (14), as redesignated, the following:

“(15) **SPECIAL WATCH LIST.**—The term ‘Special Watch List’ means the Special Watch List described in section 402(b)(1)(A)(iii).”; and

(5) in paragraph (16), as redesignated—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by redesignating clauses (iv) and (v) as clauses (v) and (vi), respectively; and

(ii) by inserting after clause (iii) the following:

“(iv) not professing a particular religion, or any religion;”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by inserting “conscience, non-theistic views, or” before “religious belief or practice”; and

(ii) by inserting “forcibly compelling non-believers or non-theists to recant their beliefs or to convert,” after “forced religious conversion.”.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF STATE ACTIVITIES

SEC. 101. OFFICE ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM; AMBASSADOR AT LARGE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 101 of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6411) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by inserting “, and shall report directly to the Secretary of State” before the period at the end;

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “responsibility” and inserting “responsibilities”; and

(ii) by striking “shall be to advance” and inserting the following: “shall be to—

“(A) advance”; and

(iii) in subparagraph (A), as redesignated, by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) integrate United States international religious freedom policies and strategies into the foreign policy efforts of the United States.”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “the principal adviser to” before “the Secretary of State”; and

(C) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” at the end;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) contacts with nongovernmental organizations that have an impact on the state of religious freedom in their respective societies or regions, or internationally.”;

(D) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5); and

(E) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

“(4) **COORDINATION RESPONSIBILITIES.**—In order to promote religious freedom as an interest of United States foreign policy, the Ambassador at Large—

“(A) shall coordinate international religious freedom policies across all programs, projects, and activities of the United States; and

“(B) should participate in any interagency processes on issues in which the promotion of international religious freedom policy can advance United States national security interests, including in democracy promotion, stability, security, and development globally.”;

(3) in subsection (d), by striking “staff for the Office” and all that follows and inserting “appropriate staff for the Office, including full-time equivalent positions and other temporary staff

positions needed to compile, edit, and manage the Annual Report under the direct supervision of the Ambassador at Large, and for the conduct of investigations by the Office and for necessary travel to carry out this Act. The Secretary of State should provide the Ambassador at Large with sufficient funding to carry out the duties described in this section, including, as necessary, representation funds. On the date on which the President's annual budget request is submitted to Congress, the Secretary shall submit an annual report to the appropriate congressional committees that includes a report on staffing levels for the International Religious Freedom Office."

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that maintaining an adequate staffing level at the Office, such as was in place during fiscal year 2016, is necessary for the Office to carry out its important work.

SEC. 102. ANNUAL REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 102(b)(1) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6412(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking "September 1" and inserting "May 1";

(2) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) in clause (iii), by striking "and" and inserting "as well as the routine denial of visa applications for religious workers;"

(B) by redesignating clause (iv) as clause (vii); and

(C) by inserting after clause (iii) the following:

"(iv) particularly severe violations of religious freedom in that country if such country does not have a functioning government or the government of such country does not control its territory;

"(v) the identification of prisoners, to the extent possible, in that country pursuant to section 108(d);

"(vi) any action taken by the government of that country to censor religious content, communications, or worship activities online, including descriptions of the targeted religious group, the content, communication, or activities censored, and the means used; and";

(3) in subparagraph (B), in the matter preceding clause (i)—

(A) by inserting "persecution of lawyers, politicians, or other human rights advocates seeking to defend the rights of members of religious groups or highlight religious freedom violations, prohibitions on ritual animal slaughter or male infant circumcision," after "entire religions,"; and

(B) by inserting "policies that ban or restrict the public manifestation of religious belief and the peaceful involvement of religious groups or their members in the political life of each such foreign country," after "such groups,";

(4) in subparagraph (C), by striking "A description of United States actions and" and inserting "A detailed description of United States actions, diplomatic and political coordination efforts, and other"; and

(5) in subparagraph (F)(i)—

(A) by striking "section 402(b)(1)" and inserting "section 402(b)(1)(A)(ii)"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following: "Any country in which a non-state actor designated as an entity of particular concern for religious freedom under section 301 of the Frank R. Wolf International Religious Freedom Act is located shall be included in this section of the report."

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the original intent of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) was to require annual reports from both the Department of State and the Commission on International Religious Freedom to be delivered each year, during the same calendar year, and with at least 5 months separating these reports, in order to provide updated information for pol-

icymakers, Members of Congress, and non-governmental organizations; and

(2) given that the annual Country Reports on Human Rights Practices no longer contain updated information on religious freedom conditions globally, it is important that the Department of State coordinate with the Commission to fulfill the original intent of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998.

SEC. 103. TRAINING FOR FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO FOREIGN SERVICE ACT OF 1980.—Section 708 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4028) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) as subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C), respectively;

(B) by striking "(a) The Secretary of State" and inserting the following:

"(a) HUMAN RIGHTS, RELIGIOUS FREEDOM, AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRAINING.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) RELIGIOUS FREEDOM TRAINING.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the training required under paragraph (1)(B), the Director of the George P. Shultz National Foreign Affairs Training Center shall, not later than the one year after the date of the enactment of the Frank R. Wolf International Religious Freedom Act, conduct training on religious freedom for all Foreign Service officers, including all entry level officers, all officers prior to departure for posting outside the United States, and all outgoing deputy chiefs of mission and ambassadors. Such training shall be included in—

"(i) the A-100 course attended by all Foreign Service officers;

"(ii) the courses required of every Foreign Service officer prior to a posting outside the United States, with segments tailored to the particular religious demography, religious freedom conditions, and United States strategies for advancing religious freedom, in each receiving country; and

"(iii) the courses required of all outgoing deputy chiefs of mission and ambassadors.

"(B) DEVELOPMENT OF CURRICULUM.—In carrying out the training required under paragraph (1)(B), the Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom, in coordination with the Director of the George P. Shultz National Foreign Affairs Training Center and other Federal officials, as appropriate, and in consultation with the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom established under section 201(a) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6431(a)), shall make recommendations to the Secretary of State regarding a curriculum for the training of United States Foreign Service officers under paragraph (1)(B) on the scope and strategic value of international religious freedom, how violations of international religious freedom harm fundamental United States interests, how the advancement of international religious freedom can advance such interests, how United States international religious freedom policy should be carried out in practice by United States diplomats and other Foreign Service officers, and the relevance and relationship of international religious freedom to United States defense, diplomacy, development, and public affairs efforts. The Secretary of State should ensure the availability of sufficient resources to develop and implement such curriculum.

"(C) INFORMATION SHARING.—The curriculum and training materials developed under this paragraph shall be shared with the United States Armed Forces and other Federal departments and agencies with personnel who are stationed overseas, as appropriate, to provide training on—

"(i) United States religious freedom policies;

"(ii) religious traditions;

"(iii) religious engagement strategies;

"(iv) religious and cultural issues; and

"(v) efforts to counter violent religious extremism.";

(2) in subsection (b), by striking "The Secretary of State" and inserting "REFUGEES.—The Secretary of State"; and

(3) in subsection (c), by striking "The Secretary of State" and inserting "CHILD SOLDIERS.—The Secretary of State".

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, with the assistance of the Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom, and the Director of the Foreign Service Institute, located at the George P. Shultz National Foreign Affairs Training Center, shall submit a report to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate that contains a plan for undertaking training for Foreign Service officers under section 708 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980, as amended by subsection (a).

SEC. 104. PRISONER LISTS AND ISSUE BRIEFS ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM CONCERNS.

Section 108 of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6417) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking "faith," and inserting "activities, religious freedom advocacy, or efforts to protect and advance the universally recognized right to the freedom of religion,";

(2) in subsection (c), by striking "as appropriate, provide" and insert "make available"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(d) VICTIMS LIST MAINTAINED BY THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall make publicly available, to the extent practicable, online and in official publications, lists of persons it determines are imprisoned or detained, have disappeared, been placed under house arrest, been tortured, or subjected to forced renunciations of faith for their religious activity or religious freedom advocacy by the government of a foreign country that the Commission recommends for designation as a country of particular concern for religious freedom under section 402(b)(1)(A)(ii) or by a non-state actor that the Commission recommends for designation as an entity of particular concern for religious freedom under section 301 of the Frank R. Wolf International Religious Freedom Act and include as much publicly available information as practicable on the conditions and circumstances of such persons.

"(2) DISCRETION.—In compiling lists under paragraph (1), the Commission shall exercise all appropriate discretion, including consideration of the safety and security of, and benefit to, the persons who may be included on the lists and the families of such persons."

TITLE II—NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SEC. 201. SPECIAL ADVISER FOR INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

The position described in section 101(k) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3021(k)) should assist the Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom to coordinate international religious freedom policies and strategies throughout the executive branch and within any interagency policy committee of which the Ambassador at Large is a member.

TITLE III—PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

SEC. 301. NON-STATE ACTOR DESIGNATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President, concurrent with the annual foreign country review required under section 402(b)(1)(A) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6442(b)(1)(A)), shall—

(1) review and identify any non-state actors operating in any such reviewed country or surrounding region that have engaged in particularly severe violations of religious freedom; and

(2) designate, in a manner consistent with such Act, each such non-state actor as an entity of particular concern for religious freedom.

(b) **REPORT.**—Whenever the President designates a non-state actor under subsection (a) as an entity of particular concern for religious freedom, the President, as soon as practicable after the designation is made, shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees that describes the reasons for such designation.

(c) **ACTIONS.**—The President should take specific actions, when practicable, to address severe violations of religious freedom of non-state actors that are designated under subsection (a)(2).

(d) **DEPARTMENT OF STATE ANNUAL REPORT.**—The Secretary of State should include information detailing the reasons the President designated a non-state actor as an entity of particular concern for religious freedom under subsection (a) in the Annual Report required under section 102(b)(1) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6412(b)(1)).

(e) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Secretary of State should work with Congress and the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom—

(A) to create new political, financial, and diplomatic tools to address severe violations of religious freedom by non-state actors; and

(B) to update the actions the President can take under section 405 of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6445);

(2) governments must ultimately be held accountable for the abuses that occur in their territories; and

(3) any actions the President takes after designating a non-state actor as an entity of particular concern should also involve high-level diplomacy with the government of the country in which the non-state actor is operating.

(f) **DETERMINATIONS OF RESPONSIBLE PARTIES.**—In order to appropriately target Presidential actions under the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.), the President, with respect to each non-state actor designated as an entity of particular concern for religious freedom under subsection (a), shall seek to determine, to the extent practicable, the specific officials or members that are responsible for the particularly severe violations of religious freedom engaged in or tolerated by such non-state actor.

(g) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section, the terms “appropriate congressional committees”, “non-state actor”, and “particularly severe violations of religious freedom” have the meanings given such terms in section 3 of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6402), as amended by section 3 of this Act.

SEC. 302. PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO PARTICULARLY SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

Section 402 of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6442) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by amending subparagraph (A) to read as follows:

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the date on which each Annual Report is submitted under section 102(b), the President shall—

“(i) review the status of religious freedom in each foreign country to determine whether the government of that country has engaged in or tolerated particularly severe violations of religious freedom in each such country during the preceding 12 months or longer;

“(ii) designate each country the government of which has engaged in or tolerated violations described in clause (i) as a country of particular concern for religious freedom; and

“(iii) designate each country that engaged in or tolerated severe violations of religious freedom during the previous year, but does not meet, in the opinion of the President at the time

of publication of the Annual Report, all of the criteria described in section 3(15) for designation under clause (ii) as being placed on a ‘Special Watch List’.”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking “prior to September 1 of the respective year” and inserting “before the date on which each Annual Report is submitted under section 102(b)”;

(B) by amending paragraph (3) to read as follows:

“(3) **CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Whenever the President designates a country as a country of particular concern for religious freedom under paragraph (1)(A)(ii), the President, not later than 90 days after such designation, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees—

“(i) the designation of the country, signed by the President;

“(ii) the identification, if any, of responsible parties determined under paragraph (2); and

“(iii) a description of the actions taken under subsection (c), the purposes of the actions taken, and the effectiveness of the actions taken.

“(B) **REMOVAL OF DESIGNATION.**—A country that is designated as a country of particular concern for religious freedom under paragraph (1)(A)(ii) shall retain such designation until the President determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that the country should no longer be so designated.”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) **EFFECT ON DESIGNATION AS COUNTRY OF PARTICULAR CONCERN.**—The presence or absence of a country from the Special Watch List in any given year shall not preclude the designation of such country as a country of particular concern for religious freedom under paragraph (1)(A)(ii) in any such year.”; and

(2) in subsection (c)(5), by striking “the President must designate the specific sanction or sanctions which he determines satisfy the requirements of this subsection.” and inserting “the President shall designate the specific sanction or sanctions that the President determines satisfy the requirements under this subsection and include a description of the impact of such sanction or sanctions on each country.”.

SEC. 303. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

Section 404(a)(4)(A) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6444(a)(4)(A)) is amended—

(1) in clause (ii), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in clause (iii), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(iv) the impact on the advancement of United States interests in democracy, human rights, and security, and a description of policy tools being applied in the country, including programs that target democratic stability, economic growth, and counterterrorism.”.

SEC. 304. PRESIDENTIAL WAIVER.

Section 407 of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6447) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “subsection (b)” and inserting “subsection (c)”;

(B) by inserting “, for a single, 180-day period,” after “may waive”;

(C) by striking paragraph (1); and

(D) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively;

(2) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c);

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

“(b) **ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY.**—Subject to subsection (c), the President may waive, for any additional specified period of time after the 180-day period described in subsection (a), the application of any of the actions described in paragraphs (9) through (15) of section 405(a) (or a commensurate substitute action) with respect to a country, if the President determines and re-

ports to the appropriate congressional committees that—

“(1) the respective foreign government has ceased the violations giving rise to the Presidential action; or

“(2) the important national interest of the United States requires the exercise of such waiver authority.”;

(4) in subsection (c), as redesignated, by inserting “or (b)” after “subsection (a)”;

(5) by adding at the end the following:

“(d) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that—

“(1) ongoing and persistent waivers of the application of any of the actions described in paragraphs (9) through (15) of section 405(a) (or commensurate substitute action) with respect to a country do not fulfill the purposes of this Act; and

“(2) because the promotion of religious freedom is an important interest of United States foreign policy, the President, the Secretary of State, and other executive branch officials, in consultation with Congress, should seek to find ways to address existing violations, on a case-by-case basis, through the actions described in section 405 or other commensurate substitute action.”.

SEC. 305. PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER.

Section 408(a)(1) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6448(a)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following: “Any designation of a non-state actor as an entity of particular concern for religious freedom under section 301 of the Frank R. Wolf International Religious Freedom Act and, if applicable and to the extent practicable, the identities of individuals determined to be responsible for violations described in subsection (f) of such section.”.

TITLE IV—PROMOTION OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

SEC. 401. ASSISTANCE FOR PROMOTING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

(a) **AVAILABILITY OF ASSISTANCE.**—It is the sense of Congress that for each fiscal year that begins on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President should request sufficient appropriations from Congress to support—

(1) the vigorous promotion of international religious freedom and for projects to advance United States interests in the protection and advancement of international religious freedom, in particular, through grants to groups that—

(A) are capable of developing legal protections or promoting cultural and societal understanding of international norms of religious freedom;

(B) seek to address and mitigate religiously motivated and sectarian violence and combat violent extremism; or

(C) seek to strengthen investigations, reporting, and monitoring of religious freedom violations, including genocide perpetrated against religious minorities; and

(2) the establishment of an effective Religious Freedom Defense Fund, to be administered by the Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom, to provide grants for—

(A) victims of religious freedom abuses and their families to cover legal and other expenses that may arise from detention, imprisonment, torture, fines, and other restrictions; and

(B) projects to help create and support training of a new generation of defenders of religious freedom, including legal and political advocates, and civil society projects which seek to create advocacy networks, strengthen legal representation, train and educate new religious freedom defenders, and build the capacity of religious communities and rights defenders to protect against religious freedom violations, mitigate societal or sectarian violence, or minimize legal or other restrictions of the right to freedom of religion.

(b) **PREFERENCE.**—It is the sense of Congress that, in providing grants under subsection (a),

the Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom should, as appropriate, give preference to projects targeting religious freedom violations in countries—

(1) designated as countries of particular concern for religious freedom under section 402(b)(1) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6442(b)(1)); or

(2) included on the Special Watch List described in section 402(b)(1)(A)(iii) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998, as added by section 302(1)(A)(i) of this Act.

(c) ADMINISTRATION AND CONSULTATIONS.—

(1) ADMINISTRATION.—Amounts made available under subsection (a) shall be administered by the Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom.

(2) CONSULTATIONS.—In developing priorities and policies for providing grants authorized under subsection (a), including programming and policy, the Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom should consult with other Federal agencies, including the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom and, as appropriate, nongovernmental organizations.

TITLE V—DESIGNATED PERSONS LIST FOR PARTICULARLY SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

SEC. 501. DESIGNATED PERSONS LIST FOR PARTICULARLY SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

Title VI of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6471 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 605 as section 606; and

(2) by inserting after section 604 the following:

“SEC. 605. DESIGNATED PERSONS LIST FOR PARTICULARLY SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

“(a) LIST.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Ambassador at Large and in consultation with relevant government and nongovernment experts, shall establish and maintain a list of foreign individuals to whom a consular post has denied a visa on the grounds of particularly severe violations of religious freedom under section 212(a)(2)(G) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(2)(G)), or who are subject to financial sanctions or other measures for particularly severe violations of religious freedom.

“(2) REFERENCE.—The list required under paragraph (1) shall be known as the ‘Designated Persons List for Particularly Severe Violations of Religious Freedom’.

“(b) REPORT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees that contains the list required under subsection (a), including, with respect to each foreign individual on the list—

“(A) the name of the individual and a description of the particularly severe violation of religious freedom committed by the individual;

“(B) the name of the country or other location in which such violation took place; and

“(C) a description of the actions taken pursuant to this Act or any other Act or Executive order in response to such violation.

“(2) SUBMISSION AND UPDATES.—The Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees—

“(A) the initial report required under paragraph (1) not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Frank R. Wolf International Religious Freedom Act; and

“(B) updates to the report every 180 days thereafter and as new information becomes available.

“(3) FORM.—The report required under paragraph (1) should be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

“(4) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term ‘appropriate congressional committees’ means—

“(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

“(B) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

“(C) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate;

“(D) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

“(E) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

“(F) the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives.”.

TITLE VI—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 601. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

Title VII of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6481 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 702. VOLUNTARY CODES OF CONDUCT FOR UNITED STATES INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES.

“(a) FINDING.—Congress recognizes the enduring importance of United States institutions of higher education worldwide—

“(1) for their potential for shaping positive leadership and new educational models in host countries; and

“(2) for their emphasis on teaching universally recognized rights of free inquiry and academic freedom.

“(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that United States institutions of higher education operating campuses outside the United States or establishing any educational entities with foreign governments, particularly with or in countries the governments of which engage in or tolerate severe violations of religious freedom as identified in the Annual Report, should seek to adopt a voluntary code of conduct for operating in such countries that should—

“(1) uphold the right of freedom of religion of their employees and students, including the right to manifest that religion peacefully as protected in international law;

“(2) ensure that the religious views and peaceful practice of religion in no way affect, or be allowed to affect, the status of a worker's or faculty member's employment or a student's enrollment; and

“(3) make every effort in all negotiations, contracts, or memoranda of understanding engaged in or constructed with a foreign government to protect academic freedom and the rights enshrined in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights.

“SEC. 703. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY TO PROMOTE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM THROUGH UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY.

“It is the sense of Congress that the annual national security strategy report of the President required under section 108 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3043)—

“(1) should promote international religious freedom as a foreign policy and national security priority; and

“(2) should articulate that promotion of the right to freedom of religion is a strategy that—

“(A) protects other, related human rights, and advances democracy outside the United States; and

“(B) makes clear its importance to United States foreign policy goals of stability, security, development, and diplomacy;

“(3) should be a guide for the strategies and activities of relevant Federal agencies; and

“(4) should inform the Department of Defense quadrennial defense review under section 118 of title 10, United States Code, and the Department of State Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review.”.

SEC. 602. CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.

The table of contents of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6401 note) is amended—

(1) by striking the item relating to section 605 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 606. Studies on the effect of expedited removal provisions on asylum claims.”;

(2) by inserting after the item relating to section 604 the following:

“Sec. 605. Designated Persons List for Particularly Severe Violations of Religious Freedom.”;

and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“Sec. 702. Voluntary codes of conduct for United States institutions of higher education operating outside the United States.

“Sec. 703. Sense of Congress regarding national security strategy to promote religious freedom through United States foreign policy.”.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading of the amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, eighteen years ago, Congress had the foresight to pass the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998. That landmark bill made advancing the right to religious freedom a U.S. foreign policy priority.

The International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 needed to be upgraded to meet some of the new challenges of the 21st century. This bill, the Frank Wolf International Religious Freedom Act of 2016, accomplishes that goal by integrating international religious freedom into U.S. foreign policy; improving the ability of the U.S. government to advance religious freedom globally through enhanced diplomacy, training, counterterrorism, and foreign assistance efforts; and giving the Secretary of State stronger and more flexible political responses to growing religious freedom violations.

Religion is an even more relevant foreign policy issue today than it was eighteen years ago. From China and Vietnam to Syria and Nigeria, we are witnessing a tragic, global crisis in religious persecution, violence and terrorism, with dire consequences for religious minorities and for U.S. national security.

The biggest threats to our nation often come from those most violently opposed to religious freedom. Thus, the promotion of religious liberty is not an isolated human rights concern, but a fundamental component of our national security.

The global religious freedom crisis we are experiencing today has created millions of victims and undermines liberty, prosperity and peace in places vital to U.S. national interests—posing direct challenge to the U.S. interests in the Middle East, Russia, China and sub-Saharan Africa.

Ancient Christian communities in Iraq and Syria are on the verge of extinction and other religious minorities in the Middle East face a constant assault from the so-called Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS). ISIS is committing genocide, mass atrocities, and war crimes to advance its cause—they must be stopped and those facing genocide must be giving the assistance.

A robust religious freedom diplomacy is necessary to advance U.S. interests in stability, security, and economic development. Research has shown that where there is more

religious freedom, there is more economic freedom, more women's empowerment, more political stability, more freedom of speech, and less terrorism.

More than ever before, vigorous U.S. leadership and diplomacy are needed to address religious freedom violations globally. It is clear that our national security will depend on the protection and advancement of this fundamental freedom.

The Frank Wolf International Religious Freedom Act will upgrade the tools and used by the Administration to improve U.S. religious freedom diplomacy efforts globally; better trained and equipped diplomats to counter extremism; address anti-Semitism and religious persecution, and mitigate sectarian conflict.

The bill does this by:

Requiring that the Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom report directly to the Secretary of State.

Elevating the position of the Ambassador within the Federal Government: Gives the Ambassador responsibilities to coordinate religious freedom policy throughout the government; develop training curriculum for all Foreign Service officers; and administer grants to promote religious freedom policy globally.

Requiring training in international religious freedom for all Foreign Service Officers: Requires development of curriculum and training for all incoming Foreign Service Officers and for Deputy Chiefs of Mission and Ambassadors going out to new posts. The curriculum used by the State Department will be made available to the U.S. Military and other relevant government agencies.

Creating an "Entity of Particular Concern" Designation for Non-State Actors: Gives the Secretary of State authority to designate as "entities of particular concern" in recognition of the fact that in the 21st century some of the most egregious religious freedom violations are committed by non-state actors.

Requiring more frequent Presidential actions to counter severe religious freedom violations globally: Requires annual Country of Particular Concern (CPC) designations. Limits the number of sanctions waivers (except in cases of the national interest) and requires more frequent reporting on countries where sanction waivers are used.

Creating a comprehensive Religious Prisoner's List: Lists of religious prisoners would be made available upon request from Members of Congress.

Increasing congressional oversight of State Department actions against individual religious freedom violators through the creation of a "Designated Persons List." The list will include individuals who have been denied a visa or sanctioned because of their involvement in severe violations of religious freedom. Congress will receive frequent and regular updates on the list.

Requiring the State Department to create a "Special Watch List" of countries that tolerate severe violations of religious freedom but which may fail to meet the CPC threshold.

Sets Congressional Expectations for Staffing of the IRF Office and Expansion of Religious Freedom Program Grants: Requires "appropriate staff" for the IRF office and seeks office staffing at FY 16 levels. Urges the State Department to request "sufficient funding for vigorous promotion" of international religious freedom policy.

The bill is named after former Congressman Frank Wolf, a tireless champion for the rights

of the poor and the persecuted globally. 18 years ago, he had the foresight to make advancing the right to religious freedom a high U.S. foreign policy priority. It is largely because of his efforts that religious freedom is taken seriously as a foreign policy issue. I had the distinct honor and pleasure of working with him for over thirty years. This bill is a fitting tribute to his work and service to our great nation.

I want to thank Rep. ANNA ESHOO for her partnership on this legislation and her advocacy on behalf of religious minorities in the Middle East and the cause of all those oppressed for the beliefs they hold.

I also want to thank Senator MARCO RUBIO for his commitment to the cause of human rights and international religious freedom and for his assistance in getting this bill passed in the Senate.

As with many pieces of bipartisan legislation, this bill would not have gotten this far without the assistance of many individuals and groups invested in its passage. I want to thank Senators BOB CORKER, and BEN CARDIN, for assisting with the bill's amendment and passage on the Senate side. Congressman ED ROYCE and ELIOT ENGEL and their staff for helping to move this bill on a bipartisan basis through the House. Also, I want to recognize the contribution David Saperstein, the Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, who's worked to strengthen the bill and assure its passage. Finally, I want to recognize and thank the many staff members, in the House and Senate, who have worked hard for this bill's passage over the past two years including, Scott Flipse, Elyse Anderson, Mary Noonan, Hannah Murphy, Caleb McCarry, Jaime Fly, Doug Anderson, Piero Tozzi, Sajit Gandhi, and Janice Kaguyutan.

International religious freedom is not a partisan or party issue. The freedom to practice a religion without persecution is a precious right for everyone, of whatever race, sex, status, or location on earth. This human right is enshrined in our own founding documents, in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and is a bedrock principle of open and democratic societies for centuries.

We Americans understand the importance of religious liberty. It is the First Freedom on which our nation was founded. We should be united in defending it, standing up for those who suffer grievously for its absence, and for the noble and essential cause of protecting our own country. I urge passage of this bill without objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to submit statements or extraneous materials for the RECORD on the Senate amendment to H.R. 1150.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

UNITED STATES-CARIBBEAN STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT ACT OF 2016

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 4939) to increase engagement with the governments of the Caribbean region, the Caribbean diaspora community in the United States, and the private sector and civil society in both the United States and the Caribbean, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and concur in the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "United States-Caribbean Strategic Engagement Act of 2016".

SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

Congress declares that it is the policy of the United States to increase engagement with the governments of the Caribbean region and with civil society, including the private sector, in both the United States and the Caribbean, in a concerted effort to—

- (1) enhance diplomatic relations between the United States and the Caribbean region;*
- (2) increase economic cooperation between the United States and the Caribbean region;*
- (3) support regional economic, political, and security integration efforts in the Caribbean region;*
- (4) encourage enduring economic development and increased regional economic diversification and global competitiveness;*
- (5) reduce levels of crime and violence, curb the trafficking of illicit drugs, strengthen the rule of law, and improve citizen security;*
- (6) improve energy security by increasing access to diverse, reliable, and affordable power;*
- (7) advance cooperation on democracy and human rights at multilateral fora;*
- (8) continue support for public health advances and cooperation on health concerns and threats to the Caribbean region; and*
- (9) expand Internet access throughout the region, especially to countries lacking the appropriate infrastructure.*

SEC. 3. STRATEGY.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a multi-year strategy for United States engagement to support the efforts of interested nations in the Caribbean region that—

- (1) identifies Department of State and USAID priorities, in coordination with other executive branch agencies, for United States policy towards the Caribbean region;*
- (2) outlines an approach to partner with governments of the Caribbean region to improve citizen security, reduce the trafficking of illicit drugs, strengthen the rule of law, and improve the effectiveness and longevity of the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative;*
- (3) establishes a comprehensive, integrated, multi-year strategy to encourage efforts of the Caribbean region to implement regional and national strategies that improve energy security, by increasing access to all available sources of energy, including by taking advantage of the indigenous energy sources of the Caribbean and the ongoing energy revolution in the United States;*

(4) outlines an approach to improve diplomatic engagement with the governments of the Caribbean region, including with respect to human rights and democracy;

(5) Describes how the United States can develop an approach to supporting Caribbean countries in efforts they are willing to undertake with their own resources to diversify their economies;

(6) describes ways to ensure the active participation of citizens of the Caribbean in existing program and initiatives administered by the Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs; and

(7) reflects the input of other executive branch agencies, as appropriate.

SEC. 4. BRIEFINGS.

The Secretary of State shall offer to the appropriate congressional committees annual briefings that review Department of State efforts to implement the strategy for United States engagement with the Caribbean region in accordance with section 3.

SEC. 5. PROGRESS REPORT.

Not later than 2 years after the submission of the strategy required under section 3, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on progress made toward implementing the strategy.

SEC. 6. REPORTING COST OFFSET.

Section 601(c)(4) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4001(c)(4)) is amended by striking "the following:" and all that follows through "(B) A workforce plan" and inserting "a workforce plan".

SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term "appropriate congressional committees" means the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

(2) **CARIBBEAN REGION.**—The term "Caribbean region" means the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative beneficiary countries.

(3) **SECURITY ASSISTANCE.**—The term "security assistance" has the meaning given such term in section 502B(d)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2304(d)(2)).

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading of the amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY NUCLEAR ENERGY ACT

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (S. 8) to provide for the approval of the Agreement for Cooperation Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 8

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY CONCERNING PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding the provisions for congressional consideration of a proposed agreement for cooperation in subsection d. of section 123 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2153), the Agreement for Cooperation Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, done at Washington June 11, 2016, may be brought into effect on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, as if all the requirements in such section for consideration of such agreement had been satisfied, subject to subsection (b).

(b) **APPLICABILITY OF ATOMIC ENERGY ACT OF 1954 AND OTHER PROVISIONS OF LAW.**—Upon entering into effect, the agreement referred to in subsection (a) shall be subject to the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) and any other applicable United States law as if such agreement had come into effect in accordance with the requirements of section 123 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2153).

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ESSENTIAL TRANSPORTATION WORKER IDENTIFICATION CREDENTIAL ASSESSMENT ACT

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 710) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to prepare a comprehensive security assessment of the transportation security card program, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and concur in the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. TRANSPORTATION WORKER IDENTIFICATION CREDENTIAL SECURITY CARD PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS AND ASSESSMENT.

(a) **CREDENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall commence actions, consistent with section 70105 of title 46, United States Code, to improve the Transportation Security Administration's process for vetting individuals with access to secure areas of vessels and maritime facilities.

(2) **REQUIRED ACTIONS.**—The actions described under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) conducting a comprehensive risk analysis of security threat assessment procedures, including—

(i) identifying those procedures that need additional internal controls; and

(ii) identifying best practices for quality assurance at every stage of the security threat assessment;

(B) implementing the additional internal controls and best practices identified under subparagraph (A);

(C) improving fraud detection techniques, such as—

(i) by establishing benchmarks and a process for electronic document validation;

(ii) by requiring annual training for Trusted Agents; and

(iii) by reviewing any security threat assessment-related information provided by Trusted Agents and incorporating any new threat information into updated guidance under subparagraph (D);

(D) updating the guidance provided to Trusted Agents regarding the vetting process and related regulations;

(E) finalizing a manual for Trusted Agents and adjudicators on the vetting process; and

(F) establishing quality controls to ensure consistent procedures to review adjudication decisions and terrorism vetting decisions.

(3) **REPORT.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security shall submit a report to Congress that evaluates the implementation of the actions described in paragraph (1).

(b) **COMPREHENSIVE SECURITY ASSESSMENT OF THE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY CARD PROGRAM.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall commission an assessment of the effectiveness of the transportation security card program (referred to in this section as "Program") required under section 70105 of title 46, United States Code, at enhancing security and reducing security risks for facilities and vessels regulated under chapter 701 of that title.

(2) **LOCATION.**—The assessment commissioned under paragraph (1) shall be conducted by a research organization with significant experience in port or maritime security, such as—

(A) a national laboratory;

(B) a university-based center within the Science and Technology Directorate's centers of excellence network; or

(C) a qualified federally-funded research and development center.

(3) **CONTENTS.**—The assessment commissioned under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) review the credentialing process by determining—

(i) the appropriateness of vetting standards;

(ii) whether the fee structure adequately reflects the current costs of vetting;

(iii) whether there is unnecessary redundancy or duplication with other Federal- or State-issued transportation security credentials; and

(iv) the appropriateness of having varied Federal and State threat assessments and access controls;

(B) review the process for renewing applications for Transportation Worker Identification Credentials, including the number of days it takes to review application, appeal, and waiver requests for additional information; and

(C) review the security value of the Program by—

(i) evaluating the extent to which the Program, as implemented, addresses known or likely security risks in the maritime and port environments;

(ii) evaluating the potential for a non-biometric credential alternative;

(iii) identifying the technology, business process, and operational impacts of the use of the transportation security card and transportation security card readers in the maritime and port environments;

(iv) assessing the costs and benefits of the Program, as implemented; and

(v) evaluating the extent to which the Secretary of Homeland Security has addressed the deficiencies in the Program identified by the Government Accountability Office and the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security before the date of enactment of this Act.

(4) **DEADLINES.**—The assessment commissioned under paragraph (1) shall be completed not later than 1 year after the date on which the assessment is commissioned.

(5) **SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.**—Not later than 60 days after the date that the assessment is completed, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives the results of the assessment commissioned under this subsection.

(c) **CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN; PROGRAM REFORMS.**—If the assessment commissioned under subsection (b) identifies a deficiency in the effectiveness of the Program, the Secretary of Homeland Security, not later than 60 days after the date on which the assessment is completed, shall submit a corrective action plan to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives that—

(1) responds to findings of the assessment;

(2) includes an implementation plan with benchmarks;

(3) may include programmatic reforms, revisions to regulations, or proposals for legislation; and

(4) shall be considered in any rulemaking by the Department of Homeland Security relating to the Program.

(d) **INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEW.**—If a corrective action plan is submitted under subsection (c), the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security shall—

(1) not later than 120 days after the date of such submission, review the extent to which such plan implements the requirements under subsection (c); and

(2) not later than 18 months after the date of such submission, and annually thereafter for 3 years, submit a report to the congressional committees set forth in subsection (c) that describes the progress of the implementation of such plan.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading of the amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTERS REFORM AND IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2015

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 3842) to improve homeland security, including domestic preparedness and response to terrorism, by reforming Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers to provide training to first re-

sponders, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments thereto, and concur in the Senate amendments.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the Senate amendments.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendments:

(1) On page 3, line 19, insert "delegated" after "carry out".

(2) On page 4, strike lines 5 through 12 and insert the following:

"(B) maximizes opportunities for small business participation;

(3) On page 11, beginning on line 25, strike "and to compensate such employees for time spent traveling from their homes to work sites".

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading of the amendments.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

OVERTIME PAY FOR SECRET SERVICE AGENTS ACT OF 2016

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 6302) to provide an increase in premium pay for United States Secret Service agents performing protective services during 2016, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments thereto, and concur in the Senate amendments.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the Senate amendments.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendments:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Overtime Pay for Protective Services Act of 2016".

SEC. 2. PREMIUM PAY EXCEPTION IN 2016 FOR PROTECTIVE SERVICES.

(a) **DEFINITION.**—In this section, the term "covered employee" means any officer, employee, or agent employed by the United States Secret Service who performs protective services for an individual or event protected by the United States Secret Service during 2016.

(b) **EXCEPTION TO THE LIMITATION ON PREMIUM PAY FOR PROTECTIVE SERVICES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during 2016, section 5547(a) of title 5, United States Code, shall not apply to any covered employee to the extent that its application would prevent a covered employee from receiving premium pay, as provided under the amendment made by paragraph (2).

(2) **TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Section 118 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 2001 (as enacted into law by section 1(3) of Public Law 106–554; 114 Stat. 2763A–134) is amended, in the first sentence, by inserting "or, if the employee

qualifies for an exception to such limitation under section 2(b)(1) of the Overtime Pay for Protective Services Act of 2016, to the extent that such aggregate amount would exceed the rate of basic pay payable for a position at level II of the Executive Schedule under section 5313 of title 5, United States Code" after "of that limitation".

(c) **TREATMENT OF ADDITIONAL PAY.**—If subsection (b) results in the payment of additional premium pay to a covered employee of a type that is normally creditable as basic pay for retirement or any other purpose, that additional pay shall not—

(1) be considered to be basic pay of the covered employee for any purpose; or

(2) be used in computing a lump-sum payment to the covered employee for accumulated and accrued annual leave under section 5551 or section 5552 of title 5, United States Code.

(d) **AGGREGATE LIMIT.**—With respect to the application of section 5307 of title 5, United States Code, the payment of any additional premium pay to a covered employee as a result of subsection (b) shall not be counted as part of the aggregate compensation of the covered employee.

(e) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—This section and the amendments made by this section shall take effect as if enacted on December 31, 2015.

Amend the title so as to read: "An Act to provide an increase in premium pay for protective services during 2016, and for other purposes."

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading of the amendments.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore, Mrs. COMSTOCK:

H.R. 875. An act to provide for alternative financing arrangements for the provision of certain services and the construction and maintenance of infrastructure at land border ports of entry, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4465. An act to decrease the deficit by consolidating and selling Federal buildings and other civilian real property, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4680. An act to prepare the National Park Service for its Centennial in 2016 and for a second century of promoting and protecting the natural, historic, and cultural resources of our National Parks for the enjoyment of present and future generations, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5065. An act to direct the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration to notify air carriers and security screening personnel of the Transportation Security Administration of such Administration's guidelines regarding permitting baby formula, breast milk, purified deionized water, and juice on airplanes, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5150. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3031 Veterans Road West in Staten Island,

New York, as the “Leonard Montalto Post Office Building”.

H.R. 5309. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 401 McElroy Drive in Oxford, Mississippi, as the “Army First Lieutenant Donald C. Carwile Post Office Building”.

H.R. 5356. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14231 TX-150 in Coldspring, Texas, as the “E. Marie Youngblood Post Office”.

H.R. 5591. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 810 N US Highway 83 in Zapata, Texas, as the “Zapata Veterans Post Office”.

H.R. 5798. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Davis Street in Evanston, Illinois, as the “Abner J. Mikva Post Office Building”.

H.R. 5877. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 and the United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act of 2014 to promote cooperative homeland security research and antiterrorism programs relating to cybersecurity, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5889. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 Chalan Kanoa VLG in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as the “Segundo T. Sablan and CNMI Fallen Military Heroes Post Office Building”.

H.R. 6416. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6450. An act to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to strengthen the independence of the Inspectors General, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6451. An act to improve the Government-wide management of Federal property.

H.R. 6452. An act to implement the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fisheries Resources in the North Pacific Ocean, to implement the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean, and for other purposes.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, further reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore, Mr. UPTON:

H.R. 960. An act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Newark, Ohio, as the Daniel L. Kinnard VA Clinic.

H.R. 3218. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1221 State Street, Suite 12, Santa Barbara, California, as the “Special Warfare Operator Master Chief Petty Officer (SEAL) Louis ‘Lou’ J. Langlais Post Office Building”.

H.R. 4618. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 121 Spring Street SE in Gainesville, Georgia, as the “Sidney Oslin Smith, Jr. Federal Building and United States Courthouse”.

H.R. 4887. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 23323 Shelby Road in Shelby, Indiana, as the “Richard Allen Cable Post Office”.

H.R. 5676. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6300 N. Northwest Highway in Chicago, Illinois, as the “Officer Joseph P. Cali Post Office Building”.

H.R. 5687. An act to eliminate or modify certain mandates of the Government Accountability Office.

SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The Speaker pro tempore, Mr. UPTON, announced his signature to enrolled

bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 546. An act to establish the Railroad Emergency Services Preparedness, Operational Needs, and Safety Evaluation (RESPONSE) Subcommittee under the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s National Advisory Council to provide recommendations on emergency responder training and resources relating to hazardous materials incidents involving railroads, and for other purposes.

S. 612. An act to provide for improvements to the rivers and harbors of the United States, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, and for other purposes.

S. 1635. An act to authorize the Department of State for fiscal year 2016, and for other purposes.

S. 2854. An act to reauthorize the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Act of 2007.

S. 2943. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

S. 2971. An act to authorize the National Urban Search and Rescue Response System.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 2(b) of House Resolution 944, the House stands adjourned until 2 p.m. on Friday, December 16, 2016.

Thereupon (at 2 o’clock and 41 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Friday, December 16, 2016, at 2 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

7857. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, USD for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department’s final rule — National Security Education Program (NSEP) and NSEP Service Agreement [Docket ID: DOD-2013-OS-0021] (RIN: 0790-AJ01) December 7, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

7858. A letter from the Honors Attorney, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau’s final rules — Appraisals for Higher-Priced Mortgage Loans Exemption Threshold [Docket No.: CFPB-2016-0035] (RIN: 3170-AA68) received December 9, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7859. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s temporary final rule — Regulated Navigation Area; Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, ME and Portsmouth, NH [Docket No.: USCG-2016-0935] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received December 8, 2016, 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.

7860. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Great Lakes Pilotage Rates —

2016 Annual Review and Changes to Methodology [USCG-2015-0497] (RIN: 1625-AC22) received December 8, 2016, 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.

7861. A letter from the Attorney, CG-LRA, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Upper Mississippi River, St. Louis, MO [Docket No.: USCG-2016-1020] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 8, 2016, 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.

7862. A letter from the Attorney, CG-LRA, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s temporary final rule — Safety Zone, Delaware River; Marcus Hook, PA [Docket No.: USCG-2016-1034] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 8, 2016, 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.

7863. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Requirements for Vessels with Registry Endorsements or Foreign-Flagged Vessels that Perform Certain Aquaculture Support Operations [Docket No.: USCG-2015-0086] (RIN: 1625-AC23) received December 8, 2016, 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.

7864. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Shipping; Technical, Organizational, and Conforming Amendments [Docket No.: USCG-2016-0315] received December 8, 2016, 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.

7865. A letter from the Attorney, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Discharge Removal Equipment for Vessels Carrying Oil [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0430, Formerly CGD-90-68] (RIN: 1625-AA02, Formerly RIN: 2115-AD66) received December 8, 2016, 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.

7866. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s correcting amendments — Cargo Securing Manuals [Docket No.: USCG-2000-7080] (RIN: 1625-AA25 [formerly RIN: 2115-AF97]) received December 8, 2016, 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.

7867. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Harmonization of Standards for Fire Protection, Detection, and Extinguishing Equipment [Docket No.: USCG-2012-0196] (RIN: 1625-AB59) received December 8, 2016, 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.

7868. A letter from the Chief, Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Electronic Notice of Liquidation [USCBP-2016-0065] [CBP Dec. No.: 16-25] (RIN: 1515-AE16) received December 9, 2016, 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.

7869. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only notice — Publication of the Tier 2 Tax Rates for 2017 received December 8, 2016, 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.

7870. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final regulations — User Fees for Installment Agreements [TD 9798] (RIN: 1545-BN37) received December 8, 2016, 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.

7871. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Salvage Discount Factors and Payment Patterns for 2014 (Rev. Proc. 2016-59) received December 8, 2016, 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.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 5510. A bill to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to establish new requirements relating to investigations,

consent orders, and reporting requirements, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114-875, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 5092. A bill to make exclusive the authority of the Federal Government to regulate the labeling of products made in the United States and introduced in interstate or foreign commerce, and for other purposes (Rept. 114-876). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 5510 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII,

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska introduced A bill (H.R. 6529) to authorize the Secretary of Interior to complete a land exchange with the Chugach Regional Alaska Native Corporation, and for other purposes; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are sub-

mitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 6529.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 and Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS TO PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 1608: Mr. SHERMAN.

H.R. 2858: Mrs. TORRES.

H.R. 3084: Mr. COOK.

H.R. 3095: Mr. NOLAN.

H.R. 3100: Mrs. BLACKBURN.

H.R. 3229: Ms. TSONGAS.

H.R. 4396: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 4520: Mr. DELANEY.

H.R. 5386: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 6025: Mr. ZELDIN.

H.R. 6117: Mr. GUTIÉRREZ.

H.R. 6382: Ms. BONAMICI and Mr. WELCH.

H.R. 6498: Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. KIND, and Ms. BONAMICI.

H.J. Res. 48: Ms. GABBARD.

H. Res. 591: Mr. BERA and Mr. ISRAEL.

H. Res. 752: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. RUIZ, and Mr. HIMES.

H. Res. 899: Mr. HILL.

H. Res. 926: Mr. CLYBURN.



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No. 180

Senate

The Senate met at 8:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable BILL CASSIDY, a Senator from the State of Louisiana.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

The assistant bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, December 13, 2016.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable BILL CASSIDY, a Senator from the State of Louisiana, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ORRIN G. HATCH,
President pro tempore.

Mr. CASSIDY thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 16, 2016, AT 10 A.M.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m., Friday, December 16, 2016.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 8:30 and 28 seconds a.m., adjourned until Friday, December 16, 2016, at 10 a.m.

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



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S7169

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN OF THOUSAND OAKS

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Thousand Oaks Chapter of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). Organized in 1966, AAUW Thousand Oaks was specifically designed to encourage and support educational opportunities for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

A leading voice for promoting equity and education for women and girls in our community, AAUW Thousand Oaks and its members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental educational, social, economic, and political issues that directly pertain to women and girls. As part of a national movement, AAUW Thousand Oaks is part of a nationwide network of more than 170,000 members and donors, 1,000 branches, and 800 college and university institutional partners and has awarded millions of dollars in fellowships and grants to support women in their professional and academic careers. Additionally, AAUW Thousand Oaks boasts being one of the fastest growing divisions of the national organization.

Locally, in an effort to promote science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, AAUW Thousand Oaks biannually hosts the Brighter Horizons Math, Science and Technology Conference for students in fifth through ninth grades. Led by women in technology-related vocations, the conference is infused with technology information workshops that relate to currently important technological career options in an effort to promote young women going into the field of science.

Every summer, AAUW Thousand Oaks' Tech Trek Committee works towards sending ten female students that have matriculated from the seventh grade in the Thousand Oaks area to a one-week STEM education camp at the University of California, Santa Barbara. AAUW Thousand Oaks also demonstrates its dedication to youth in our community through their Youth Cultural Summer Camp, Children's Theater, and local scholarships programs that help high school and community college students afford educational programs.

In recognition of its progressive efforts towards women in our community, AAUW Thousand Oaks has also been recognized for its "Outstanding Mission Based Programs" at the state level of the organization by AAUW of California.

On the occasion of its 50th anniversary, I would like to congratulate the American Association of University Women of Thousand Oaks for its outstanding leadership and steadfast commitment to advancing equity for women and girls in the Conejo Valley.

IN RECOGNITION OF SKYLER POWELL'S PROMOTION TO CHIEF PETTY OFFICER

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge Skyler Powell on becoming the first cadet in the history of Purcellville, Virginia's VIKING Sea Cadet Division to achieve the rank of Chief Petty Officer. This is a tremendous honor considering that historically only 1 percent of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps' 10,000 cadets receive this appointment, and of that 1 percent only 20 percent have been female. I am proud to represent this young woman, who is a shining example of the Commonwealth of Virginia's hardworking and service-minded citizens.

The United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps, which was founded over 50 years ago, is a federally chartered non-profit civilian organization that serves to teach individuals about naval operations, community service, citizenship, and helps foster discipline and teamwork in our nation's youth.

In addition to the courses, training and exams, Powell developed and demonstrated dedication, leadership, self-reliance, commitment and courage as she rose through the cadet ranks. During summer break, she attended a two-week recruit training, a shortened version of the Navy's boot camp. She has also attended multiple advanced trainings on topics including marksmanship, cyber security and advanced music training in locations from San Francisco and Las Vegas, to Fort Custer and Fort Lee. She also served as a staff cadet at recruit training in Aberdeen, Maryland and Navy League orientation training in Norfolk, Virginia.

Chief Powell has earned the Veterans of Foreign Wars' Naval Sea Cadet Medal and the Sons of the American Revolution Good Citizenship Award in addition to maintaining a 4.1 GPA while taking honors and AP classes. During her Sea Cadet career she has logged over 250 volunteer community service hours. She is likewise an active member of the Loudoun Valley High School Marching Band and currently leads the VIKING Division CyberPatriot team—a nationwide cyber security competition sponsored by the U.S. Air Force.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to congratulate Skyler Powell for her promotion to Chief Petty Officer in Purcellville's VIKING Sea Cadet Division, and to join me in wishing her a happiness and fortune in her future endeavors.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JOHN H. GLENN, JR. U.S. SENATOR, DECORATED WAR VETERAN, PATH-BREAKING ASTRONAUT, AND TRUE AMERICAN HERO

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to John Glenn, who died December 8, 2016 at the age of 95, in Columbus, Ohio. John Glenn represented the best of America.

Perhaps more than any other American of his generation, he personified the American spirit of daring, achievement, bravery, innovation, and humility.

As a four-term United States Senator from Ohio, John Glenn was one of the most passionate advocates for justice and opportunity for all persons.

Most important of all, for more than 75 years, John Glenn served his country honorably in his home State of Ohio, in the United States Senate, in uniform during World War II and the Korean Conflict, and in outer space as one of the original class of astronauts that made space exploration synonymous with American leadership.

John Glenn did indeed possess the 'right stuff,' as the writer Tom Wolfe documented in his 1979 best-selling book about the first Project Mercury astronauts selected for the NASA space program.

John Glenn was a hero and inspiration to millions of boys and girls who held their breath as he rocketed into outer space, orbited the earth, and safely descended from the heavens to return home to his beloved wife Annie and an adoring public.

Godspeed, John Glenn.

HONORING CALIFORNIA STATE SENATOR FRAN PAVLEY

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of my friend and former colleague California State Senator Fran Pavley, a dedicated and driven member of the California State Legislature, who is being honored for her outstanding leadership, steadfast advocacy, and invaluable dedication to public service.

For over three decades, Senator Pavley has been a widely accomplished legislator. Throughout her career, she has authored groundbreaking and historic legislation to protect and realize a better future for the State of California. Senator Pavley has been one of the state's greatest environmental champions.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies 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.

Senator Pavley has played an instrumental role in landmark policies and initiatives to protect California's environment and its natural resources. She is the author of Assembly Bill 1493, which became the framework for vehicle emissions standards on the national level. She also wrote Assembly Bill 32, the nation's first cap on greenhouse gas pollution. These bills have served as a catalyst for innovation and job growth in clean and renewable energy as well as alternative fuels. Senator Pavley's work had a monumental impact on national emissions policies when President Obama implemented national clean car standards, modeled on Assembly Bill 1493, also known as the "Pavley Law."

Senator Pavley continued her dedicated campaign of environmental protection when she paved the way to end unregulated hydraulic fracturing and other oil-extraction practices in California. In 2013, she coauthored successful legislation to invest \$2 billion in effective air-quality and clean vehicle and fuel technology programs.

In a time of historic drought for California, Senator Pavley and her expansive knowledge and background has been an important figure in addressing this complex issue and its vast impact on the state. In 2014, Senator Pavley authored innovative and pioneering legislation for the state's management of groundwater. This bill helped to negotiate a bipartisan water bond that was approved by voters, which authorized \$7.12 billion in general obligation bonds for state water supply infrastructure projects.

Additionally, Senator Pavley has been an unwavering advocate for her constituents. Her career has been marked with legislative victories on an array of issues including stronger consumer protections, tougher child safety laws, and tighter reforms for campaign contributions.

Senator Pavley has spent a lifetime working for her constituents Los Angeles and Ventura counties. For these reasons, it is with heartfelt appreciation that I am pleased to join the Ventura County Women's Political Council in recognizing Senator Fran Pavley.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HAWAII STATE REPRESENTATIVE CLIFT TSUJI

HON. TULSI GABBARD

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, on November 15, 2016, the Aloha State lost the Honorable Clift Tsuji, a soldier, a Hawaii State Representative, and a loving father. Born and raised in the plantation town of Pāpa'ikou, Representative Clift Tsuji served the people of Hawaii Island throughout his 75 years of life.

After graduating from Hilo High School in 1959, Representative Tsuji served as a U.S. Army Reservist with the 442nd Infantry, Company B, out of Hilo from 1959–1965. He completed post-secondary degrees at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa and the University of Washington, Pacific Coast Banking School. In 1969, he began work at Central Pacific Bank, beginning a career with Central Pacific that spanned 34 years.

After retiring from Central Pacific Bank in 2003, he served as the Vice President of the

Hilo Candy Company until 2004, when he was elected to serve the people of Keaukaha, Pana'ewa, Waiākea, and parts of Hilo in the Hawaii House of Representatives. In the State House, Representative Tsuji served as the Chair of the House Agriculture Committee, where he helped champion legislation to fight invasive species and strengthen Hawaii's biosecurity. His dedicated service on the House Agriculture Committee was widely recognized, and among many other awards, he was named the Hawaii Farm Bureau's Legislator of the Year in 2015.

Representative Tsuji was known to his constituents as a passionate leader, a dedicated public servant, and an advocate for the Hilo community. In addition to his work in business and government, he was an active member of many local and statewide organizations including the Hilo Medical Center Foundation, Hawaii Island Japanese Community Association, Tsunami Museum, Hiroshima Kenjin Kai, Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce, and the Kumamoto Kenjin Kai.

One of the last conversations Representative Tsuji had with his son Ryan was about making sure he could continue to pass important legislation for his constituents in the next legislative session. Whether it was a construction project in Hilo, or a biosecurity bill benefiting the entire State of Hawaii, Representative Tsuji was committed to delivering results for his constituents and the people of the Aloha State.

Just a few days before his death, I saw Representative Tsuji at the Hilo Veterans Parade and, as usual, he was full of aloha, as he welcomed me to the community he loved so much. My heart is with his children, Ryan and Ashley, and all of Hawaii Island. Clift, you are missed. Mahalo nui loa (thank you) for dedicating your life to serving our community in the spirit of aloha. Ke Akua me ke Aloha (God bless you).

REGARDING NOMINATION OF SEN- ATOR JEFF SESSIONS OF ALA- BAMA TO BE ATTORNEY GEN- ERAL OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the House Committee on the Judiciary and Homeland Security Committee, Ranking Member of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, and the Congressional Voting Rights Caucus, I rise today to express my initial views regarding the President-Elect's nomination of U.S. Senator JEFFERSON BEAUREGARD "JEFF" SESSIONS III of Alabama to be the next Attorney General of the United States.

On Election Night the President-Elect pledged to the nation that he would be a president to all Americans.

That pledge will ring hollow to tens of millions of Americans in light of his announced intention to nominate one of the U.S. Senate's most far-right members, Senator JEFF SESSIONS (R-AL) to be the next Attorney General of the United States.

Perhaps nothing would do more to reassure the American people that the President-Elect

is committed to unifying the nation than the nomination and appointment of a person to be Attorney General who has a record of championing and protecting, rather than opposing and undermining, the precious right to vote, the constitutionally guaranteed right of privacy, criminal justice reform, and support for reform of the nation's immigration system so that it is fair and humane.

The nomination of Alabama Senator SESSIONS as Attorney General does not inspire the necessary confidence.

As a U.S. Senator from Alabama, the state from which the infamous Supreme Court decision in *Shelby County v. Holder* originated, Senator SESSIONS has failed to play a constructive role in repairing the damage to voting rights caused by that decision.

He was one of the leading opponents of the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act.

He is one of the Senate's most hostile opponents of comprehensive immigration reform and was a principal architect of the draconian and incendiary immigration policy advocated by the President-Elect during the campaign.

His record in support of efforts to bring needed reform to the nation's criminal justice system is virtually non-existent.

In 1986, ten years before Senator SESSIONS was elected to the Senate, he was rejected for a U.S. District Court judgeship in view of documented incidents that revealed his lack of commitment to civil and voting rights, and to equal justice.

His Senate voting record and rhetoric has endeared him to white nationalist websites and organizations like Breitbart and Stormfront.

Should the President-Elect proceed with the nomination of Senator SESSIONS to be Attorney General, I call upon the Senate Judiciary Committee to subject the nomination to the most comprehensive, searching, and withering examination.

The United States has been blessed to have been served as Attorney General by such illustrious figures as Robert Jackson, Robert Kennedy, Herbert Brownell, Ramsey Clark, Nicholas Katzenbach, Eric Holder, and Edward H. Levi.

The duty of the U.S. Attorney General is to lead the Department of Justice in protecting and expanding the civil rights of all Americans and the pursuit of equal justice for all, not to turn back the clock on hard won rights and liberties.

No Senator should vote to confirm the nomination of JEFF SESSIONS as U.S. Attorney General if there is the slightest doubt that he possesses the character, qualities, integrity, and commitment to justice and equality needed to lead a department, the headquarters building of which is named for Robert F. Kennedy, one of the nation's greatest and most indefatigable champions of civil rights and equal justice for all.

HONORING HENRY L. "HANK" LACAYO

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of my friend and ally

Henry L. "Hank" Lacayo, a lifelong leader and advocate, who is being honored for his selfless dedication and invaluable leadership to bettering our community and country.

Born in 1931 in Los Angeles, Mr. Lacayo grew up in the depths of the Great Depression and the Second World War, fighting through a time of economic uncertainty and racial injustice. Determined to serve his country, Mr. Lacayo first attempted to join the military at the age of 16. Although he was originally turned away, he quickly joined upon graduating high school and served in the United States Army Air Corps.

Following his military service, Mr. Lacayo began his career in 1953 at North American Aviation and became involved with United Auto Workers of America Local 887. Nine years later, he was elected President of the UAW Local, a position in which he represented the interests of over 30,000 workers and their families. Through his steadfast leadership, Mr. Lacayo was appointed National Director of the Political and Legislative Department of the UAW. While working in this capacity, Mr. Lacayo served as an advisor under Democratic Presidential Administrations from John F. Kennedy to Bill Clinton. In 1986, Mr. Lacayo retired from the UAW and subsequently formed H. L. & Associates, a consulting firm that enabled him to continue to be involved in labor relations issues, as well as other government, seniors, and international issues.

Today, Mr. Lacayo continues to give back to his community by serving as President of the Congress of California Seniors, where he continues to dedicate his time to advocating for a better quality of life for others.

Additionally, Mr. Lacayo is actively preparing the next generation of leaders, public servants, and community activists. Founded in 2010 at California State University Channel Islands, the Henry L. "Hank" Lacayo Institute for Workforce & Community Studies facilitates student internships, scholarly research, and the dissemination of policy information and recommendations. In the program, students learn the essential skill sets to change lives and positively impact communities.

Mr. Lacayo has spent his lifetime working for Ventura County and our nation. His hard work and dedication—which has ranged from serving in the Army Air Corps, to actively fighting for working families and California's seniors, and now passing down his knowledge and experience to students who will continue his influential work—has helped to create a better America.

For these reasons, it is with genuine appreciation that I am pleased to join United Way of Ventura County in recognizing Henry "Hank" Lacayo for his lifetime achievements.

OPENING PRAYER BY REV. DAN CUMMINS—HONORING BISHOP GEORGE DAVID CUMMINS

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, today's opening prayer is dedicated to Bishop George David Cummins, D.D., Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church, of Washington, DC, from 1855

through 1858. Bishop Cummins on this date, Sunday, December 13, 1857, preached the first sermon in the inaugural event of the House Chamber. The House of Representatives held its first sessions three days later on Wednesday, December 16, 1857.

The present House Chamber was used as a place of Christian worship on Sundays from 1857 through 1869, as were the original Senate, Supreme Court and House Chambers from 1800 through 1857.

Rev. Dan Cummins, D.D., an associate pastor of Skyline Church, San Diego, is a descendant of Bishop George David Cummins, and gave recognition to the significance of this historic day in his opening prayer. Pastor Cummins and his wife JoAnn, along with Dr. James Garlow, Senior Pastor of Skyline Church, and Steve Amerson, "America's Tenor," are responsible for the restoration of those traditional Sabbath worship services in the U.S. Capitol with the weekly Jefferson Gathering worship services for members of Congress and staff on July 30, 2014.

DEMANDING THE PRESIDENT-ELECT TO DISCLOSE, DETAIL, AND TOTALLY DIVEST FINANCIAL HOLDINGS TO AVOID CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND TO COMPLY WITH EMOLUMENTS CLAUSE OF U.S. CONSTITUTION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to demand on behalf of the American people that the President-Elect disclose, detail, and divest, or place in a genuine blind trust, all, of his financial holdings prior to taking the oath of office so as to avoid major conflicts of interest and to comply with the Emoluments Clause of U.S. Constitution.

As chief steward of America's extensive domestic, global, and national security interests, the fidelity of the President of the United States to the national interest must never be subject to question or doubt.

The President-Elect's extensive financial interests in more than 100 companies operating in more than 18 countries and on five continents potentially represent major conflicts of interest which can only be remedied by complete divestment or placing all of his assets in a genuine blind trust.

As reflected in recent media reports, a preliminary analysis of the President-Elect's extensive financial arrangements reveals dozens of potential conflicts of interest.

For example, the President-Elect has received more than \$10 million from his interest in the Trump Towers Istanbul in Turkey, a country with which the United States has extensive, complicated, and politically sensitive military and diplomatic relations.

Similarly, since August 2015, the President-Elect's business organizations has registered eight separate companies connected to hotel deals in Saudi Arabia, which is located in one of the world's most critical geopolitical regions.

Based on the limited and inadequate financial disclosures he has made to date, it appears that the President-Elect's business organization is financially dependent upon, and ob-

ligated to, Deutsche Bank, its biggest lender, which happens to be negotiating a multibillion-dollar settlement over housing-crisis-era abuses with the Justice Department, a deal that will be finalized with Justice Department officials appointed by the President-Elect.

Companies owned or controlled by the President-Elect's organization also owe hundreds of millions of dollars to the state-owned Bank of China and to Wall Street interests.

The American people are entitled to assume without hesitation or doubt that when the President of the United States meets with foreign leaders and dignitaries that he is motivated only by what is in the national interest and not the private, pecuniary interests of himself, his family members, or his business enterprises.

That assurance cannot be provided when the President of the United States has enormous financial stakes in the enterprises operating in those same foreign countries.

It is for this reason—to ensure that the President's loyalty will always be to the nation he leads—that the Framers included the Emoluments Clause in Article I, Section 9 of the Constitution, which provides that "no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under them, shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State."

According to leading experts in ethics, a prohibited emolument would include, for example, anything from a foreign government that benefits the President-Elect, such as providing favorable tax, zoning, licensing treatment for his real estate holdings or enhanced security to protect his business operations.

The financial interests of the President-Elect are extensive, complex, and inter-connected with the interests of foreign leaders and countries.

They are all-encompassing and time-consuming.

But they pale in comparison to the global, diplomatic, economic, and national security interests of the United States, which supersede the interests of any one person or corporation.

As the Scriptures teach, you cannot serve two masters.

The President-Elect must make a choice and act accordingly before he takes the oath of office. Either divest all of his financial interests or place them in a genuine blind trust or refrain from taking the oath of office and assuming the responsibility to "take care that the Laws be faithfully executed" and "to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States."

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF GREGORY D. SODERSTROM

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of an outstanding member of our Armed Forces. Lieutenant Colonel Gregory D. "Vader" Soderstrom, of the United States Air Force, is the Special Assistant to the Commander, 47th Operations Group, Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas.

Lt. Col. Soderstrom served as Commander of the 47th Student Squadron, where he

oversaw the day-to-day activities of over 600 student pilots, 22 active duty permanent party members, and 80 civilians assigned to Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training. Additionally, Lt. Col. Soderstrom flies as an instructor pilot with the 85th and 434th Flying Training Squadrons, instructing future Air Force pilots in the T-6A. The 47th Operations Group produces over 300 new pilots each year for the Combat, Mobility and Special Operations Air Forces.

Lt. Col. Soderstrom was raised in Wichita, Kansas. He received his commission in 1996 from the United States Air Force Academy. He is a Command Pilot with over 3,400 hours in the F-15C/D, T-37B, and T-6A. He has held a variety of positions at the squadron, group, wing, and Major Command level. Prior to his current assignment he served as the Commander, Headquarters Squadron, United States Air Forces in Europe, Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

Lt. Col. Soderstrom is married to the former Tephane Weber of Marysville, Kansas. They have three children, Trinity, Cole, and Logan. I thank Lt. Col. Soderstrom, and his family, for his twenty years of service to a grateful nation, and wish him the best as he begins his new career as a pilot in Italy.

HONORING ROTARY
INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 5240

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate Rotary International District 5240, which has dutifully carried out the mission of Rotary International to "Serve Above Self." By providing services to countless others and advancing world understanding, goodwill, and peace through its fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders, Rotary International District 5240 strives to improve lives both locally and internationally.

First established in 1918 with the founding club in Santa Barbara, District 5240 has grown along California's central coast, throughout the counties of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura. District 5240 also bears the distinction as one of the oldest Rotary clubs nationally, founded only thirteen years after the original club, the Rotary Club of Chicago, was established. With a membership of 3,500 members, from 74 clubs in four different counties, Rotary International District 5240 meets regularly to not only develop its own communities but communities around the world.

As a member of one of the world's largest service organization, Rotary International District 5240 has established itself with remarkable charitable work ranging from leading polio eradication efforts since 1985 to a focus on promoting global peace, fighting disease, providing international aid for access to clean water and life-saving care to mothers and children, as well as supporting educational programs, and growing local economies. Most recently, Rotary International District 5240 has

led relief efforts for Hurricane Matthew victims on behalf of our community.

Locally, the organization has been a critical partner in economic and community development, and has donated over \$250,000 to fund microfinance loans that have helped start or grow local businesses over the past four years.

For these reasons, it is with great enthusiasm that I recognize Rotary International District 5240, which is celebrating the centennial anniversary of the Rotary Foundation, for the immeasurable ways the organization has contributed to our community as a whole.

REGARDING PRESIDENTIAL VOTE
RECOUNTS IN THE SEVERAL
STATES

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the House Committees on the Judiciary and Homeland Security Committee; Ranking Member of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, and the Congressional Voting Rights Caucus, I rise today to address efforts that may be taken in various states to recount votes cast for candidates for the office of President of the United States in the recent election.

The linchpin of representative democracies such as the United States is public confidence in the political system, regime, and community.

That confidence in turn rests upon the extent to which the public has faith that the system employed to select its leaders accurately reflects its preferences.

At bottom, this means that all citizens casting a vote have a fundamental right and reasonable expectation that the votes cast count and are counted.

We know from experience that it not uncommon that occasionally vote counts reported in an initial canvass may later prove to be inaccurate because sometimes votes are overlooked or inaccurately credited to the wrong candidate.

Vote recounts have long been recognized as an essential safeguard to correct errors of this type.

Recounts have occurred at the local, state, and, as we saw in 2000, presidential level.

It should be noted also that the November 8, 2016 election is the first presidential election held since the Supreme Court issued the notorious decision in *Shelby County v. Holder*, which neutered the preclearance provisions of the Voting Rights Act and adversely affected the ability of hundreds of thousands of persons to cast a ballot and have their vote counted.

Also, as is the case this year, where the results in the Electoral College and of the popular vote diverge by the largest and most astounding margin in American history, it is particularly fitting and appropriate to ensure that any uncertainty over the accuracy of the vote

determining any state's electoral votes be resolved as fairly and expeditiously as possible.

TRIBUTE TO THE BEND HEROES
FOUNDATION

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the non-profit Bend Heroes Foundation of Bend, Oregon, for its outstanding dedication to Oregon's veterans of the Armed Services.

As a member of the National Honor Flight Network, the Foundation has honored over 550 World War II Oregon heroes who helped save the world from tyranny over seven decades ago. It has been my high honor to welcome them to Washington, D.C. and present each World War II veteran with a flag flown over our nation's Capitol in his or her honor.

The Foundation created the Bend Heroes Memorial to honor Bend's veterans who served and died during war from World War I to the present. It was my privilege to help dedicate the memorial on Veterans Day back in 2009. The Foundation also inaugurated the Bend Parade of Flags program displaying 300 flags in Bend on eight patriotic days each year. I was again privileged to provide those flags and have them flown over our nation's Capitol.

Furthering their efforts, the Foundation worked with the Oregon Legislature to create six war veterans highways across Oregon: World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Persian Gulf/Afghanistan and Iraq and the Purple Heart Trail. Sixty-seven honorific signs have been installed on 1,730 miles of border-to-border highways, in total honoring 500,000 Oregon war veterans.

The Bend Heroes Foundation also created the Oregon Medal of Honor Exhibit to celebrate 26 Oregonians who received our nation's highest award for valor above and beyond the call of duty during combat from the Civil War to Vietnam. Mr. Robert "Bob" Maxwell of Bend is one of the World War II recipients, and at 96 he is our nation's oldest living recipient. It was a privilege for me to provide him with a large American flag flown over the U.S. Capitol. That flag is now prominently displayed at the Foundation's exhibit in McMinnville.

I would also like to honor the members of the Bend Heroes Foundation for their tireless efforts: Chairman Dick Tobiason, President Erik Tobiason, Vice President-Secretary Yvonne Drury, Treasurer Priscilla Reich, Directors Bob Dent, Denny Drury, Joe Gallagher, Mike Genna, Harley Kelley, Bob Maxwell, Darla Rozelle, Rob Walker and Diane Harris, and Volunteers Candace Kelley, Mike Brock, Sid Poe, and John and Jean Frye. All serve without pay and are extremely proud of their efforts.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful state and country, I wish to honor the Bend Heroes Foundation for its many grand accomplishments over many years.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 6483, THE
SWINE WASTE INFRASTRUCTURE
AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT
ACT (THE SWINE ACT)

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as the 114th Congress comes to a close, I have introduced the Swine Waste Infrastructure and Natural Environment Act (the SWINE Act, or H.R. 6483). I am hopeful that this bill will provoke constructive discussions and suggestions in the coming weeks from stakeholders in the agricultural and environmental communities, so that I can introduce an improved version early next year.

The SWINE Act builds on efforts in North Carolina and elsewhere to develop new technologies to manage and dispose of waste from animal agricultural production, replacing the current "lagoon and spray-field" method used by many swine producers. In 1999, the environmental impact of lagoon and spray-field waste disposal systems was made particularly acute by Hurricane Floyd, an unusually large storm which caused poorly-regulated hog lagoons to overflow and discharge untreated animal waste into water systems across Eastern North Carolina. But for years prior to the storm, large animal feeding operations had emitted noxious odor and threatened the air and water quality of small rural communities across the Southeast.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Floyd, forward-thinking leaders in North Carolina initiated a process in which industry, academia, and the environmental community worked together to identify waste disposal technologies that would mitigate the worst environmental effects of the lagoon and spray-field system. The effort sparked a vigorous public discussion on issues related to swine waste while fostering a period of technological innovation in waste processing technology. For nearly a decade, I helped secure federal assistance for the research and development of environmentally sound methods of processing swine waste and for technical assistance to producers who sought to adopt such technologies. While this process resulted in significant progress toward a viable alternative to lagoon and spray-fields, the technologies developed thus far fell short of the established threshold for economic feasibility and have thus not been widely adopted by producers.

The environmental and social threats posed by the lagoon and spray-field method are not limited to North Carolina, and thus require a national solution. With additional investments in research and development and incentives for technology adoption, the technologies developed in North Carolina and elsewhere—or new technologies yet to be developed—can be made market-ready, producing an affordable and environmentally superior replacement for lagoon and spray-field. We should not be forced to choose between a clean environment and a successful, innovative animal agriculture industry. With this bill, I believe we can improve the environment while remaining the world leader in animal agricultural production.

URGING PRESIDENT-ELECT TO RE-
SCIND APPOINTMENT OF STEVEN
BANNON TO SENIOR WHITE
HOUSE POSITION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge the President-Elect to rescind his controversial appointment of Steven Bannon as White House Senior Counselor and Strategist.

If the President-Elect takes seriously his Election Night pledge to be a president to "all Americans," he must immediately renounce his intention to appoint Steven Bannon as White House Senior Counselor and Strategist.

Steven Bannon has a long history promoting racial and ethnic bigotry, sexism, religious intolerance, and misogyny.

He has insinuated that African-Americans are 'naturally aggressive and violent,' and under his leadership, Breitbart's publishing strategy turned to one that has made it the media arm of the racist "Alt-Right" movement, publishing articles promoting popular white nationalist tropes such as "black on white crime" and that "rape culture" is inherent in Islam.

In selecting Steven Bannon as one of his two most trusted White House advisors, the President-Elect is signaling to the American people that the inflammatory, reckless, and insensitive rhetoric and tactics employed by his campaign can be expected to become part of his Administration's standard operating procedure.

This is not the way to begin healing the wounds opened by the recently concluded presidential campaign and or to bring the American people together.

I strongly urge the President-Elect to reconsider his decision and rescind his controversial appointment of Steven Bannon as White House Senior Counselor and Strategist.

HONORING COMMANDER MONICA
McGRATH

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of Commander Monica McGrath, an outstanding and dedicated member of the Ventura County Sheriff's Office, who is being honored as the recipient of Interface Children & Family Services' inaugural "Domestic Violence Champion for Change" Award. A staunch advocate, spokesperson, and community role model in the fight against domestic violence, Commander McGrath has played an instrumental role in establishing local law enforcement's unique and specialized response to domestic violence throughout the region.

Commander McGrath has been a longtime pioneer for women as a member of Ventura County Sheriff's Office providing passionate advocacy to survivors of abuse and trauma since she joined the organization in 1987. Commander McGrath has served our community with the highest level of commitment to

public safety. Her extraordinary efforts have positively impacted and transformed the lives of many individuals and families.

In February 2015, Commander McGrath was selected as the new Chief of Police for the City of Camarillo. She has worked the majority of her career in Camarillo and is involved in several community-based organizations, including Interface Children & Family Services. Alongside Interface, she has been a true partner in supporting the comprehensive strategies to address, prevent, and ultimately end the cycle of domestic violence within families throughout Ventura County.

Moreover, Commander McGrath has been an invaluable member of the Interface Leadership Advisory Council, which shows her compassionate and caring dedication to victims of domestic violence. She also actively participates on the newly developed Domestic Violence Task Force for Ventura County. Her extensive knowledge, background, and leadership on the issue of domestic violence greatly contribute to her ability to effectively raise awareness and create the necessary change to end this epidemic.

For these reasons, I am pleased to join Interface Children & Family Services in recognizing Commander Monica McGrath for her countless contributions in combating domestic violence in Ventura County.

IN RECOGNITION OF ELIZABETH
MINOR

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to use this time in recognition of Elizabeth Minor, the beloved Mayor of Winchester, Virginia. Mayor Minor is retiring from her office after twelve years of dedicated service to the people of Winchester.

During her time as Mayor and as a member of the City Council, Winchester has experienced a renaissance that has transformed the city into an extraordinary place to live, work and study. There is no one who has had a greater impact on creating this transformation than Mayor Elizabeth Minor. Always willing to speak at gatherings of Winchester residents, Mayor Minor was always prepared with the perfect message for each occasion. She has tirelessly used her special position in the community to unify and encourage people of all ages, races and incomes.

Elizabeth's tenure as Mayor has been marked by many successes, including significant improvements to the city's education system, improvements to the Jim Barnett Park, the transformation of Old Town Winchester and the beautification of the gateways to the city. Additionally, when cities and states across the country are struggling to develop budgets, her stewardship has helped Winchester to win the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada for four years in a row.

Elizabeth Minor served as Vice-Mayor of Winchester from 1994 to 2004, and has been a member of the City Council since 1980. Her nearly four decades of selfless service to her community will serve as a benchmark for the

future leaders of this great city for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I now ask that my colleagues join me in thanking Mayor Elizabeth Minor for her exemplary service and unwavering dedication to the people of Winchester, Virginia. It is an honor to represent her in the U.S. House of Representatives and I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF
BONNIE L. VALKMAN

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the outstanding life and legacy of Bonnie L. Valkman, age 62, who passed away on Monday, November 24, 2014. A respected leader in her community, Bonnie will be remembered for her enthusiastic community involvement.

Bonnie was born on December 22, 1951, in West Bend, Wisconsin, to the late Walter and Joan Michaels. She was a resident of Wauconda, Illinois, for 28 years. Bonnie was the beloved wife of Greg and loving Mother of Laura Baker. Bonnie was a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

Bonnie Valkman leaves behind a legacy of kindness, devotion, and faith. She was a loving and devoted Wife and Mother, a kind and thoughtful friend, and, above all, a woman of deep faith. She attended the Willow Creek Community Church. Bonnie's outlook on life touched the lives of many and made her community a better place. I am saddened by the loss of such a valuable member of the community and extend my heartfelt condolences to her family

CONGRATULATING KATHY LONG

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Kathy Long upon her retirement from outstanding and invaluable public service to the residents of the Third District on the Ventura County Board of Supervisors. For well over two decades, her steadfast leadership and immeasurable contributions to our community have been held in the highest regard throughout the region.

Supervisor Long's commitment to the success of Ventura County is truly commendable. She has been relentless in her efforts to promote Ventura County's economic growth and vitality, protect and strengthen Naval Base Ventura County, prioritize public safety and support the social safety net, conserve our natural resources, preserve our agricultural sector, as well as address the needs of Ventura County's veterans. Moreover, she has ensured a better future for Ventura County and its residents through her remarkable advocacy and tenacity.

Supervisor Long's service to Ventura County extends well beyond her role on the Board of Supervisors. She has continually sought

and worked to be an agent of change in her community through other undertakings including active participation on the Board of Directors of the Economic Development Collaborative-Ventura County, as Co-Chair of the Regional Defense Partnership for the 21st Century, as Chair of the County of Ventura Medical Oversight Committee, as Commissioner of the First 5 Commission, and through her establishment of the Ventura County Women's Economic Roundtable. In addition, Supervisor Long has served as the Ventura County Board of Supervisor's representative to the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) and served on the Executive Board as Chair of the Urban Counties Caucus. She has also served as Co-Chair of the Women's Leadership Forum, Poverty Working Group, and Coastal Counties Regional Association.

In recognition of her tremendous and impactful work, Supervisor Long was recognized as "Woman of the Year" in 2015 by the California State Legislature, "Legislator of the Year" in 2013 by the Chamber of Commerce Alliance of Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties, awarded the "Housing Hero Award" in 2011 by the Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation, received the American Red Cross Clara Barton "Public Servant of the Year" award in 2005, and was acknowledged as the "Public Servant of the Year" for 2002–2003 by the Camarillo Chamber of Commerce.

I humbly applaud Supervisor Kathy Long for her demonstrative dedication and tireless efforts to our community, and Ventura County as a whole. It has been my great honor to work with Supervisor Long throughout the years. I have been fortunate to call her a colleague, an ally, and a friend.

Supervisor Long has established a wonderful legacy of hard work and good governance in the public sector, and she has shown that she has a huge heart for Ventura County. As she retires from the Ventura County Board of Supervisors and enters a whole new chapter in her life, I am confident that this is not the end of her endeavors as an advocate on behalf of our community.

IN HONOR OF J. LAMAR REESE,
JR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a respected civic leader, outstanding citizen, and friend of longstanding, the Honorable J. Lamar Reese, Jr. Sadly, Lamar passed away on Saturday, December 10, 2016. Funeral services to celebrate his life will be held on Wednesday, December 14, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. at Porterfield Memorial United Methodist Church in Albany, Georgia.

John Lamar Reese, Jr. was born on February 14, 1933 in Rome, Georgia. His family later moved to LaGrange, Georgia, where he graduated from LaGrange High School in 1951. He attended the Georgia Institute of Technology and graduated in 1955 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Management. While at Georgia Tech, he was a member of the Chi Phi Fraternity and the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps.

After graduation, Lamar served our nation honorably as a lieutenant in the United States Navy for two years. In 1957, he moved to Albany, Georgia where he founded Reese Construction Company and was a founding partner of LRA Constructors.

Lamar Reese was widely known as a driving force in his community. He served on various boards and organizations including the Albany Board of Realtors; Albany Home Builders Association, and the Kiwanis Club. He was a board member of SunTrust Bank, Darton College, the Hospital Authority of Albany/Dougherty County, and the Albany Chamber of Commerce, where he was awarded the Chamber's first Lifetime Service Award.

Further demonstrating his enduring community commitment, Lamar dedicated his time and talents to serving the city of Albany, Dougherty County, and the State of Georgia. He served on the Dougherty County Board of Education for sixteen years, including thirteen years as Chairman. The Dougherty County Board of Education established the Lamar Reese School of the Arts in honor of Lamar's contributions to the education of young people in Dougherty County.

Lamar also served as Chairman of the Dougherty County Board of Commissioners for four years and was elected President of the Georgia School Boards Association. He was a longtime member and advocate for the Albany YMCA and the Porterfield Memorial United Methodist Church, where he served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees and on the Administrative Board. A devoted alumnus of Georgia Tech, he was a trustee of the Alumni Association, member of the Scheller School of Management Advisory Board, recipient of the Dean Griffin Community Service Award, and President of the Albany Area Georgia Tech Club.

Maya Angelou once said, "A great soul serves everyone all the time. A great soul never dies." Lamar Reese is one such great soul, who served humanity in a special way. He devoted many years of dedicated service to the people of Dougherty County through his meaningful contribution of energy, skill, and genuine passion. He was an honorable human being who loved deeply and, in return, was deeply loved. His impression on this earth extends beyond himself to the very well-being of Dougherty County, and for it he will be remembered by the community for time to come.

On a personal note, Lamar was a friend of longstanding. I have truly been blessed by his friendship, counsel, and inspiration throughout the years.

Lamar is survived by his loving wife, Sandra, dedicated sons, John, Marvin, and Franklin, eight wonderful grandchildren, a great-granddaughter and a host of other family members and friends.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 730,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District salute J. Lamar Reese, Jr. for his dedicated service and exceptional impact on Dougherty County. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest sympathies to the Reese family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate met at 8:30:00 a.m. in pro forma session, and adjourned at 8:30:28 a.m. until 10 a.m., on Friday, December 16, 2016.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 1 public bill, H.R. 6529 was introduced. **Page H7588**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H7588**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 5510, to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to establish new requirements relating to investigations, consent orders, and reporting requirements, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–875, Part 1); and

H.R. 5092, to make exclusive the authority of the Federal Government to regulate the labeling of products made in the United States and introduced in interstate or foreign commerce, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–876). **Page H7588**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Comstock to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H7579**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Dr. Dan C. Cummins, Skyline Wesleyan Church, San Diego, CA. **Page H7579**

Frank R. Wolf International Religious Freedom Act: The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 1150, to amend the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to improve the ability of the United States to advance religious freedom globally through enhanced diplomacy, training, counterterrorism, and foreign assistance efforts, and through stronger and

more flexible political responses to religious freedom violations and violent extremism worldwide. **Pages H7580–84**

United States-Caribbean Strategic Engagement Act of 2016: The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 4939, to increase engagement with the governments of the Caribbean region, the Caribbean diaspora community in the United States, and the private sector and civil society in both the United States and the Caribbean. **Pages H7584–85**

Providing for the approval of the Agreement for Cooperation Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy: The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and pass S. 8, to provide for the approval of the Agreement for Cooperation Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. **Page H7585**

Essential Transportation Worker Identification Credential Assessment Act: The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 710, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to prepare a comprehensive security assessment of the transportation security card program. **Pages H7585–86**

Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers Reform and Improvement Act: The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 3842, to improve homeland

security, including domestic preparedness and response to terrorism, by reforming Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers to provide training to first responders.

Page H7586

Overtime Pay for Secret Service Agents Act of 2016: The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 6302, to provide an increase in premium pay for United States Secret Service agents performing protective services during 2016.

Page H7586

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on pages H7579–80.

Senate Referral: S. 3084 was held at the desk.

Page H7579

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 2:30 p.m. and adjourned at 2:41 p.m.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2016

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Friday, December 16

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 p.m., Friday, December 16

Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

House Chamber

Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 2 p.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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