

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 918. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish mental health care to certain former members of the Armed Forces who are not otherwise eligible to receive such care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 1133. An act to amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for an operation on a live donor for purposes of conducting a transplant procedure for a veteran, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 1900. An act to designate the Veterans Memorial and Museum in Columbus, Ohio, as the National Veterans Memorial and Museum, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2123. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the ability of health care professionals to treat veterans through the use of telemedicine, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 2148. An act to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to clarify capital requirements for certain acquisition, development, or construction loans; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 2601. An act to amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to improve the access of veterans to organ transplants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 3634. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that individuals may access documentation verifying the monthly housing stipend paid to the individual under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 3897. An act to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the issuance of the Gold Star Installation Access Card to the surviving spouse, dependent children, and other next of kin of a member of the Armed Forces who dies while serving on certain active or reserve duty, to ensure that a remarried surviving spouse with dependent children of the deceased member remains eligible for installation benefits to which the surviving spouse was previously eligible, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

H.R. 3911. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 with respect to risk-based examinations of Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3404. A communication from the Acting Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Imposition of Special Measure

against Bank of Dandong as a Financial Institution of Primary Money Laundering Concern" (RIN1506-AB38) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2017; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3405. A communication from the Deputy Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Administration's decision to enter into a contract with a private security screening company to provide screening services at Atlantic City International Airport (ACY); to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3406. A communication from the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "CMS Ensured Nearly All Part D Drug Records Contained Valid Prescriber Identifiers in 2016"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3407. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-96; Small Entity Compliance Guide" (FAC 2005-96) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2017; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3408. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Removal of Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces Rule" (RIN9000-AN52) (FAC 2005-96)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2017; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3409. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-96; Introduction" (FAC 2005-96) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2017; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3410. A communication from the Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the cost of response and recovery efforts for FEMA-3385-EM in the State of Florida having exceeded the \$5,000,000 limit for a single emergency declaration; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3411. A communication from the Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the cost of response and recovery efforts for FEMA-3384-EM in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico having exceeded the \$5,000,000 limit for a single emergency declaration; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3412. A communication from the Acting Assistant Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's fiscal year 2016 Federal Activities Inventory Reform (FAIR) Act submission of its commercial and inherently governmental activities; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3413. A communication from the Executive Analyst (Political), Department of

Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Director, Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2017; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-3414. A communication from the Solicitor General, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, an opinion of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia (United States v. James Marvin Reed); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3415. A communication from the Chairman, Board of Trustees, and the President, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Center's consolidated financial statements, supplemental schedules of operations, and independent auditor's report for years ended October 2, 2016, and September 27, 2015, and a report relative to the Center's schedule of expenditures of federal awards and independent auditor's reports for the year ended October 2, 2016; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-3416. A communication from the Office Program Manager, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of the Presumptive Period for Compensation for Gulf War Veterans" (RIN2900-AP84) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2017; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3417. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Uninformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA) Quarterly Report to Congress; Fourth Quarter of Fiscal Year 2017"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-134. A concurrent resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan urging the United States Congress to properly fund the Department of Veterans Affairs Board of Veterans' Appeals and to urge the Board to streamline its process so that appeals are decided in a more timely manner; to the Committee on Appropriations.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3

Whereas, Military veterans have a number of benefits available to them when honorably discharged from service. However, to receive disability benefits, veterans must apply and be approved by agents at local veterans affairs offices. If denied, the veteran has a right to appeal to the federal Board of Veterans' Appeals; and

Whereas, As of July 2016, more than 81,000 cases were pending before the Board of Veterans' Appeals, and veterans are waiting an average of five years for cases to be determined. The wait time for a case to be resolved is unacceptable to the men and women who have served our country, and action must be taken to ensure that they are able to access the benefits they have earned; and

Whereas, Additional funding and staff are necessary to properly address the backlog, as well as the estimated 57,000 new complaints received in 2016. Streamlining the complex appeals process is also required. Increased funding for the board was included in H.R.