

# TRIBUTE TO JOANI SLAWSON AND JAMES YAQUES

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I often praise the talents and goodwill of Floridians across my home State, and today is no different. Ms. Joani Slawson, a music teacher at Saturn Elementary in Brevard County, and Mr. James Yaques, of Palm Beach Central High School, have been nominated for a Grammy award. Their passion for teaching coupled with their musical talent is rightly being recognized as they are both semifinalists for music educator of the year.

As the Grammy process continues, I, along with my fellow Floridians, will be rooting for Ms. Slawson and Mr. Yaques. I wish them, their respective schools, and their students all the best.●

## MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:35 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1066. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report regarding the organizational structure of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3122. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include on the Internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs a warning regarding dishonest, predatory, or otherwise unlawful practices targeting individuals who are eligible for increased pension on the basis of need for regular aid and attendance, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3562. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish assistance for adaptations of residences of veterans in rehabilitation programs under chapter 31 of such title, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3656. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a consistent eligibility date for provision of Department of Veterans Affairs memorial headstones and markers for eligible spouses and dependent children of veterans whose remains are unavailable.

H.R. 3657. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide certain burial benefits for spouses and children of veterans who are buried in tribal cemeteries, and for other purposes.

## MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1066. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report regarding the organizational structure of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 3122. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include on the internet website of the Department of Veterans Af-

fairs a warning regarding dishonest, predatory, or otherwise unlawful practices targeting individuals who are eligible for increased pension on the basis of need for regular aid and attendance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 3562. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish assistance for adaptations of residences of veterans in rehabilitation programs under chapter 31 of such title, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 3656. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a consistent eligibility date for provision of Department of Veterans Affairs memorial headstones and markers for eligible spouses and dependent children of veterans whose remains are unavailable; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 3657. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide certain burial benefits for spouses and children of veterans who are buried in tribal cemeteries; to the Committee on Veterans' 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-3383. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Black Stem Rust; Additions of Rust-Resistant Species and Varieties" (Docket No. APHIS-2017-0049) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3384. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Benzovindiflupyr; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9967-33-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3385. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Formaldehyde, polymer with 1,3-benzenediol, 2-methyloxirane and oxirane, ethers with polyethylene glycol mono-Me ether; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9969-99-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3386. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Formaldehyde, polymer with 1,3-benzenediol, ethers with polyethylene glycol mono-Me ether; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9970-00-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3387. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; New Hampshire;

Rules for Open Burning and Incinerators; Withdrawal of Direct Final Rule" (FRL No. 9970-41-Region 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3388. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Continuous Monitoring Requirements for Municipal Waste Combustors" (FRL No. 9970-28-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3389. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Treatment Under Section 956(c) of Certain Receivables Following Hurricane Irma or Hurricane Maria" (Notice 2017-68) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3390. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Relief for Victims of Hurricane Maria and California Wildfires" (Announcement 2017-15) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3391. A communication from the Deputy Director, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Calendar Year 2018 Home Health Prospective Payment System Rate Update and Calendar Year 2019 Case-Mix Adjustment Methodology Refinements; Home Health Value-Based Purchasing Model; and Home Health Quality Reporting Requirements" ((RIN0938-AT01) (CMS-1672-F)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3392. A communication from the Deputy Director, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program; Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment Systems and Quality Reporting Programs" ((RIN0938-AT03) (CMS-1678-FC)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3393. A communication from the Deputy Director, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program; Revisions to Payment Policies Under the Physician Fee Schedule and Other Revisions to Part B for Calendar Year 2018; Medicare Shared Savings Program Requirements; and Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program" ((RIN0938-AT02) (CMS-1676-F)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3394. A communication from the Deputy Director, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program; Calendar Year 2018 Updates to the Quality Payer Program; and Quality Payment Program; Extreme and Uncontrollable