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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 31, 2018, at 10 a.m.

Senate

MONDAY, JULY 30, 2018

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Holy God, as we strive to renew our minds through the power of Your Divine presence, show us how to discern what Your will is for our lives.

Lord, prepare our lawmakers to be sober-minded and filled with Your Spirit, accomplishing the tasks that receive Heaven's approval. Lord, keep our Senators on the path of integrity as they strive to ensure that their conduct rightly represents You.

May they live lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for the day when You will establish Your Kingdom on Earth. Lord, prepare our Senators to stand before You, in peace, without spot or blemish.

We pray in Your Holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. YOUNG). The majority leader is recognized.

WORK BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, we will finish up the set of appropriations measures we have been considering for several days and take four more big steps toward our goal of completing a regular appropriations process and funding the government in a timely and orderly manner.

We will authorize vital resources for our Nation's Armed Forces. We will attend to several other priorities as well, including an extension of flood insurance and sending the bipartisan farm bill to a conference with the House.

NOMINATION OF BRITT GRANT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, first, later today, the Senate will vote to advance the nomination of Britt Cagle Grant, the President's selection to serve on the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

This Stanford Law graduate has served the people of Georgia for 6 years, most recently as a justice on the State's supreme court. All eight of her fellow justices had this to say about Justice Grant in a letter to Chairman GRASSLEY and Senator FEINSTEIN:

She is highly intelligent, [with] a breadth and depth of legal experience. . . . Her first focus is always to get the law right.

They go on to write:

Justice Grant's character and integrity is unquestioned. She has an excellent reputation in the legal community [and] a well-balanced judicial temperament.

In sum, they write:

Justice Grant displays all the qualities of an excellent judge. . . . Our loss would be the Eleventh Circuit's gain.

Justice Grant's colleagues on the Georgia Supreme Court include appointees of Republican Governors and Democratic Governors. They have seen her work up close. They have seen her legal expertise and her commitment to the rule of law. They have seen her conviction that—in her own words—“the role of judges is to interpret the law rather than make it.”

Her reputation reaches beyond State lines. In another letter to our colleagues on the Judiciary Committee, current and former State solicitors general from across the country testify to her “congeniality,” “integrity and work ethic,” and say that Justice Grant “has treated colleagues, opposing counsel, and the litigants appearing before her with respect.”

The understanding of a judge's role and the temperament to execute it is precisely the approach our constitutional order requires of our judges. I look forward to voting to advance Justice Grant's nomination later today, and I urge each of my colleagues to join me.

ECONOMIC GROWTH

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on a final matter, on Friday, the Commerce Department reported some outstanding news. In the second quarter of 2018, the real gross domestic product of the United States grew by 4.1 percent. This number is just the latest point in a long series of evidence that shows the American economy is thriving.

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



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As I have pointed out, it is a mistake to view this growth—and the new prosperity for American families that it entails—primarily as an achievement of government. It is the American worker, the American job creator, and the American entrepreneur who has grown our economy faster than 4 percent this quarter, who has driven the number of Americans filing for unemployment benefits to its lowest level in over 48 years and created 3.7 million jobs since the 2016 election, and who has repatriated more than \$300 billion from overseas in the first quarter of this year alone, according to the Commerce Department, bringing that money home to our country.

This is what free enterprise can achieve when Washington, DC, stops raising taxes, stops micromanaging the economy through the sprawling regulatory State, and stops presuming it is better to funnel money and power to bureaucrats than to trust hard-working families and small business owners to live their own lives. So it is the American people who deserve the credit for the successes of their economy.

Here is what this united Republican government is doing: cutting their taxes, rolling back the redtape, and mowing down one hurdle after another that has held our country back.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

NOMINATION OF BRETT KAVANAUGH

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, on Friday, the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, CHUCK GRASSLEY, sent a letter to the George W. Bush Library requesting only a small portion of Judge Kavanaugh's records. Traditionally, letters from the Senate Judiciary Committee requesting the records for a Supreme Court nominee have been bipartisan and complete. When Democrats were in the majority, we joined with the Republican minority to request all—not some, all—of Elena Kagan's White House documents. When Democrats were in the majority, we joined with the Republican minority to request all—not some—of Judge Sotomayor's documents. At Republicans' insistence, that included documents from 30 years ago, when she served as a board member of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund, because they had questions about her views on certain of those

issues. It was a request that we thought stretched a little far, but we went along for the sake of transparency and openness. So this idea that it should be only the legal records is totally undone and gainsaid by what they requested of Judge Sotomayor.

Now the Republicans are in the majority, and the shoe is on the other foot. Chairman GRASSLEY, unfortunately, has broken with all precedent and refused Democratic requests for Judge Kavanaugh's full record. He sent a letter to the Archivist at 5 p.m. Friday—that is usually a time when people do things they don't want people to catch wind of—making such a request.

My Republican colleagues know that this was wrong. That is why they sent it so late on a Friday, hoping to bury it. This letter makes it clear that Republicans intend to block the Senate and the American people from access to the bulk of Judge Kavanaugh's White House records.

So the question looms: What are they hiding? What are they afraid of? Why wouldn't they grant the kind of openness to records that America prides itself on? Why wouldn't they grant a request for openness of records when we are going to vote on someone who will have huge power over the lives of average Americans for a whole generation? Why shouldn't we see what that record is about before we vote?

In this letter, Senate Republicans are requesting only documents from 2 of the 5 years that Judge Kavanaugh was in the White House—only documents from his time in the White House Counsel's office, not as Staff Secretary. But Staff Secretary was the most senior job in the White House the nominee held. In Judge Kavanaugh's own words, the position of Staff Secretary was hugely influential in his career. He worked there during a time of great controversy.

Over the weekend, the New York Times reported, for instance, that as Staff Secretary, Brett Kavanaugh likely oversaw President Bush's controversial signing statements on torture. By his own account, he was involved in President Bush's decision to select a Supreme Court Justice. Why the heck that is not relevant to choosing him as a Supreme Court Justice is beyond explanation. They can't give an explanation; they just want to rush it through.

There is no good reason to argue that Judge Kavanaugh's time as Staff Secretary isn't relevant to understanding what kind of Justice he might be. Yet, Senate Republicans requested none—absolutely none—of the records from this period in Kavanaugh's career. What are they hiding?

Worse yet, here is what we learned Friday, amazingly: The documents we are going to receive are being screened by a partisan lawyer with ties to President Trump and Steve Bannon. That is right. The lawyer who is going over these documents, who is screening them, not only has ties to President

Trump but also to Steve Bannon, one of the most partisan people this administration has ever seen.

My Republican friends are checking all the boxes on the obstruction list—hiding documents, collaborating with political operative lawyers, and then causing the process to slow down so that there is as little time for the American people to review the documents as possible. A bipartisan letter should have been sent 2 weeks ago.

When Democrats were in charge, that is what we did. We didn't tell the Republican minority: You can have this request and not that. Senator GRASSLEY says: Well, there was never a White House Counsel, a White House Secretary. What is the difference?

As Republicans, they requested Judge Sotomayor's records for the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund 30 years earlier. We didn't say: That is a difference. Every request was granted. Why are they not being granted now? They are hiding something is what many people would say.

I hope my colleagues will bring these political games to an end, for the sake of our country, for the sake of comity, and for the sake of bipartisanship. Our Republican friends talk a game of bipartisanship but never seem to act it out. And they invoke a double standard: What was good for them when they were in the minority is not good for us while we are in the minority.

The Senate and the American people deserve access to the full records from the man who has been nominated to a lifetime appointment in such a powerful position as Justice of the Supreme Court. I hope my colleagues on the Republican side will bring these games to an end.

NOMINATION OF BRITT GRANT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, on Britt Grant, the new nominee for the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals—Britt Grant, throughout her career, has expressed views far outside the mainstream. When you read this list, you will say: How did they come up with someone so on the fringe? She is not someone who is a mainstream conservative, but way out there.

As solicitor general, she defended a law that made it illegal for doctors to perform an abortion after 20 weeks of pregnancy and assisted on an amicus brief arguing that defining marriage as between a man and a woman does not violate the Constitution's guarantee of equal protection.

She worked on a brief for the Supreme Court that defended a Georgia prosecutor's decision to strike Black jurors based on their race. She led Georgia's challenge to DACA, even though 85, 90 percent of all Americans are for DACA.

Before becoming Georgia's solicitor general, she argued against the Affordable Care Act, assisted on an amicus brief defending Indiana's defunding of Planned Parenthood, urged the Supreme Court to gut the Voting Rights

Act, and argued to strike down the Affordable Care Act's contraception coverage mandate.

So from reproductive rights to civil rights to gun safety, name a partisan legal case from the past 5 years, and there is a good chance that Britt Grant has been involved, taking up a fringe legal argument—way out of the American mainstream—to weaken well-established rights and overturn precedent in pursuit of an ideological objective.

I would also like to bring to my colleagues' attention that in speeches and in handwritten notes—even with this extreme record—Judge Brett Kavanaugh has repeatedly praised Britt Grant's record. In fact, Kavanaugh called Britt Grant “a superb solicitor general of Georgia.” That is someone with these extreme views.

Judge Kavanaugh's ringing endorsement of Britt Grant's record may serve as a window into his own judicial philosophy. It makes you wonder: What, exactly, does Judge Kavanaugh agree with her on so that he would call her so many laudatory things?

Does he agree with Britt Grant that a woman's constitutional, guaranteed freedom to make her own reproductive choices should be curtailed, even though an overwhelming majority of Americans support Roe? Does he believe, like Britt Grant, that States should be able to define marriage as only between a man and a woman, even though the Supreme Court has declared things the other way? Does he believe, like Britt Grant, that insurers shouldn't have to provide contraceptive coverage?

Britt Grant is the kind of lawyer Judge Kavanaugh, in his own words, considers “superb.” Maybe that is why they both ended up on the same short list of 25 potential out-of-the-mainstream court nominees—out of the mainstream because they were vetted by the Heritage Foundation, which believes that the government should not be involved in healthcare, and by the Federalist Society, whose leader's goal is to repeal Roe v. Wade, even though 71 percent of Americans are against that repeal.

Whether you are a Democrat or a Republican or Independent, you should want a better process for choosing judges. The American people deserve judges from the legal mainstream who will interpret the law rather than make it, who will respect and defer to precedent unless there is a darn good reason not to—not just folks picked off some list prevetted by extreme conservative groups that don't represent what a majority of Americans think, and they probably don't even represent what a majority of Republicans think. But the Republican majority has been advancing an assembly line of nakedly partisan, ideological judges like Britt Grant. That Judge Kavanaugh has praised her record so roundly is concerning.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). Without objection, it is so ordered.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Britt Cagle Grant, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I intend to speak for a few moments as in morning business concerning the National Flood Insurance Program, which is set to expire tomorrow night at midnight, July 31, and which certainly this body will not allow to expire. We will undoubtedly reauthorize the program and not leave millions of Americans without flood protection at the height of the Atlantic hurricane season.

The House has sent us legislation that provides for a clean reauthorization, temporary as it may be. It will keep the program going without injecting reforms or changes, and it reassures homeowners and property owners across the country who rely on this program that it will still be there and that they can count on it.

We are not bathing ourselves in glory by doing this. I think we would all acknowledge that passing this reauthorization right before the deadline does not entitle us to pat ourselves on the back. Instead, it should motivate Members to work across the aisle to provide meaningful reforms. I have a suggestion or two for some meaningful reforms when we take this up on a permanent basis.

We may have assured Americans today and tomorrow that when we act on this, they can rely on the National Flood Insurance Program through No-

vember, but we need to assure them that they can rely on the program for the next year, for the next 5 years, or for 10 years. That will be a challenge over the next several months.

We need to make this program financially sustainable for the long term, but we also need to assure property owners that they are not going to be hit with a huge insurance bill they can't afford. History does not provide the public with very much encouragement with regard to actually getting some reforms done. We have to keep it going with a patchwork.

Out of the 41 times that the National Flood Insurance Program has been reauthorized over the past 20 years, reforms have been included only 3 times out of 41. That is not a great record. I hope that before the end of this calendar year, we can add a fourth substantive change to make some progress.

One thing I hope we can do is to enact the changes to the COASTAL Act in a bill that I have introduced called the COASTAL Implementation Act. If you recall, after Hurricane Katrina, we saw how discrepancies between wind damage and water damage on the total-loss properties often prevented property owners from being made whole. There was a dispute between the flood insurance folks and the wind insurance folks, and the property owner was caught in the middle.

The COASTAL Act and the followup COASTAL Implementation Act seeks to address these discrepancies with better data collection and more accurate poststorm assessments. More specifically, we want NOAA, or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to be able to assess the strength of wind and water at affected sites. With sound data, the property owners can receive fair compensation for their losses—some, perhaps, from the flood insurance coverage, and some from the wind insurance coverage. Reducing cases of “indeterminate losses” would ultimately reduce costs to the National Flood Insurance Program and better serve the public.

My other reform proposal also seeks to arm us with better data. I call this legislation the MEMA Act, which stands for Municipality Empowerment Mapping Achievement. Under this act, FEMA would publish the NFIP's rate maps. These maps would cover the entire United States, and they would be created using the latest technology. Information on an area's flood hazard risks should be accessible and comprehensive.

Accurate maps can also help to draw businesses to our smaller communities. Without this information, these businesses might go to a nearby urban area to invest. The playing field should be leveled in this regard. Other ideas, such as competition from the private sector, can help to bring down high flood insurance rates.

What we don't want to do is to drive folks away from coastal areas. Forty

percent of our population lives in a coastal county. There are 56 million jobs there, and more than \$8 trillion is produced in goods and services, according to NOAA.

Let's also not forget about our rivers and inland waterways. The Mississippi River, for example, accounts for a \$400 billion annual economic impact. When communities near a river, lake, or ocean suffer, the effects can ripple across the whole Nation. Try as we might, we can't prevent floods. We can mitigate and try to guard against them and try to strengthen our protection, but we can't eliminate flooding from happening. They are the most frequent natural disaster. We should do what we can to mitigate the damage and costs.

It is also worth reminding my colleagues that the National Flood Insurance Program is a program that serves ordinary people—workers and families who are just trying to make an honest living and who do not want to see everything they have washed away in a flood. These 5 million Americans pay their flood insurance premiums, and they should be able to live without worry that should a disaster strike, they will be left high and dry.

I call on my colleagues in the next day and a half to pass this short-term authorization, and, certainly, we will do that on a bipartisan basis. Then, let's give the Banking Committee and people who are concentrating on this issue some bipartisan support to pass much needed reforms.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

NOMINATION OF BRETT KAVANAUGH

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Madam President, there are few responsibilities—I would say none—more important than our duties in connection with the appointment of a Supreme Court Justice. Much is at stake in the nomination that is before the Senate now to appoint Judge Brett Kavanaugh as the Justice who will replace Justice Kennedy. So much is at stake—the future of *Roe v. Wade*, affordable healthcare, particularly, preexisting conditions and the protections of them for millions of Americans.

But I am not here to talk about Judge Kavanaugh as a nominee. I am here to talk about how we reach a conclusion as to how my colleagues and I vote and how we seek and pursue the truth about Judge Kavanaugh, his qualifications, his temperament, his integrity and intellect, who he is, and what kind of Justice he will be.

The best way to do it is to know what he has written and said—all of his writings and opinions and the articles he has written. These points are pretty basic.

I am struck by our colleagues' objection to our seeking documents they have sought in connection with past nominees when they were made by Presidents of our party. When President Obama nominated Justice Kagan, Republicans asked for documents from her years in the Clinton administration, her tenure as dean of the Harvard Law School, and even her clerkship for Justice Thurgood Marshall. Senator GRASSLEY, now the chairman of the Judiciary Committee said at the time: "For the Senate to fulfill its constitutional responsibility of advice and consent, we must get all of her documents . . . and have enough time to analyze them so we can determine whether she should be a Justice."

I agree. Now, unfortunately, Republicans want to apply a completely different standard to Judge Kavanaugh. They want his documents kept sealed and stored so that he can waltz onto the Court without having to answer tough questions about what he has written, said, and done. They maintain that there is nothing in the documents that would be relevant or revelatory. Well, we can't know this supposed irrelevance, and neither can they until we all see those documents.

For some reason, the Republicans seem worried. They seem concerned. They seem apprehensive. The American people and we have a right to ask: What are they concealing and why are they scared of it? What is Judge Kavanaugh hiding and why is he afraid of it? That is a question he should answer and which they have a responsibility to address before we begin the hearings. Our questions require those documents.

There is, in fact, a lot of good reason to think that those documents will be relevant and revelatory, particularly the documents from his time in the White House. My Republican colleagues are now downplaying the role Judge Kavanaugh had while working for President Bush. Republican whip and Judiciary Committee member JOHN CORNYN, our friend and colleague from Texas, said that Judge Kavanaugh was "more or less a traffic cop," but that contention contradicts what our colleagues said at the time when Judge Kavanaugh was a nominee to the DC Circuit Court of Appeals. Senator CORNYN himself said then of Kavanaugh: "He . . . is currently Staff Secretary to President Bush, a job whose title belies the very serious and important responsibilities that individual performs."

Senator HATCH, also a colleague and a very distinguished member of the Judiciary Committee, said of Judge Kavanaugh: "His background as Staff Secretary may prove to be particularly good judicial training."

But for me the best indication of how important his role as Staff Secretary to President Bush was—not just as counsel, but as Staff Secretary—comes from Judge Kavanaugh himself. He said:

When people ask me which of my prior experiences has been most useful to me as a judge, I tell them that all of them have been useful, and I certainly draw on all of them. But I also do not hesitate to say that my five and a half years in the White House—and especially my three years as Staff Secretary for President Bush—were the most interesting and in many ways the most instructive.

I would read that sentence again, but I am not sure I need to. It will be in the RECORD, and it is well-known to many of my colleagues.

Judge Kavanaugh went on:

As Staff Secretary, I sat in meetings where he talked with President Hu and then-President Musharraf and President Karzai and Prime Minister Blair and Pope John Paul. I was at the G-8 in Scotland when the London subway bombing occurred. I saw and participated in the process of putting legislation together, whether it was terrorism insurance or Medicare prescription drug coverage or attempts at immigration reform. I worked on drafting and revising executive orders. I remember times on the Hill in negotiating last-minute changes in legislation. I saw regulatory agencies screw up. I saw how they might try to avoid congressional mandates. I saw the relationship between independent agencies and executive agencies and the President and White House and OMB. I saw FOIA requests.

That is from Judge Kavanaugh.

If there is any indication as to why we need those documents from the time he was Staff Secretary to President Bush, it is from Judge Kavanaugh's own words. If we want to know what kind of Justice he will be, we need to understand the decisions he has made and the lessons he has learned in that most informative job. If we refuse to even try, we have abdicated our constitutional responsibility. We have a duty.

I submit, with great respect, that the request made by the chairman of the Judiciary Committee involves all of us abdicating that responsibility unless we protest and raise a hue and cry and force the production of additional documents. This goes beyond any sort of partisan divide, and it goes beyond the question of whether any of my colleagues are voting for or against Judge Kavanaugh. It is about our constitutional responsibility.

These documents, as Judge Kavanaugh himself has said, would, in effect, reveal much about Judge Kavanaugh, for he worked on just about every major issue as counselor to President Bush and as Staff Secretary to him.

In a recent interview, Karl Rove noted: "Literally every document that goes to the president on a policy issue has to pass through the hands of the staff secretary."

As he himself has said, Judge Kavanaugh was at the President's side at many pivotal moments of the Bush Presidency—from the passage of the partial-birth abortion ban to debates over same-sex marriage and well beyond. We should know just what Judge Kavanaugh said as Staff Secretary to President Bush during those and other critical moments of the Bush Presidency. His advice to President Bush

and his role in those decisions are relevant. I think that word understates its importance. It is critical to our judgments about his qualifications.

Perhaps—maybe just by chance—there is nothing in those documents. When Judge Kavanaugh was in the White House, maybe he was just a traffic cop, as Senator CORNYN has claimed, or was an honest broker, as the judge described himself at his confirmation hearing. Yet, if that were true, what are they hiding? Why do they need to conceal it? We should have the opportunity to determine whether Judge Kavanaugh had truly been an honest broker, just a traffic cop, or had just passed documents through his hands without his having had any input. The best way to determine this is by reviewing those documents.

Judge Kavanaugh made this very point when he was an appellate court nominee. At his confirmation hearing, he was asked how Senators should assess his record. He answered: "I think that's done through an assessment of going back, in my case, 16 years of my career and looking at the kinds of things I've done in the staff secretary's office."

We should heed those words. They are the words of Judge Kavanaugh. We should examine all of the documents. It may take some additional time to review all of those documents but maybe not if there is nothing in there that relates to his view and his opinion and his role. If he were just a traffic cop or an honest broker, we can get through them very, very quickly. Regardless of the time involved, there is no more important task that we will undertake as U.S. Senators than to decide on his qualifications for being a Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court. Anything less would be a dereliction of our duty.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MORAN). The Senator from Louisiana.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, last week, the House voted overwhelmingly, by a vote of 366 to 52, to extend the National Flood Insurance Program for 4 months, until November 30, 2018. The purpose is to allow for the continued reform efforts of this program so as to make it more accountable, more affordable, and more sustainable. Two weeks ago, the Senate demonstrated almost unanimous support for a 6-month extension of the National Flood Insurance Program, by a vote of 94 to 5.

The NFIP, as the Flood Insurance Program is called, insures properties in every State—approximately 6 million homes and businesses and over \$1.2 trillion in assets. The current law has it set to expire at 11:59 p.m. tomorrow, on July 31. If the NFIP is not extended, people will not be able to renew their flood insurance policies or purchase new ones. That means more will be uninsured during the peak of hurricane season. That is not acceptable. According to the National Association of Re-

altors, letting the NFIP expire would cost up to 40,000 property sales per month, or about 1,330 home sales per day.

Last week, the Senate tried to pass the short-term extension that the House had passed by unanimous consent, but we were unable to. So, on Friday, cloture was filed in the Senate on the 4-month extension that the House passed. The problem is that the cloture vote will not occur until Wednesday, setting up the final passage of the extension on Thursday. That means that the NFIP would lapse for 2 days.

This is totally avoidable. Its delay does nothing to advance reforms within the NFIP, many of which I proposed a year ago in a long-term reauthorization bill that I had introduced with colleagues from New York and West Virginia. A lapse does disrupt real estate transactions for the 2,600 Americans who are trying to close on their homes—perhaps on their first homes—over the next couple of days. By the way, these are not million-dollar properties, for 98.5 percent of NFIP properties are in parishes or counties with median household incomes of below \$100,000, and 62 percent are in parishes or counties with median household incomes below the national average of \$54,000.

Congress has always honored the flood insurance policies that NFIP policyholders have had. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to expedite the consideration of the National Flood Insurance Program's 4-month extension and pass it by unanimous consent.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

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

MEDICAID

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise this afternoon to talk about an important anniversary. Today marks 53 years since the Medicare and Medicaid Programs have been created. I will speak specifically today about Medicaid. Many Americans are familiar with all of the benefits that Medicaid provides to so many Americans, but I don't know if people have a sense of the scope of it.

First of all, Medicaid helps 70 million individuals and families in every stage of life. Medicaid covers nearly half of every birth in the United States of America. Medicaid covers 40 percent of all children across the country. In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, it is also true that roughly 40 percent of all of the children have their healthcare covered through Medicaid. Roughly 50 percent of the people with disabilities in our State are covered by Medicaid, and about 60 percent of those who need skilled care, so-called nursing home care—about 2 million Pennsylvanians—are covered by Medicaid.

Medicaid is currently considered the "gold standard" for children's

healthcare, which includes the early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment benefits, known as EPSDT. It doesn't get a lot of attention, but a lot of the professionals who understand pediatrics and children's healthcare will stress the importance of early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment.

Medicaid helps to prevent moms and dads from being forced into deciding whether to put food on their tables or take a child to see a doctor. Through Medicaid, 15 million people with disabilities receive assistance with their healthcare or with durable medical equipment, such as wheelchairs or assistive speaking devices, long-term supports for daily living, such as personal care attendants, and so many other benefits.

If you just focus on the category of Americans with disabilities who are children, 60 percent of children in America with disabilities are covered by Medicaid. Medicaid helps Americans afford their Medicare premiums. That is the interplay between both the Medicaid Program and the Medicare Program. Medicaid pays for nursing home care for older relatives who otherwise would incur \$75,000 per year of expenses, which would force countless middle-class families out of their homes and deprive them of their hard-earned savings.

How about our schools? Forty-eight percent of school districts use Medicaid funds to provide medical and therapy services in schools for children who receive special education.

Medicaid also funds transportation for eligible individuals to receive medical services.

Finally, on this long list, Medicaid is the primary payer for the treatment and services of opioid addiction, as well as for substance use disorder services.

All of those issues are critically important to the American people and especially, of course, to the American family. That is why last year—and continuing into 2018—the efforts that have been made to repeal the Affordable Care Act have had an adverse impact on Medicaid by, in one sense, decimating the program and badly injuring our ability to deliver all of those healthcare benefits to children, to people with disabilities, to seniors. In virtually every bill that has been considered in the Senate or the House, the effect on the opioid crisis has been devastating because of what has happened to the expansion of Medicaid as opposed to the original Medicaid Program itself.

I hope our Republican friends will consider all of those benefits and the impact on Medicaid when they are proposing repeal legislation and similar legislative proposals.

I will make a point about one family, which I think, in so many ways, is emblematic of a lot of other families when it comes to Medicaid. In Pennsylvania, I received a letter from a mom in Southeastern Pennsylvania. Her name

is Pam Simpson. She was writing to me about her son, Rowan. The impact on Rowan Simpson's life, like a lot of children's lives, is incomparable. It is hard to comprehend how beneficial it has been.

As I said, his mom Pam sent me a note. Here is what she said, in pertinent part. I will not read all of it, just an excerpt. She said:

In late January 2016, I applied for Medicaid assistance.

Medical Assistance, I should say. That is the Medicaid Program in Pennsylvania, Medical Assistance.

After Rowan was awarded this assistance, we were able to obtain wrap-around services, which included a Behavioral Health Consultant (BSC) and a Therapeutic Staff Support worker (TSS). . . . The wrap-around services have been a Godsend.

Toward the end of the letter, Pam Simpson said:

Without Medicaid, I am confident that I could not work full time to support our family. We would be bankrupt, or my son—

Meaning Rowan—

would go without the therapies he sincerely needs.

Pam Simpson concludes the letter this way:

Please think of my dear Rowan and his happy face, his big blue eyes, and his lovely strawberry blonde hair. Please think of me and my husband working every day to support our family. Please think of my 9-month-old daughter, Luna, who smiles and laughs at her brother daily; she will have to care for Rowan later in her life after we are gone. Overall, we are desperately in need of Rowan's Medicaid Assistance and would be devastated if we lost these benefits.

That is one mom talking about her son in Pennsylvania, but of course they are representative of so many families across the country.

All of us here know—it is pretty evident from the data on where we are positioned in the world—that we are the strongest country in the world—meaning the strongest economy—and that we are also the strongest military power in the world. There is no question about that. But that same country, that same strong country, over time has figured out a way to take care of the American family, especially through a program like Medicaid.

Hubert Humphrey said it well years ago. He may have even said this on the Senate floor when he was representing Minnesota. Hubert Humphrey said: "The moral test of government is how it treats those who are in the dawn of life . . . those who are in the twilight of life . . . and those who are in the shadows of life." In a sense, he is talking about children in the dawn of life, those with disabilities and others who might be in the shadows of life, and those who are senior citizens in the twilight of life.

No program touches more Americans than the Medicaid Program, and we must continue to work to fight to keep Medicaid strong not just for the next 50 years or 53 years—today is the anniversary—but for many years after that.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. PERDUE. Mr. President, one of the great honors and privileges of being a Senator is that we get to confirm Presidential nominations to our country's highest courts.

President Trump has nominated an outstanding judge to fill an opening on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. That judge is Georgia Supreme Court Justice Britt Grant. Tonight, the Senate will vote to invoke cloture on her nomination so we can confirm her later this week. This is a crucial vote.

Justice Grant has served with distinction on the Supreme Court of Georgia since January 2017. In that role, she has written over 40 opinions on both criminal and civil matters and participated in hundreds of other opinions. Her positions are not a mystery. She has a long record of defending and upholding our Constitution.

She served as Solicitor General for the State of Georgia from 2015 until her appointment to the State Supreme Court. This year, she was elected to her seat on the State Supreme Court without opposition. When that happens in my State, that means people on both sides of the aisle understand how she is applying the rule of law. It is a testament to the quality of her work and the dedication she has to the Constitution and to the people for whom she works.

Prior to her public service, Justice Grant argued a commercial litigation case before the highest Court in the land, the U.S. Supreme Court. And by the way, she won.

Justice Grant attended Stanford Law School. After graduating, she actually clerked for Judge Brett Kavanaugh—another outstanding nominee who will hopefully be confirmed to the U.S. Supreme Court later this year. I might add that Judge Kavanaugh sat through Justice Grant's confirmation hearing in front of the Judiciary Committee just a few months ago. He was there for the entire hearing because she did such a good job clerking for him earlier in her career.

Clearly, Justice Grant is immensely qualified to fill this Court of Appeals vacancy, and there is no doubt in my mind that she will do a fantastic job. In fact, our country needs more judges like Justice Grant.

I couldn't be prouder of her, her husband Justin, and their three kids, Charles, Mary Elise, and Jack.

Earlier this year, I was honored to introduce Justice Grant in her confirmation hearing and to commend her nomination with my highest recommendation. Tonight, I strongly urge my colleagues to support her final confirmation to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

With that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to be granted enough time to complete my remarks before the vote.

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

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I come briefly but quickly and proudly to recommend Britt Grant to this body and to the United States of America to be the next judge from the State of Georgia to be on the circuit court of appeals.

Britt Grant is an outstanding jurist. She became a judge on the Georgia Supreme Court at the age of 40. She went to Stanford University Law School, and she went to Wake Forest University as an undergraduate. After she left Stanford University, she came to clerk for Brett Kavanaugh, who is now nominated for the U.S. Supreme Court.

Throughout her legal career, whether it was practicing as an attorney, whether it was serving as a judge, or whatever she did, she was always at the top of her class, at the top of her case, or at the top of her ability. I don't remember ever having a judge come before this body, since I have been in Congress, from my home State of Georgia who had more people pulling for her, more people wanting her to win, more people who think she is the right person at the right time for the United States of America.

So I come to the floor as the senior Senator from Georgia to tell my colleagues this: You have the chance to invoke cloture tonight with your vote and to vote tomorrow for the confirmation of the Honorable Britt Grant of the Georgia Supreme Court to be on the U.S. Circuit Court for the Eleventh Circuit of the United States of America.

I urge my colleagues to vote yes for cloture and yes for Judge Grant tomorrow.

I yield back the remainder of my time.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Britt Cagle Grant, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

Mitch McConnell, Cindy Hyde-Smith, David Perdue, Mike Crapo, Mike Rounds, John Boozman, Ron Johnson, John Barrasso, Steve Daines, John Cornyn, Johnny Isakson, John Thune, James E. Risch, Richard Burr, Lindsey Graham, Thom Tillis, Roy Blunt.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Britt Cagle Grant, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 172 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Alexander	Graham	Perdue
Barrasso	Grassley	Portman
Blunt	Hatch	Risch
Boozman	Heitkamp	Roberts
Burr	Heller	Rounds
Capito	Hoeven	Rubio
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Collins	Inhofe	Scott
Corker	Isakson	Shelby
Cornyn	Johnson	Sullivan
Cotton	Kennedy	Tester
Crapo	Lankford	Thune
Cruz	Lee	Tillis
Daines	Manchin	Toomey
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker
Ernst	Moran	Young
Fischer	Murkowski	
Gardner	Paul	

NAYS—44

Baldwin	Gillibrand	Murray
Bennet	Harris	Peters
Blumenthal	Hassan	Reed
Booker	Heinrich	Sanders
Brown	Hirono	Schatz
Cantwell	Jones	Schumer
Cardin	Kaine	Shaheen
Carper	King	Smith
Casey	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Coons	Leahy	Udall
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Donnelly	McCaskill	Warren
Duckworth	Menendez	Whitehouse
Durbin	Merkley	Wyden
Feinstein	Murphy	

NOT VOTING—4

Flake	Nelson
McCain	Warner

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 44.

The motion is agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DAINES). The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

CENTENNIAL OF FORT KNOX

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, today I am proud to recognize Fort Knox, an important asset of our national defense infrastructure in my home State, as it celebrates its centennial anniversary. Located in Bullitt, Hardin, and Meade Counties, the installation was established by Congress in 1918 and has taken an active role in the defense of our Nation ever since. Today Fort Knox is a source of pride for the community and our Commonwealth, and I would like to take a look back at its century of accomplishment.

Named in honor of the Revolutionary War major general and the first U.S. Secretary of War, Henry Knox, the site began as a field artillery training range for Camp Zachary Taylor in Louisville. Congress purchased 40,000 acres of land in Kentucky to accommodate approximately 60,000 soldiers. Construction began in July 1918 under the supervision of quartermaster W. H. Radcliffe, and Camp Knox served as a facility to support troops returning home at the conclusion of the Great War.

In subsequent years, Camp Knox became a training facility for thousands of troops from the National Guard, Reserve Officers Training Corps, and Citizens Military Training Camps. One of the citizens who trained there was author Robert Penn Warren of Guthrie, KY. Before he gained enduring fame for writing "All the King's Men," Warren's first published poem "Prophecy" appeared in the "Camp Knox Mess Kit" in 1922.

In 1931, the Army revolutionized our Nation's Armed Forces and formed a mechanized cavalry regiment at the facility. The next year, Congress gave the installation the name we call it today. Fort Knox was at the center of the mechanization of the cavalry, and it can proudly take credit for developing many of the tactics that helped win World War II.

As a vital contributor to our national security, Fort Knox has served wide-ranging roles throughout its 100 years. For instance, in 1937, it became the home of the U.S. bullion depository and the guardian of our Nation's most valuable assets and, at times, some of the world's most precious possessions. During the darkest days of the Second World War, the depository guarded the U.S. Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

Fort Knox is also the proud home of the General George Patton Museum and Center of Leadership, a tourist destination honoring one of the giants of American military history.

While we celebrate the installation's remarkable history, we also recognize that Fort Knox continues to play a dynamic and integral role in our conventional force structure and our State's economy. In 2009, the Army Human Resources Command relocated to Fort Knox and led to the construction of the Army Human Resources Center, the largest project in the base's history. It's also the home to the Army's Recruiting Command and Cadet Command, which hosts thousands of Army

cadets each year for Cadet Summer Training. Most recently, the First Theater Sustainment Command moved to Fort Knox in 2017. These units add an indispensable benefit to our national security, and I am proud to have each one of them in Kentucky. Further, the installation has been recognized on numerous occasions in the Army's Communities of Excellence program and has developed a highly recognized energy savings program. At the same time, the surrounding community has established a number of supportive initiatives to help military families and transitioning Army personnel pursue regional employment opportunities.

From its origin as a camp with 40,000 acres, this multifunctional military installation has grown to cover approximately 109,000 acres and is the sixth largest urban area in Kentucky. The centennial celebration is bigger than the Army, involving a passionate community that supports the installation and the men and women serving there. It is my utmost privilege to join each of them in sending my congratulations to Fort Knox and to all of the Army personnel there for reaching this milestone. During the many events planned to mark the occasion, I wish them all the very best and would like to once again thank them for all they do to keep our nation safe. I urge all of my Senate colleagues to join me.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, family obligations unfortunately have kept me from being present for the cloture vote today on the nomination of Britt Grant, of Georgia, to be a U.S. circuit judge for the Eleventh Circuit. I have grave concerns about Justice Grant's qualifications and her record, and, had I been present, I would have voted against cloture on her nomination.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

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

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

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 18-15, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Bahrain for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$80 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 18-15

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Bahrain.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment * \$49 million.

Other \$31 million.

Total \$80 million.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Twenty-eight (28) TOW Improved Target Acquisition Systems (ITAS).

Four (4) TOW Improved Target Acquisition System (ITAS) Floats.

Non-MDE: Also included is support equipment, government-furnished equipment, technical manuals/publications, spare parts, tool and test equipment, training, U.S. Government technical support/logistical support, contractor technical support, other associated equipment and services, and other related elements of logistics support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (BA-B-UKJ).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: BA-B-UKE.

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

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

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: July 30, 2018.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Bahrain—Improved Target Acquisition System (ITAS) Launchers

The Government of Bahrain has requested to buy twenty-eight (28) TOW Improved Target Acquisition Systems (ITAS) and four (4) TOW Improved Target Acquisition System (ITAS) Floats. Also included are support equipment, government-furnished equipment, technical manuals/publications, spare parts, tool and test equipment, training, U.S. Government technical support/logistical support, contractor technical support, other associated equipment and services, and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost is \$80 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a major non-NATO ally which is an important security partner in the region.

The proposed sale of the TOW ITAS and technical support will advance Bahrain's efforts to develop an integrated ground defense capability. The ITAS will increase target detection, acquisition, recognition and engagements ranges for TOW anti-tank missiles.

Bahrain will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

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

The principal contractor involved in this program is Raytheon Missile Systems (RMS) of McKinney, Texas. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will involve multiple trips to Bahrain involving up to ten (10) U.S. Government and contractor representatives over a period of less than 16 weeks in total.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 18-15

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

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. This sale will involve the release of sensitive technology to Bahrain. The Improved Target Acquisition System (ITAS) is designed to fire all existing versions of the TOW missile and consists of a Target Acquisition Subsystem (TAS), a Fire Control Subsystem (FCS), a Li-Ion Battery Box (LBB), a modified Traversing Unit (TU) plus the standard launch tube and tripod. The ITAS provides for the integration of both the direct view optics and a second generation Standard Advanced Dewar Assembly (SADA) II thermal sensor into a single housing; direct view optics that provide viewing the target scene in daylight and non-obscured conditions; introduction of both passive and active eye safe laser-ranging; development of embedded training and training sustainment; automatic bore sight which allows the gunner to align the night vision system with the direct view optics; insertion of advanced Built-in Test/Built-in Test Equipment (BIT/BITE) which provides fault detection and recognition and go/no go status for the gunner; and an Aided Target Tracker (ATT) that provides the capability to process infrared imagery into recognizable contour features used to assist the gunner's aim point. The highest level of information that could be disclosed through the sale of ITAS is SECRET.

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

3. A determination has been made that Bahrain can provide substantially the same degree of protection of this technology as the U.S. Government. This proposed sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification. Moreover, the benefits to be derived from this sale, as outlined in the Policy Justification, outweigh the potential damage that could result if the sensitive technology were revealed to unauthorized persons.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of

the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding, herewith Transmittal No. 18-11, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Kuwait for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$30.4 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 18-11

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Kuwait.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$27.2 million.

Other \$3.2 million.

Total \$30.4 million.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Three hundred (300) AGM-114R Hellfire Missiles.

One (1) Warhead Section Assembly.

One (1) Rocket Motor.

Non-MDE: Also included in the sale are missile containers, nineteen (19) M261 2.75 tube rocket launchers, spare and repair parts, repair tools, personnel training, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistical support services and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (KU-B-UBN).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: KU-B-UMA—\$38 million—5 Feb 2013.

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

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

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: July 30, 2018.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Kuwait—AGM-114R Hellfire Missiles

The Government of Kuwait has requested to buy three hundred (300) AGM-114R Hellfire missiles, one (1) Warhead Section Assembly and one (1) Rocket Motor. Also included in the sale are missile containers, nineteen (19) M261 2.75 tube rocket launchers, spare and repair parts, repair tools, personnel training, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistical support services and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated cost is \$30.4 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a regional partner that is an important force for political stability and economic progress.

The proposed sale improves Kuwait's capability to meet current and future threats. Kuwait will use the missiles to strengthen its homeland defense. Kuwait currently has the Hellfire missiles in its inventory and will have no difficulty absorbing these additional missiles.

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

The principal contractor will be Lockheed Martin Corporation, Orlando, Florida. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of approximately two U.S. Government or contractor representatives to travel to Kuwait for up to two weeks of training.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 18-11

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

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. AGM-114R Hellfire. The AGM-114R is used against heavy and light armored targets, thin skinned vehicles, urban structures, bunkers, caves and personnel. The missile is Inertial Measure Unit (IMU) based, with a variable delay fuse, improved safety and reliability. The highest level for release of the AGM-114R is SECRET. Software and firmware documentation (e.g. Data Processing, Software Requirements, Source Code, Algorithms) are not authorized for disclosure. The highest level of classified information that could be disclosed by a proposed sale or by testing of the end item is up to and including SECRET. The highest level that must be disclosed for production, maintenance, or training is up to and including SECRET. Vulnerability data, countermeasures, vulnerability/susceptibility analysis, and threat definitions are classified SECRET or CONFIDENTIAL. Detailed information to include discussions, reports and studies of system capabilities, vulnerabilities and limitations that leads to conclusions on specific tactics or other counter-countermeasures (CCM) are not authorized for disclosure. Reverse engineering could reveal SECRET information. Loss or compromise of classified information associated with AGM-114R could lead to development of countermeasures or exploitation of system vulnerabilities by those obtaining the information.

2. Software, hardware, and other data/information, which is classified or sensitive, is reviewed prior to release to protect system vulnerabilities, design data, and performance parameters. Some end item hardware, software, and other data identified above are classified at CONFIDENTIAL and SECRET levels. Potential compromise of these systems is controlled through management of the basic software programs of highly sensitive systems and software controlled weapon systems on a case-by-case basis.

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

4. A determination has been made that Kuwait can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the AGM-114R Hellfire Missiles as the U.S. Government. The sale of these missiles to Kuwait is necessary in the furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the policy justification.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of

the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 18-07, concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Bahrain for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$70 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 18-07

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: The Government of Bahrain.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$0 million.

Other \$70 million.

Total \$70 million.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE: Follow-On Technical Support (FOTS) for the Royal Bahrain Navy Ship *SABHA* (FFG-90), formerly the USS *Jack Williams* (FFG-24), transferred as Excess Defense Article on September 13, 1996. Also includes engineering, technical, and logistics services, documentation, and modification material for U.S. Navy supplied systems and equipment and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (BA-P-GAV, Amendment 12).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: BA-P-GAV.

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

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: July 26, 2018.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Bahrain—Follow-On Technical Support (FOTS) for the Royal Bahrain Navy Ship “*SABHA*” (FFG-2S1)

The Government of Bahrain has requested to buy items and services in support of Follow-On Technical Support (FOTS) for the Royal Bahrain Navy Ship *SABHA* (FFG-90), formerly the USS *Jack Williams* (FFG-24), transferred as Excess Defense Article on September 13, 1996. Also includes engineering, technical, and logistics services, documentation, and modification material for U.S. Navy supplied systems and equipment and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated program value is \$70 million.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a regional partner which is an important security partner in the region.

Bahrain intends to use this support in order to keep the ship in operational readiness status for coastal defense and security. Bahrain will have no difficulty absorbing this support into its armed forces.

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

There is no prime contractor involved in this proposed sale. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require approximately three (3) U.S. Govern-

ment and six (6) contractor representatives to travel to Bahrain for an extended period for equipment fielding, systems checkout, training and technical and logistics support.

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

REMEMBERING OLGA PEDROZA

Mr. UDALL. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to the late Las Cruces City councilor Olga Pedroza, a champion for justice. Ms. Pedroza passed away February 9, 2018, in Las Cruces, NM.

Ms. Pedroza was born in a small town in Mexico, San Luis Ayucan, on September 28, 1942. Her parents Celia and Jesus came to Chicago in the 1940s, where she attended Catholic school for elementary through high school. She graduated from Mundelein College in 1963 with a bachelor's degree in sociology and minors in elementary education and theology.

Ms. Pedroza then set off and worked on behalf of her community the rest of her life. She worked as a teacher for many years and, in 1980, moved to New Mexico with her then-husband and three children. By then, she had earned a master's in education. Ms. Pedroza decided she wanted to use the law to promote her social justice goals. She entered the University of New Mexico Law School and graduated in 1985, in her early 40s.

Ms. Pedroza began working for Centro Legal Campesino, the legal aid farmer worker unit, in Las Cruces in 1990. She was there over 15 years, primarily as the managing attorney. During that time, she filed over 50 Federal lawsuits representing farmworkers in their fight for fair wages and other rights.

Ms. Pedroza began her third career in 2009 when she was elected to the Las Cruces City Council District 3 seat, which covers central and southeast Las Cruces. Ms. Pedroza believed in change and often said, “City Council could be a place to start.” She served two terms before retiring. During her tenure, she fought for a living-wage ordinance and always prioritized the needs of those overlooked by society. Among other community needs, she advocated for community gardens and improved tennis facilities. Ms. Pedroza was a great tennis enthusiast and even competed in the Senior Olympics.

She was active in the community, serving on the board of directors of the Women's Intercultural Center in Anthony, as cochair of the local women's bar association, and on the board of the court appointed special advocates.

Ms. Pedroza worked throughout her life to change the world for the better. Her compassion, warmth, and sense of humor will be missed by her children, grandchildren, and community. I honor her work and unflagging commitment to social justice.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTH POLE TRANSIT BY USS "NAUTILUS"

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I wish to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the historic ship USS *Nautilus*, SSN-571, and her historic submerged transit of the North Pole on August 3, 1958.

The USS *Nautilus* was the first commissioned nuclear-powered ship in the U.S. Navy. President Harry S. Truman laid the keel for the future ship on June 14, 1952, at the Electric Boat Shipyard in Groton, CT. Two years later, First Lady Mamie Eisenhower launched the history-making nuclear submarine when she broke the traditional bottle of champagne across the bow of the USS *Nautilus*.

On the morning of January 17, 1955, at 11:00 a.m. EST, the *Nautilus*'s first Commanding Officer, Commander Eugene P. Wilkinson, ordered all lines cast off and signaled the memorable message, "Underway On Nuclear Power."

During its shakedown on May 10, 1956, the USS *Nautilus* cruised from Groton, CT, to San Juan, PR, in fewer than 90 hours, fully submerged for the entire journey. The underwater distance—1,381 miles—was ten times farther than any submerged submarine had previously sailed. Following this journey, the *Nautilus* would shatter all submerged speed and distance records over the remainder of the decade.

In response to the nuclear intercontinental ballistic missile threat posed by the Soviet Union following the launch of the first satellite *Sputnik*, President Dwight D. Eisenhower ordered the U.S. Navy to attempt a submarine transit to the North Pole to gain credibility for the soon-to-come submarine-launched ballistic missile weapons system still in research and development.

On July 23, 1958, the USS *Nautilus* departed Pearl Harbor, HI, under top secret orders to conduct Operation Sunshine, the first crossing of the North Pole by a ship.

Eleven days later, Commander William R. Anderson announced to the 116 men aboard, "For the world, our country, and the Navy: THE NORTH POLE." Thus, on August 3, 1958, the USS *Nautilus* became the first watercraft to reach the geographic North Pole, 90 degrees north, known also as the geographic "top of the world."

Following this momentous voyage, the USS *Nautilus* and her crew earned the Presidential Unit Citation, the first ever awarded in peacetime.

After Operation Sunshine, the USS *Nautilus* enjoyed many more successes in her long and illustrious career of duty in the U.S. Navy, such as in October 1962, when she participated in the naval quarantine of Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Over the years, the USS *Nautilus* played an integral part in numerous North Atlantic Treaty Organization—NATO—exercises and a variety of de-

velopmental test programs. On September 14, 1966, the USS *Nautilus* celebrated 300,000 nautical miles of ocean faring.

Having pioneered the use of nuclear power at sea, the USS *Nautilus* continued to serve alongside many of the more modern nuclear-powered submarines. In April 1975, the USS *Nautilus* participated in Exercise Agate Punch. She was cited by the Commander Cruiser-Destroyer Group 12 as "Not Getting Older—Getting Better."

In the spring of 1977, the USS *Nautilus* deployed for the last time to the Mediterranean Sea, and on April 9, 1979, the *Nautilus* set out from Groton, CT, on her final voyage to Mare Island Naval Shipyard in Vallejo, CA. On May 25, 1979, the USS *Nautilus* shut down her reactor for the final time, and she reached Mare Island 4 days later.

Following a career spanning 25 years and over half a million miles steamed, she decommissioned on March 3, 1980.

On May 14, 1980, President Jimmy Carter authorized Groton, CT, as the permanent home for the USS *Nautilus*, and on May 20, 1982, the USS *Nautilus* was designated a National Historic Landmark by the Secretary of the Interior. Following an extensive historic ship conversion at Mare Island Naval Shipyard, the *Nautilus* was towed to Groton, CT, for the final time, arriving on July 6, 1985, in preparation for display to the public as a museum.

On April 11, 1986, 86 years to the day after the birth of the submarine force, the historic ship *Nautilus*, joined by the Submarine Force Museum, opened to the public as the first and finest exhibit of its kind in the world, providing an educational and visible link to yesterday's nuclear-powered submarine.

I am delighted to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the North Pole transit by USS *Nautilus*, SSN-571, and her accomplishments over the last 64 years. The historic ship *Nautilus* is a testament to American ingenuity, courage, and technical prowess. She deserves the greatest reverence and continues to serve as a reminder to future generations of Americans as she rests alongside modern day nuclear submarines at the Naval Submarine Base New London.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GEORGE SHAMBAUGH

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, I want to express my appreciation to Dr. George Shambaugh. George is an associate professor of international affairs and government in the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. However, over the last year, he served as a fellow on my national security team.

George supported my work related to foreign policy and development, including my work on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. George is an exceptionally accomplished and impressive individual who made a significant and durable contribution. His contributions

related to economic statecraft, geopolitical energy issues, and transatlantic security have been particularly valuable. It is rare to find such an accomplished and intelligent individual who also brings a humble and eager desire to help however needed.

George will be returning to his post at Georgetown, where I know he will continue to excel as a scholar and professor. I wish him the best in the future, and I look forward to staying in touch with him.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING WALTER "BOOTS" MAYBERRY

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Walter "Boots" Mayberry, a World War II airman from Harrison, AR, whose military service, life, and career exemplify what it means to be a true patriot.

Walter "Boots" Mayberry was born in Pine Bluff, AR, on August 11, 1923, to a large family. Mayberry's nickname, "Boots," came about during the Great Flood of 1927. His older sister, Dell, took the 4-year-old Mayberry into town and bought him a pair of rubber boots with rubber red tops. From then on, Mayberry could always be found with his boots on, regardless of if he was bathing, in church, or in bed. The nickname became official when he began first grade and told the teacher that his name was "Boots Mayberry."

Mayberry graduated high school in 1943 and was drafted shortly thereafter. He reported for duty at Camp Robinson and volunteered to join the Army Air Corps. After extensive training in several Stateside locations, he was attached to the 560th Bomb Squadron of the 388th Bomb Group in the 8th Air Corps. He was based at Knettishall, England, with the mission to bomb Germany and German-held territories, something he and the rest of the "Mighty 8th" did with honor.

Mayberry served as a waist gunner, defending his B-17 from enemy fighter planes. He and his aircrew successfully completed nine missions before being hit by enemy fire on their 10th mission. Despite the severe damage to the plane, the pilot kept on course and dropped the bombs on their target. Mayberry and the crew were forced to bail out of the plane, which was a problem for Mayberry who never learned how to use a parachute because he never thought he would have to use one. Falling head first, he pulled the ripcord and the force broke his neck. As he drifted to the ground, he was in the crosshairs of German ground fire.

Paralyzed and lying in a field, German civilians brutally checked Mayberry over before soldiers locked him up in a local jail. He was detained with another airman from his crew in a different secure facility for 10 days of solitary confinement. From there, he was taken to Frankfurt for interrogation and moved to several locations before ending up in a German POW camp,

Stalag 7A in Moosburg, Germany. He suffered inhumane conditions that tested his will to survive.

Mayberry fondly remembered the American tank of the 14th Armored Division that smashed through the gate, liberating the camp on April 29, 1945. Nearly 70 years after liberation, it was still emotional for Mayberry to talk about the experience of seeing the Stars and Stripes replace the Nazi flag at the camp. Two days later, Mayberry saw General George Patton who had come to survey the conditions of the camp.

Mayberry didn't receive any treatment for his injuries until he was examined by a flight surgeon on his way to France, a staging area for soldiers heading home.

After the war, Staff Sergeant Walter Mayberry lived a long, fulfilling life speaking about and writing a book on his experiences, his faith, and his love of country. He regularly participated at Veterans Day parades, Memorial Day programs, and many other civic events in and around Harrison. Sadly, Boots passed away on July 25, 2018 at the age of 94.

Mayberry was a member of the Greatest Generation and a patriot dedicated to serving his country. He was an American hero who will be missed. I extend my sincere condolences to his family and friends, and I hope that they find comfort in the incredible legacy of service and patriotism that Boots leaves behind.●

TRIBUTE TO ELIJAH COLE BATSON

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Elijah Cole Batson, a 2018 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Elijah is a student at Lake Wales High School. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Elijah Cole Batson for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO DWAYNE BIGGHAM, JR.

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Dwayne Biggham, Jr., a 2018 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Dwayne is a student at Jones High School. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Dwayne Biggham, Jr., for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO KRUNALI BRAHMBHATT

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Krunali Brahmhatt, a 2018 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Krunali is a student at Winter Springs High School. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Krunali Brahmhatt for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO CESAR DAGER CARLESSO

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Cesar Dager Carlesso, a 2018 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Cesar is a student at the University of Florida. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Cesar Dager Carlesso for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO LORINE DESROCHES

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Lorine Desroches, a 2018 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Lorine is an incoming student at the University of Florida. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Lorine Desroches for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO MATHEW HENDERSON

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Mathew Henderson, a 2018 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Mathew is a student at Florida State University. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Mathew Henderson for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO WHITNEY HEROLD

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Whitney Herold, a 2018 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Whitney is a student at Valencia College. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Whitney Herold for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO NATALIE IKERD

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Natalie Ikerd, a 2018 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Natalie is a student at the University of Florida Levin College of Law, where she is pursuing her juris doctorate. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Natalie Ikerd for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO REBEKAH KAUFMAN

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Rebekah Kaufman, a 2018 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Rebekah is a student at the University of Central Florida. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Rebekah Kaufman for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO MEGGIE LI

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Meggie Li, a 2018 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Meggie is a student at Winter Springs High School. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Meggie Li for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO SARA LIND

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Sara Lind, a 2018 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Sara is a student at the University of Florida. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Sara Lind for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO DANA MEHANNA

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Dana Mehanna, a 2018 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Dana is a student at Florida State University. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Dana Mehanna for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH MELENDEZ

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Joseph Melendez, a 2018 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Joseph is a student at the University of Central Florida. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Joseph Melendez for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO MADELINE MILLS

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Madeline Mills, a 2018 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Madeline is a student at the University of Central Florida. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Madeline Mills for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO CAITLIN MOORE

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Caitlin Moore, a 2018 summer

intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Caitlin is a student at Boone High School. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Caitlin Moore for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO SIENNA OTTINGER

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Sienna Ottinger, a 2018 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Sienna is an incoming student at the University of Mississippi. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Sienna Ottinger for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO HANNAH TIPTON

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Hannah Tipton, a 2018 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Hannah is a student at Charleston School of Law, where she is pursuing her juris doctorate. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Hannah Tipton for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO SHAWN TULLOCK

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Shawn Tullock, a 2018 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Shawn is a student at the University of Florida. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Shawn Tullock for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO MARCO USECHE

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Marco Useche, a 2018 summer

intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Marco is an incoming freshman at Loyola University. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Marco Useche for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO MARK WHITTEN

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Mark Whitten, a 2018 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Mark is a graduate of Liberty University. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Mark Whitten for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

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-6075. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Review Group, Farm Service Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2017 Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program" (RIN0560-AI39) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 25, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6076. A communication from the Administrator of the Specialty Crops Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Peanut Promotion, Research, and Information Order; Change in Assessment Rate Computation" ((7 CFR Part 1216) (Docket No. AMS-SC-16-0115)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6077. A communication from the Administrator of the Specialty Crops Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Inspection Application Requirements" ((7 CFR Parts 51 and 52) (Docket No. AMS-SC-16-0063 FIR)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6078. A communication from the Administrator of the Specialty Crops Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cranberries Grown in States of Massachusetts, et al.; Establishment of Handler Diversion and Reporting Requirements and New Information Collection" ((7 CFR Part 929) (Docket No. AMS-SC-17-0066; SC17-929-3 FR)) received in the Office of the President of the

Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6079. A communication from the Administrator of the Specialty Crops Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, et al.; Revision of Exemption Requirements” ((7 CFR Part 930) (Docket No. AMS-SC-17-0047; SC17-930-1 FR)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6080. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of rear admiral (lower half) in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6081. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Rex C. McMillian, United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6082. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13441 with respect to Lebanon; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6083. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Suspension of Community Eligibility; Massachusetts: City of Haverhill” (Docket No. FEMA-2018-0002) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6084. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, General Law, Ethics, and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Director of the Office of Financial Research, Department of the Treasury, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 27, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6085. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Vacatur Response—CERCLA/EPCRA Administrative Reporting Exemption for Air Releases of Hazardous Substances from Animal Waste at Farms; FARM Act Amendments to CERCLA Release Notification Requirements” ((RIN2050-AG66) (FRL No. 9981-52-OLEM)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6086. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “State of Idaho Voluntary Transfer of Primacy of the Class II Underground Injection Control Program to the Environmental Protection Agency” (FRL No. 9981-56-OW) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6087. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Renewable Fuel Standard Program: Grain Sorghum Oil Pathway” ((RIN2060-

AT82) (FRL No. 9981-57-OAR)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6088. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System: Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals from Electric Utilities; Amendments to the National Minimum Criteria (Phase One, Part One); Final Rule” ((RIN2050-AG88) (FRL No. 9981-18-OLEM)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6089. 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; Indiana; Air Quality Standards Update for the 2015 Ozone Standard” (FRL No. 9981-46-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6090. 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; Minnesota; PSD Infrastructure SIP Requirements” (FRL No. 9981-45-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6091. 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; Washington; Regional Haze Progress Report” (FRL No. 9981-50-Region 10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6092. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Evaluation for BWRVIP-62-A, ‘Boiling Water Reactor Vessel and Internals Project, Technical Basis for Inspection Relief for BWR Internal Components with Hydrogen Injection,’ Use of Online Noble Metal Chemistry in Boiling Waters Reactors” (Docket No. 99902016) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6093. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Evaluation for BWRVIP-41, Revision 4, ‘BWR Jet Pump Assembly Inspection and Flaw Evaluation Guidelines’” ((CAC No. MF4887) (EPID L-2014-TOP-0008)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6094. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Office of Fossil Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Small-Scale Natural Gas Exports” (RIN1901-AB43) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 25, 2018; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-6095. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Recovery Auditing in Medicare Fee-for-Service for Fiscal Year 2016”; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6096. 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 “Definitions of Qualified Matching Contributions and Qualified Nonelective Contributions” ((RIN1545-BN05) (TD 9835)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6097. 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 “Returns by Exempt Organizations and Returns by Certain Non-exempt Organizations” (Rev. Proc. 2018-38) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6098. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to the Netherlands to support the modernization of the Royal Netherlands Air Force fleet of six CH-47F(NL) Chinook Helicopters in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 18-011); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6099. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to Israel to support the installation, testing, maintenance, and repair of Trophy anti-tank active protection systems for end use by the Israel Ministry of Defense in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 18-020); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6100. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to Japan to support the installation, testing, maintenance, and repair of Mk15 Close-In Weapon System and the SeaRAM Weapon System for end use by the Japanese Ministry of Defense in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 18-003); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6101. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, “District Overtime Tops \$108 Million; Better Management and Additional Staff Could Reduce Costs”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6102. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, “Shopping for Public Schools in the District of Columbia”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6103. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, “Public Schools in the District: Data, Reform, and the Future”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6104. A communication from the Chief, Administrative Law Division, Central Intelligence Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Inspector General, Central Intelligence Agency, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC-6105. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants: Final Rule To List the Taiwanese Humpback Dolphin as Endangered Under the Endangered Species Act" (RIN0648-XE571) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 25, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6106. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendments to Regulations Governing NVOCC Negotiated Rate Arrangements and NVOCC Service Arrangements" (RIN3072-AC68) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 23, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6107. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2018-0270)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6108. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2018-0588)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6109. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2018-0115)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6110. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2018-0275)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6111. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2018-0274)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6112. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; American Champion Aircraft Corp." ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2018-0003)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6113. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of

Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Limited Helicopters" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2017-0757)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6114. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Piper Aircraft, Inc." ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2018-0606)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6115. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Corporation Turboshift Engines" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2017-1118)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6116. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Safran Helicopter Engines, S.A., Turboshift Engines" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2013-0024)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6117. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Mineral Point, WI" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2018-0087)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6118. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Aberdeen, MD" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2018-0128)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6119. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class D Airspace and Class E Airspace; Wrightstown, PA" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2017-1188)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6120. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Airspace; Ellijay, GA" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2018-0217)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6121. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revoca-

tion and Amendment of Class E Airspace; Philipsburg, PA" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2017-0755)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6122. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Canadian Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-705; Northeastern United States" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2018-0050)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6123. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Restricted Areas R-5602A and R-5602B; Fort Sill, OK" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2017-0144)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6124. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (67)" ((RIN2120-AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6125. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (65)" ((RIN2120-AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6126. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Preemption and State Regulation of the Department of Education's Federal Student Loan Programs and Federal Student Loan Servicers" (34 CFR Chapter VI) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2018; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petition or memorial was laid before the Senate and was referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-279. A petition from the Mayor of the City of Cotati, California memorializing the Cotati City Council's support for the Revenue-Neutral Carbon Fee and Dividend Program; to the Committee on Finance.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

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

H.R. 4567. A bill to require a Department of Homeland Security overseas personnel enhancement plan, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-308).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 436. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to retire coal preference right lease applications for which the Secretary has made an affirmative commercial quantities determination, to substitute certain land selections of the Navajo Nation, to designate certain wilderness areas, and for other purposes.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 440. A bill to establish a procedure for the conveyance of certain Federal property around the Dickinson Reservoir in the State of North Dakota.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

H.R. 497. To direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal lands in San Bernardino County, California, to the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District, and to accept in return certain non-Federal lands, and for other purposes.

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

S. Res. 501. A resolution recognizing threats to freedom of the press and expression around the world and reaffirming freedom of the press as a priority in efforts of the Government of the United States to promote democracy and good governance.

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

S. Res. 541. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that any United States-Saudi Arabia civilian nuclear cooperation agreement must prohibit the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from enriching uranium or separating plutonium on its own territory, in keeping with the strongest possible non-proliferation "gold standard".

S. Res. 571. A resolution condemning the ongoing illegal occupation of Crimea by the Russian Federation.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 930. A bill to require the Administrator of the Western Area Power Administration to establish a pilot project to provide increased transparency for customers, and for other purposes.

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

S. 1023. A bill to reauthorize the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 through fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1030. A bill to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to submit to Congress a report on certain hydropower projects.

S. 1142. A bill to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of certain hydroelectric projects.

S. 2074. A bill to establish a procedure for the conveyance of certain Federal property around the Jamestown Reservoir in the State of North Dakota, and for other purposes.

S. 2102. A bill to clarify the boundary of Acadia National Park, and for other purposes.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

H.R. 2582. A bill to authorize the State of Utah to select certain lands that are available for disposal under the Pony Express Resource Management Plan to be used for the support and benefit of State institutions, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2768. A bill to designate certain mountain peaks in the State of Colorado as "Fowler Peak" and "Boskoff Peak".

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

H.R. 2897. A bill to authorize the Mayor of the District of Columbia and the Director of the National Park Service to enter into cooperative management agreements for the operation, maintenance, and management of units of the National Park System in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

H.R. 4609. A bill to provide for the conveyance of a Forest Service site in Dolores County, Colorado, to be used for a fire station.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 3296. A bill to provide for Federal coordination of activities supporting sustainable chemistry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 3297. A bill to provide for the expansion of the Desert Tortoise Habitat Conservation Plan, Washington County, Utah; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 3298. A bill to extend the authority of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc., to establish a visitor center for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 3299. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the Transition Assistance Program for members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. Res. 597. A resolution urging the release of information regarding the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks upon the United States; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. Res. 598. A resolution calling upon the United States Senate to give its advice and consent to the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. KING (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. REED, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. Res. 599. A resolution designating September 25, 2018, as "National Lobster Day"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 58

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 58, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on high cost employer-sponsored health coverage.

S. 108

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of S. 108, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on medical devices.

S. 422

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 422, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes.

S. 515

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 515, a bill to require the Secretary of Labor to maintain a publicly available list of all employers that relocate a call center overseas, to make such companies ineligible for Federal grants or guaranteed loans, and to require disclosure of the physical location of business agents engaging in customer service communications, and for other purposes.

S. 890

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 890, a bill to grant the Congressional Gold Medal to the troops who defended Bataan during World War II.

S. 910

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 910, a bill to prohibit discrimination against individuals with disabilities who need long-term services and supports, and for other purposes.

S. 2128

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2128, a bill to improve the coordination and use of geospatial data.

S. 2203

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2203, a bill to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration.

S. 2432

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2432, a bill to amend the

charter of the Future Farmers of America, and for other purposes.

S. 2490

At the request of Mr. SCOTT, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2490, a bill to amend the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 to modify requirements related to mortgage disclosures.

S. 2497

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

S. 2554

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2554, a bill to ensure that health insurance issuers and group health plans do not prohibit pharmacy providers from providing certain information to enrollees.

S. 2600

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2600, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on indoor tanning services.

S. 2784

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2784, a bill to reauthorize the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act.

S. 2823

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2823, a bill to modernize copyright law, and for other purposes.

S. 2835

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 2835, a bill to require a study of the well-being of the newsprint and publishing industry in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2895

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2895, a bill to designate the Quindaro Townsite National Historic Landmark, and for other purposes.

S. 2996

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2996, a bill to make available necessary disaster assistance for families affected by major disasters, and for other purposes.

S. 3057

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3057, a bill to provide for the processing by U.S. Customs and Border Protection of certain international mail shipments and to require the provision of advance electronic information on international mail shipments of mail.

S. 3063

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3063, a bill to delay the reimposition of the annual fee on health insurance providers until after 2020.

S. 3140

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) were added as cosponsors of S. 3140, a bill to amend the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921, to provide for the establishment of a trust for the benefit of all unpaid cash sellers of livestock, and for other purposes.

S. 3170

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 3170, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to make certain changes to the reporting requirement of certain service providers regarding child sexual exploitation visual depictions, and for other purposes.

S. 3172

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3172, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish, fund, and provide for the use of amounts in a National Park Service Legacy Restoration Fund to address the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

S. 3178

At the request of Ms. HARRIS, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3178, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to specify lynching as a deprivation of civil rights, and for other purposes.

S. 3200

At the request of Mr. PERDUE, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3200, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for an alternative removal for performance or misconduct for Federal employees.

S. 3231

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3231, a bill to establish the Task Force on the Impact of the Affordable Housing Crisis, and for other purposes.

S. 3247

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr.

ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3247, a bill to improve programs and activities relating to women's entrepreneurship and economic empowerment that are carried out by the United States Agency for International Development, and for other purposes.

S. 3257

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3257, a bill to impose sanctions on foreign persons responsible for serious violations of international law regarding the protection of civilians during armed conflict, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 525

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 525, a resolution designating September 2018 as National Democracy Month as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of government of the United States to a more free and stable world.

S. RES. 579

At the request of Mr. COONS, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 579, a resolution honoring the life, accomplishments, and legacy of Nelson Mandela on the centenary of his birth.

AMENDMENT NO. 3459

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3459 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6147, a bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3464

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3464 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6147, a bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3496

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3496 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6147, a bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3504

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of

amendment No. 3504 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6147, a bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3566

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3566 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6147, a bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3582

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3582 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6147, a bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3595

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3595 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6147, a bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3597

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3597 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6147, a bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3601

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3601 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6147, a bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3611

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3611 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6147, a bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3612

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from New

York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3612 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6147, a bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3619

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3619 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6147, a bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3644

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3644 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6147, a bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DAINES (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 3298. A bill to extend the authority of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc., to establish a visitor center for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, the Vietnam War spanned twenty years with nearly 60,000 American soldiers' lives lost. Many others served in this war and either came back wounded or were changed forever. Simply put, this war shaped an entire generation. It is imperative that we honor and commemorate this generation of American service members who sacrificed their livelihood, and in some cases their lives, for the sake of their Nation.

I firmly believe that history is our greatest teacher. In an attempt to venerate and educate the American public of the sacrifices American soldiers made in Vietnam, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund was founded. Dedicated in 1982, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial spans over 493 feet with the names of fallen servicemen and women inscribed into the black granite. Each year millions come to pay their respects at The Wall.

To further commemorate the sacrifices made by American soldiers, the Education Center at The Wall will be added as an addition to the Memorial. It will aid in the continual education of

the sacrifices made in the Vietnam War, so that all who visit may learn from this period of history and pass it on to the generations to come.

The Education Center at The Wall will be an underground center, located near The Wall. The proposed center will show the faces of each soldier whose name is on the wall, showcase some of the artifacts left behind at The Wall, and highlight the inspiration of the monument designer Maya Lin.

In 2003, Congress authorized the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) to raise funds to construct a visitor and education center. The funds needed to complete this project must be completely raised by private donations. The project is estimated to cost approximately \$130 million and after fifteen years of fundraising, the VVMF still needs a few extra years to raise the needed capital.

I am proud to introduce the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitor Center Extension Act along with my colleague, Senator Duckworth. This bill will extend the authorization for an additional four years until 2022, to allow VVMF the time they need to complete this important project to honor those who served and died in Vietnam.

It is imperative that we continually educate the American public and all who visit about those who served and sacrificed for their country during the Vietnam War. The Education Center at The Wall will allow for this unique educational opportunity. I ask my colleagues to join Senator DUCKWORTH and me in supporting this bipartisan effort.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 3298

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitor Center Extension Act".

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL VISITOR CENTER.

Section 6(b)(5) of Public Law 96-297 (54 U.S.C. 320301 note; 94 Stat. 827; 117 Stat. 1348; 124 Stat. 2851; 127 Stat. 490) is amended by striking "2018" and inserting "2022".

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 597—URGING THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION REGARDING THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, TERRORIST ATTACKS UPON THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

S. RES. 597

Whereas tens of thousands of pages of documents relating to the September 11, 2001,

terrorist attacks upon the United States remain classified by the Federal Government;

Whereas the contents of these documents are necessary for a full public understanding of the events and circumstances surrounding the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks;

Whereas the decision to maintain the classified status of many of these documents prevents the people of the United States from having access to information about the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, including the involvement of certain foreign governments in the attacks; and

Whereas the people of the United States and the families of the victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks deserve full and public disclosure of the events surrounding the attacks: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) documents related to the events of September 11, 2001, should be declassified to the greatest extent possible; and

(2) the survivors, the families of the victims, and the people of the United States deserve answers about the events and circumstances surrounding the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks upon the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 598—CALLING UPON THE UNITED STATES SENATE TO GIVE ITS ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE RATIFICATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 598

Whereas the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) was adopted by Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea in December 1982, and entered into force in November 1994 to establish a treaty regime to govern activities on, over, and under the world's oceans;

Whereas UNCLOS builds on four 1958 law of the sea conventions to which the United States is a party, including the Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone, the Convention on the High Seas, the Convention on the Continental Shelf, and the Convention on Fishing and Conservation of the Living Resources of the High Seas;

Whereas the treaty and an associated 1994 agreement relating to implementation of the treaty were transmitted to the Senate on October 6, 1994, and, in the absence of Senate advice and consent to adherence, the United States is not a party to the convention and the associated 1994 agreement;

Whereas the convention has been ratified by 167 parties, which includes 166 states and the European Union, but not the United States;

Whereas the United States, like most other countries, believes that coastal states under UNCLOS have the right to regulate economic activities in their Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs), but do not have the right to regulate foreign military activities in their EEZs;

Whereas the treaty's provisions relating to navigational rights, including those in EEZs, reflect the United States diplomatic position on the issue dating back to UNCLOS's adoption in 1982;

Whereas becoming a party to the treaty would reinforce the United States perspective into permanent international law;

Whereas becoming a party to the treaty would give the United States standing to

participate in discussions relating to the treaty and thereby improve the United States ability to intervene as a full party to disputes relating to navigational rights, and to defend United States interpretations of the treaty's provisions, including those relating to whether coastal states have a right under UNCLOS to regulate foreign military activities in their EEZs;

Whereas relying on customary international norms to defend United States interests in these issues is not sufficient, because it is not universally accepted and is subject to change over time based on state practice;

Whereas relying on other nations to assert claims on behalf of the United States at the Hague Convention is woefully insufficient to defend and uphold United States sovereign rights and interests;

Whereas the Permanent Court of Arbitration, in their July 12, 2016, ruling on the case *In the Matter of the South China Sea Arbitration*, stated that "the Tribunal forwarded to the Parties for their comment a Note Verbale from the Embassy of the United States of America, requesting to send a representative to observe the hearing" and "the Tribunal communicated to the Parties and the U.S. Embassy that it had decided that 'only interested States parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea will be admitted as observers' and thus could not accede to the U.S. request";

Whereas the past Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Jonathan Greenert, stated "as a party to UNCLOS, we will be in a better position to counter the efforts of coastal nations to restrict freedom of the seas" on February 16, 2012, before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

Whereas the Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Ray Mabus, stated that "the UNCLOS treaty guarantees rights such as innocent passage through territorial seas; transit passage through, under and over international straits; and the laying and maintaining of submarine cables," and that "the convention has been approved by nearly every maritime power and all the permanent members of the UN Security Council, except the United States" on February 16, 2012, before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

Whereas the Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Ray Mabus, further stated that "[o]ur notable absence as a signatory weakens our position with other nations, allowing the introduction of expansive definitions of sovereignty on the high seas that undermine our ability to defend our mineral rights along our own continental shelf and in the Arctic," and that "the Department strongly supports the accession to UNCLOS, an action consistently recommended by my predecessors of both parties" on February 16, 2012, before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

Whereas the President and the Chief Executive Officer of the United States Chamber of Commerce, Thomas J. Donahue, stated that the Chamber "supports joining the Convention because it is in our national interest—both in our national security and our economic interests," that "becoming a party to the Treaty benefits the U.S. economically by providing American companies the legal certainty and stability they need to hire and invest," and that "companies will be hesitant to take on the investment risk and cost to explore and develop the resources of the sea—particularly on the extended continental shelf (ECS)—without the legal certainty and stability accession to LOS provides" on June 28, 2012, before the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

Whereas Mr. Donahue further stated that "the benefits of joining cut across many im-

portant industries including telecommunications, mining, shipping, and oil and natural gas," and "joining the Convention will provide the U.S. a critical voice on maritime issues—from mineral claims in the Arctic to how International Seabed Authority (ISA) funds are distributed" on June 28, 2012, before the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

Whereas the past Commander of United States Pacific Command, Admiral Samuel J. Locklear, stated that UNCLOS is "widely accepted after a lot of years of deliberation by many, many countries, most countries in my Area of Responsibility (AOR)" and that "when we're not a signatory, it reduces our overall credibility when we bring it up as a choice of how you might solve a dispute of any kind" on April 16, 2015, before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

Whereas the Commandant of the United States Coast Guard, Admiral Paul Zukunft, stated on February 12, 2016, that "[w]ith the receding of the icepack, the Arctic Ocean has become the focus of international interest," that "[a]ll Arctic states agree that the Law of the Sea Convention is the governing legal regime for the Arctic Ocean . . . yet, we remain the only Arctic nation that has not ratified the very instrument that provides this accepted legal framework governing the Arctic Ocean and its seabed," and that "[r]atification of the Law of the Sea Convention supports our economic interests, environmental protection, and safety of life at sea, especially in the Arctic Ocean";

Whereas former Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Jonathan Greenert, further stated that "remaining outside Law of the Sea Convention (LOSC) is inconsistent with our principles, our national security strategy and our leadership in commerce and trade" and that "virtually every major ally of the U.S. is a party to LOSC, as are all other permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and all other Arctic nations" on June 14, 2012, before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

Whereas Admiral Greenert further stated that "our absence [from LOSC] could provide an excuse for nations to selectively choose among Convention provisions or abandon it altogether, thereby eroding the navigational freedoms we enjoy today" and that "accession would enhance multilateral operations with our partners and demonstrate a clear commitment to the rule of law for the oceans" on June 14, 2012, before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

Whereas the United States Special Representative of State for the Arctic and former Commandant of the Coast Guard, Admiral Robert Papp, Jr., stated that "as a non-party to the Law of the Sea Convention, the U.S. is at a significant disadvantage relative to the other Arctic Ocean coastal States," that "those States are parties to the Convention, and are well along the path to obtaining legal certainty and international recognition of their Arctic extended continental shelf," and that "becoming a Party to the Law of the Sea Convention would allow the United States to fully secure its rights to the continental shelf off the coast of Alaska, which is likely to extend out to more than 600 nautical miles" on December 10, 2014, before the Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia and Emerging Threats of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

Whereas the Chairman of the Joints Chiefs of Staff, General Joseph F. Dunford, stated that "[t]he Convention provides legal certainty in the world's largest maneuver space," that "access would strengthen the legal foundation for our ability to transit through international straits and archipelagic waters; preserve our right to

conduct military activities in other countries' Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) without notice or permission; reaffirm the sovereign immunity of warships; provide a framework to counter excessive maritime claims; and preserve or operations and intelligence-collection activities," and that "joining the Convention would also demonstrate our commitment to the rule of law, strengthen our credibility among those nations that are already party to the Convention, and allow us to bring the full force of our influence in challenging excessive maritime claims" on July 9, 2015, before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

Whereas Chairman of the Joints Chiefs of Staff General Dunford further stated that "by remaining outside the Convention, the United States remains in scarce company with Iran, Venezuela, North Korea, and Syria" and that "by failing to join the Convention, some countries may come to doubt our commitment to act in accordance with international law" on July 9, 2015, before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

Whereas the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral John M. Richardson, stated that "acceding to the Convention would strengthen our credibility and strategic position" and that "we undermine our leverage by not signing up to the same rule book by which we are asking other countries to accept" on July 30, 2015, before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

Whereas Admiral Richardson further stated that "becoming a part of [UNCLOS] would give us a great deal of credibility, and particularly as it pertains to the unfolding opportunities in the Arctic" and that "this provides a framework to adjudicate disputes" on July 30, 2015, before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

Whereas the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asian and Pacific Security Affairs, the Honorable David Shear, stated that "while the United States operates consistent with the United Nations convention on the law of the sea, we've seen positive momentum in promoting shared rules of the road" and that "our efforts would be greatly strengthened by Senate ratification of UNCLOS" on September 17, 2015, before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

Whereas the Commander of the United States Pacific Command, Admiral Harry B. Harris, stated that "all maritime claims must be derived from land features in accordance with international law as reflected in the Law of the Sea Convention, and any disputes should be settled peacefully and in accordance with international law" and that "our efforts would be greatly strengthened by Senate ratification of UNCLOS" on September 17, 2015, before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

Whereas Admiral Harris further stated that "I think that by not signing onto it that we lose the credibility for the very same thing that we're arguing for . . . which is the following—accepting rules and norms in the international arena. The United States is a beacon—we're a beacon on a hill but I think that light is brighter if we sign on to UNCLOS" on February 23, 2016, at a hearing before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate; and

Whereas former Commander of United States Pacific Command, retired Admiral Dennis Blair, stated that "if we want to focus on the Asia-Pacific going forward, we're going to have to find a way to pass the Law of the Sea because it does hurt us and it is striking to us that the Chinese have signed and they're obligated but don't want to do it," and that "we have not signed but want them to do it, right? So it's ironical to many in the region" on July 13, 2016, before the Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific,

and International Cyber Security of the Committee on Foreign Services of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) affirms that it is in the national interest for the United States to become a formal signatory of the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea;

(2) urges the Senate to give its advice and consent to the ratification of the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS); and

(3) recommends the ratification of UNCLOS remain a top priority for the administration, having received bipartisan support from every President since 1994, and having most recently been underscored by the strategic challenges the United States faces in the Asia-Pacific region and more specifically in the South China Sea.

SENATE RESOLUTION 599—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 25, 2018, AS "NATIONAL LOBSTER DAY"

Mr. KING (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. REED, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 599

Whereas American lobster is consistently among the most valuable species landed in the United States;

Whereas lobstering has served as an economic engine and family tradition in the United States for centuries;

Whereas thousands of families in the United States make their livelihoods from catching, processing, or serving lobsters;

Whereas the lobster industry employs people of all ages, and many harvesters begin fishing as children and stay in the industry for their entire working lives;

Whereas historical lore notes that lobster likely joined turkey on the table at the very first Thanksgiving feast in 1621, and it continues to be a mainstay during many other holiday traditions;

Whereas responsible resource management practices beginning in the 1600s have created one of the most sustainable fisheries in the world;

Whereas, throughout history, United States presidents have served lobster at their inaugural celebrations and state dinners with international leaders;

Whereas lobster is an excellent, versatile source of lean protein that is low in saturated fat and high in vitamin B12;

Whereas the peak of the lobstering season in the United States occurs in the late summer;

Whereas the growing reputation of the American lobster as a unique, high-quality, and healthy food has increased its consumption and driven demand internationally;

Whereas the Unicode Consortium added a lobster to its latest emoji set in recognition of the popularity of the species around the world;

Whereas countless people in the United States enjoy lobster rolls to celebrate summer, from beaches to backyards and fine dining restaurants to lobster shacks;

Whereas lobster inspires festivals from Maine to California, where people come together to celebrate their love for the crustacean;

Whereas many people in the United States continue to enjoy steamed lobster with drawn butter; and

Whereas the number of recipes incorporating lobster is growing with chefs across the United States incorporating the protein

in new and creative ways from lobster dumpplings to lobster grilled cheese: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 25, 2018, as "National Lobster Day"; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3666. Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. CARPER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3667. Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. CARPER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3668. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3669. Mrs. FISCHER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3670. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3671. Mr. HELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3672. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3673. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3674. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3675. Mr. DONNELLY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3676. Ms. HEITKAMP submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3677. Mr. BLUMENTHAL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3678. Ms. CORTEZ MASTO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3679. Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. HOEVEN, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3680. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1182, to extend the National Flood Insurance Program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3681. Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WARNER, and Ms. WARREN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3682. Mr. UDALL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3666. Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. CARPER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 414, line 24, strike “determines” and insert the following: “determines: *Provided further*, That funds provided for national infrastructure investments for passenger rail transportation projects under title I of division C of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112-55; 125 Stat. 641), may be expended until September 30, 2019: *Provided further*, That funds provided for national infrastructure investment for port infrastructure projects under title VIII of division F of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013 (Public Law 113-6; 127 Stat. 432) shall be available until September 30, 2020: *Provided further*, That of the unobligated balances of contract authority for the TIFIA program (as defined in section 601(a) of title 23, United States Code), \$13,000,000 shall be permanently rescinded, and the associated obligation limitation shall be reduced by an equal amount.”.

SA 3667. Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. CARPER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title I of division D, insert the following:

SEC. 1 _____. In the case of any funds made available for national infrastructure investments for any passenger rail transportation project under title I of division C of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112-55; 125 Stat. 641), the Secretary of Transportation shall allow the recipient of a grant from those funds to expend funds by making an advance payment to Amtrak until September 30, 2018.

SA 3668. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making

appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 360, line 13, strike “\$60,000,000” and insert “\$67,500,000”.

SA 3669. Mrs. FISCHER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title I of division D, insert the following:

SEC. 1 _____. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Transportation may be obligated or expended to implement, administer, or enforce the requirements of section 31137 of title 49, United States Code, or any regulation issued by the Secretary pursuant to such section, with respect to the use of electronic logging devices by operators of commercial motor vehicles, as defined in section 31132(1) of such title, transporting livestock, as defined in section 602 of the Emergency Livestock Feed Assistance Act of 1988 (7 U.S.C. 1471) or insects.

SA 3670. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title I of division D, insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Federal Transit Administration under this title to carry out sections 5307, 5311, 5337, and 5339 of title 49, United States Code, may be used in awarding a contract or subcontract to an entity on or after the date of enactment of this Act for the procurement of rolling stock for use in public transportation if the manufacturer of the rolling stock is incorporated in or has manufacturing facilities in the United States and receives support from the government of a country that—

(1) is identified as a nonmarket economy country (as defined in section 771(18) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1677(18))) as of the date of enactment of this Act;

(2) was identified by the United States Trade Representative in the most recent report required by section 182 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2242) as a priority foreign country under subsection (a)(2) of that section; and

(3) is subject to monitoring by the Trade Representative under section 306 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2416).

(b) This section shall be applied in a manner consistent with the obligations of the United States under international agreements.

(c)(1) This section shall not apply to the award of a contract or subcontract made by a public transportation agency with a rail rolling stock manufacturer described in subsection (a) if the manufacturer produced rail rolling stock for an eligible public transpor-

tation agency through a contract executed prior to the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) A rail rolling stock manufacturer described in subsection (a) may not use funds provided under a contract or subcontract described in paragraph (1) to expand the manufacturer's production of rail rolling stock within the United States to an amount that is greater than the amount required under contractual obligations of the manufacturer as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to funds that are not appropriated or otherwise made available to the Federal Transit Administration under this title.

SA 3671. Mr. HELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title II of division D, insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available under this Act may be used to provide housing assistance benefits for an individual who is convicted of—

(1) aggravated sexual abuse under section 2241 of title 18, United States Code;

(2) murder under section 1111 of title 18, United States Code; or

(3) any other Federal or State offense involving—

(A) severe forms of trafficking in persons or sex trafficking, as those terms are defined in paragraphs (9) and (10), respectively, of section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102); or

(B) child pornography, as defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code.

SA 3672. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 167, between lines 22 and 23, insert the following:

SEC. 129. Of amounts appropriated under this title, not less than \$1,000,000 shall be made available to the Office of Foreign Assets Control to ensure appropriate staffing and to achieve meaningful and robust implementation of the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114-328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note), the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (Public Law 115-44; 131 Stat. 886), and other provisions of law authorizing or requiring the imposition of sanctions.

SA 3673. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division B, insert the following:

SEC. _____. CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW AND CONTINUED APPLICABILITY OF SANCTIONS UNDER THE SERGEI MAGNITSKY RULE OF LAW ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2012.

Section 216(a)(2)(B)(i) of the Russia Sanctions Review Act of 2017 (22 U.S.C. 9511(a)(2)(B)(i)) is amended—

(1) in subclause (II), by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in subclause (III), by striking “; and” and inserting “; or”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(IV) the Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act of 2012 (title IV of Public Law 112–208; 22 U.S.C. 5811 note); and”.

SA 3674. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title I of division D, insert the following:

SEC. 1 _____. (a) Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall carry out, and make publicly available the results of, a study—

(1)(A) to identify opportunities for personal autonomous vehicles to reduce fuel use, congestion, and vehicle miles traveled; and

(B) to examine opportunities to coordinate the introduction of personal autonomous vehicles with vehicle fleets, ride sharing, electric vehicles, and related fueling infrastructure in both urban and rural communities; and

(2) if adequate information is not available to carry out paragraph (1), to identify research needs.

(b) The study under subsection (a) shall consider impacts on—

(1) drive cycle, including speed of driving, routing, drag, acceleration and deceleration, and communication;

(2) demand, including accessibility, parking, miles traveled, commute distances, and cost per mile traveled;

(3) vehicle design, including electrification, light-weighting, right-sizing, acceleration, and biofuel integration; and

(4) fleet optimization, including shared autonomous vehicles, mobility on demand services, and efficient routing.

(c) In carrying out the study under subsection (a), the Secretary of Transportation shall consult with—

(1) the Intelligent Transportation Systems Joint Program Office of the Department of Transportation;

(2) the Vehicles Technologies Office of the Department of Energy;

(3) relevant National Laboratories (as defined in section 2 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801));

(4) the Office of Air and Radiation of the Environmental Protection Agency;

(5) relevant State, regional, and local planning commissions and governments; and

(6) relevant nonprofit organizations.

(d) In making the study under subsection (a) publicly available, the Secretary of Transportation shall ensure that no confidential business information is revealed.

SA 3675. Mr. DONNELLY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of

the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title III of division C, insert the following:

RURAL HEALTH AND SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Any funds provided by this Act for rural health and safety education programs authorized under section 502(i) of the Rural Development Act of 1972 (7 U.S.C. 2662(i)) may be used under those programs to address the opioid abuse epidemic and to combat opioid abuse in rural communities.

SA 3676. Ms. HEITKAMP submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title I of division A, insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) There are appropriated under the heading “Operation of Indian Programs” under the heading “Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education”, in addition to any other amounts made available under such heading and in order to provide additional funding for hiring staff for tribal detention facilities, including addressing the needs of newly funded tribal detention facilities, \$2,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2020.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the total amount appropriated under the heading “Working Capital Fund” for the Department of the Interior is hereby reduced by \$2,000,000.

SA 3677. Mr. BLUMENTHAL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 464, line 4, strike the period at the end and insert “: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading and the heading ‘National Network Grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation’, not more than \$500,000 may be made available to provide a discount of not less than 15 percent on passenger fares to veterans (as defined in section 101 of title 38, United States Code).”.

SA 3678. Ms. CORTEZ MASTO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 258, after line 3, insert the following:

SEC. 634. Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Trade Commission shall submit to Congress a report that describes—

(1) the number of consumer complaints submitted to the Federal Trade Commission regarding the pet leasing industry;

(2) the geographic breakdown of complaints described in paragraph (1);

(3) the actions taken by the Federal Trade Commission against pet leasing companies; and

(4) the authority available to the Federal Trade Commission to take action against pet leasing companies, including how the Federal Trade Commission can best collaborate with State attorneys general in enforcing laws relating to such companies.

SA 3679. Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. HOEVEN, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 424, line 12, strike the period and insert “*Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, up to \$6,000,000 shall be used for providing matching funds to qualified commercial entities seeking to demonstrate or validate technologies that the Federal Aviation Administration considers essential to the safe integration of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) in the National Airspace System at Federal Aviation Administration designated UAS test sites: *Provided further*, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall identify essential integration technologies that could be demonstrated or validated at test sites designated in accordance with the preceding proviso.”.

SA 3680. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1182, to extend the National Flood Insurance Program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 3. ELIMINATION OF COVERAGE FOR HIGH-COST RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES.

Section 1305 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4012) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) **PROHIBITION OF COVERAGE FOR HIGH-COST RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator may not make available flood insurance under this title for any single-family residential structure—

“(A) that is built after the date of enactment of this subsection; and

“(B) with respect to which the replacement cost is not less than \$2,500,000.

“(2) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this subsection—

“(A) the term ‘replacement cost’, with respect to a structure, means the replacement value of the structure at the time of construction, exclusive of the value of the real estate on which the structure is located; and

“(B) the term ‘single-family residential structure’ means a non-commercial, residential building that is a primary or secondary residence and is designed for the occupancy of 4 or fewer residences.”.

SA 3681. Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WARNER, and Ms. WARREN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment

SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division B, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . COMPENSATION FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES AFFECTED BY A LAPSE IN APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 1341 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “An officer” and inserting “Except as specified in this subchapter or any other provision of law, an officer”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(c)(1) In this subsection—

“(A) the term ‘covered lapse in appropriations’ means any lapse in appropriations that begins on or after September 30, 2018; and

“(B) the term ‘excepted employee’ means an excepted employee or an employee performing emergency work, as such terms are defined by the Office of Personnel Management.

“(2) Each Federal employee furloughed as a result of a covered lapse in appropriations shall be paid for the period of the lapse in appropriations, and each excepted employee who is required to perform work during a covered lapse in appropriations shall be paid for such work, at the employee’s standard rate of pay, at the earliest date possible after the lapse in appropriations ends, regardless of scheduled pay dates.

“(3) During a covered lapse in appropriations, each excepted employee who is required to perform work shall be entitled to use leave under chapter 63 of title 5, or any other applicable law governing the use of leave by the excepted employee, for which compensation shall be paid at the earliest date possible after the lapse in appropriations ends, regardless of scheduled pay dates.”.

SA 3682. Mr. UDALL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3399 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title IV of division A, insert the following:

SEC. 4 ____ . Except as otherwise provided by this Act, or through advance notification

and approval under the reprogramming procedures specified by the explanatory statement that accompanies this Act, none of the funds provided by this Act shall be available to carry out a reorganization, relocation, transfer, consolidation, or closure of any headquarters, regional, State, or field office, or to change regional boundaries for agencies or bureaus funded by this Act.

NATIONAL LOBSTER DAY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 599, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 599) designating September 25, 2018, as National Lobster Day.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 599) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—HOUSE MESSAGE TO ACCOMPANY S. 1182

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, the cloture motion with respect to the House message to accompany S. 1182 be withdrawn, and the motion to refer and the motion to concur with amendment be withdrawn, and the Senate vote on the motion to concur without further intervening action or debate at 12:15 p.m., Tuesday, July 31.

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

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, the confirmation vote on the Grant nomination occur at 2:15 p.m. tomorrow, July 31; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action; further, that following disposition of the nomination, there be up to 5 minutes of debate, equally divided in the usual form, and that following the use or yielding back of that time, the Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the Shelby amendment to H.R. 6147.

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

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JULY 31, 2018

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, July 31; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Grant nomination; further, that the Senate recess, following the 12:15 p.m. vote until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:52 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, July 31, 2018, at 10 a.m.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, July 31, 2018 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

AUGUST 1

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Finance

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Justin George Muzinich, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary, and Michael J. Desmond, of California, to be Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service and an Assistant General Counsel, both of the Department of the Treasury.

SD-215

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold hearings to examine foreign influence operations and their use of social media platforms.

SH-216

9:45 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 2242, to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to clarify the authority of the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration with respect to post-storm assessments, S. 2773, to improve the management of driftnet fishing, S. 2861, to prosecute, as a Federal crime, the assault or intimidation of a passenger train crew member to the same extent as such actions against aircraft crew members are prosecuted, S. 3119, to allow for the taking of sea lions on the Columbia River and its tributaries to protect endangered and threatened species of salmon and other nonlisted fish species, S. 3143, to provide for a coordinated Federal program to accelerate quantum research and development for the economic and national security of the United States, S. 3265, to require the Secretary of Commerce to undertake certain activities to support waterfront community revitalization and resiliency, S. 3273, to improve the

safety, efficiency, and reliability of the movement of goods through ports and intermodal connections to ports, an original bill entitled, "Space Frontier Act of 2019", and the nominations of Rick A. Dearborn, of Oklahoma, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors, and Martin J. Oberman, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board.

SD-G50

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to consider H.R. 5772, to designate the J. Marvin Jones Federal Building and Courthouse in Amarillo, Texas, as the "J. Marvin Jones Federal Building and Mary Lou Robinson United States Courthouse", S. 3021, to designate the United States courthouse located at 300 South Fourth Street in Minneapolis, Minnesota, as the "Diana E. Murphy United States Courthouse", the nominations of William Charles McIntosh, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Administrator, and Peter C. Wright, of Michigan, to be Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste, both of the Environmental Protection Agency, Mary Bridget Neumayr, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Council on Environmental Quality, and John Fleming, of Louisiana, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, and General Services Administration resolutions.

SD-406

10 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of R. Clarke Cooper, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary (Political-Military Affairs), and John Cotton Richmond, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking, with the rank of Ambassador at Large, both of the Department of State.

SD-419

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Richard J. Sullivan, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Diane Gujarati, Eric Ross Komitee, and Rachel P. Kovner, each to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, John L. Sinatra, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Western District of New York, and Lewis J. Liman, and Mary Kay Vyskocil, both to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

SD-226

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the Environmental Protection Agency's agenda, focusing on protecting the environment and allowing America's economy to grow.

SD-406

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Space, Science, and Competitiveness

To hold hearings to examine the search for life, focusing on utilizing science to explore our solar system and make new discoveries.

SR-253

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 3184, to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the requirements for applications for construction of State home facilities to increase the maximum percentage of nonveterans allowed to be treated at such facilities, S. 1596, to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase certain funeral benefits for veterans, S. 2881, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to seek to enter into an agreement with the city of Vallejo, California, for the transfer of Mare Island Naval Cemetery in Vallejo, California, S. 1952, to improve oversight and accountability of the financial processes of the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 1990, to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the amounts payable by the Department of Veterans Affairs for dependency and indemnity compensation, to modify the requirements for dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of certain veterans rated totally disabled at the time of death, S. 2485, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide payment of Medal of Honor special pension under such title to the surviving spouse of a deceased Medal of Honor recipient, S. 2748, to amend title 10, United States Code, to require members of the Armed Forces to receive additional training under the Transition Assistance Program, S. 514, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to provide access to magnetic EEG/EKG-guided resonance therapy to veterans, H.R. 299, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, H.R. 5418, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out the Medical Surgical Prime Vendor program using multiple prime vendors, an original bill entitled, "Veterans Dental Care Eligibility Expansion and Enhancement Act of 2018", an original bill entitled, "VA Hiring Enhancement Act", an original bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a program to award grants to persons to provide and coordinate the provision of suicide prevention services for veterans transitioning from service in the Armed Forces who are at risk of suicide and for their families, and an original bill entitled, "Modernization of Medical Records Access for Veterans Act".

SR-418

• 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.

AUGUST 2

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Kathleen Laura Kraninger, of Ohio, to be Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, Kimberly A. Reed, of West Virginia, to be President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, Elad L. Roisman, of Maine, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Michael R. Bright, of the District of Co-

lumbia, to be President, Government National Mortgage Association, and Rae Oliver, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, both of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Dino Falaschetti, of Montana, to be Director, Office of Financial Research, Department of the Treasury.

SD-538

10:45 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine assessing the value of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization alliance.

SD-419

AUGUST 15

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Communications Commission.

SR-253

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5441–S5462

Measures Introduced: Four bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3296–3299, and S. Res. 597–599. **Page S5455**

Measures Reported:

H.R. 4567, to require a Department of Homeland Security overseas personnel enhancement plan. (S. Rept. No. 115–308)

H.R. 497, To direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal lands in San Bernardino County, California, to the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District, and to accept in return certain non-Federal lands.

H.R. 2582, to authorize the State of Utah to select certain lands that are available for disposal under the Pony Express Resource Management Plan to be used for the support and benefit of State institutions.

H.R. 2768, to designate certain mountain peaks in the State of Colorado as “Fowler Peak” and “Boskoff Peak”.

H.R. 2897, to authorize the Mayor of the District of Columbia and the Director of the National Park Service to enter into cooperative management agreements for the operation, maintenance, and management of units of the National Park System in the District of Columbia, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

H.R. 4609, to provide for the conveyance of a Forest Service site in Dolores County, Colorado, to be used for a fire station.

S. Res. 501, recognizing threats to freedom of the press and expression around the world and reaffirming freedom of the press as a priority in efforts of the Government of the United States to promote democracy and good governance, and with an amended preamble.

S. Res. 541, expressing the sense of the Senate that any United States-Saudi Arabia civilian nuclear cooperation agreement must prohibit the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from enriching uranium or separating plutonium on its own territory, in keeping with the strongest possible nonproliferation “gold

standard”, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble.

S. Res. 571, condemning the ongoing illegal occupation of Crimea by the Russian Federation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble.

S. 436, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to retire coal preference right lease applications for which the Secretary has made an affirmative commercial quantities determination, to substitute certain land selections of the Navajo Nation, to designate certain wilderness areas, with amendments.

S. 440, to establish a procedure for the conveyance of certain Federal property around the Dickinson Reservoir in the State of North Dakota, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 930, to require the Administrator of the Western Area Power Administration to establish a pilot project to provide increased transparency for customers, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 1023, to reauthorize the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 through fiscal year 2021, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 1030, to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to submit to Congress a report on certain hydropower projects, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 1142, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of certain hydroelectric projects, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2074, to establish a procedure for the conveyance of certain Federal property around the Jamestown Reservoir in the State of North Dakota, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2102, to clarify the boundary of Acadia National Park, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S5454–55**

Measures Passed:

National Lobster Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 599, designating September 25, 2018, as “National Lobster Day”. **Page S5462**

House Messages:

The American Legion 100th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding Rule XXII, the cloture motion with respect to the House Message to accompany S. 1182, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the 100th anniversary of The American Legion, be withdrawn, and the motion to refer and the motion to concur with amendment be withdrawn, and Senate vote on the motion to concur without further intervening action or debate at 12:15 p.m., on Tuesday, July 31, 2018. **Page S5462**

Grant Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Britt Cagle Grant, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit. **Pages S5443–47**

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

By 52 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 172), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S5447**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, the vote on confirmation of the nomination occur at 2:15 p.m., on Tuesday, July 31, 2018; and that following disposition of the nomination, there be up to five minutes of debate, equally divided in the usual form, and following the use or yielding back of that time, Senate vote on the mo-

tion to invoke cloture on Shelby Amendment No. 3399, to H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019. **Page S5462**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, July 31, 2018. **Page S5462**

Executive Communications: **Pages S5452–54**

Petitions and Memorials: **Page S5454**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5455–57**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S5457–59**

Additional Statements: **Pages S5450–52**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S5459–62**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—172) **Page S5447**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:52 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, July 31, 2018. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5462.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet in a Pro Forma session at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, July 31, 2018.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D879)

S. 490, to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving the Gibson Dam. Signed on July 27, 2018. (Public Law 115–219)

S. 931, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4910 Brighton Boulevard in Denver, Colorado, as the “George Sakato Post Office”. Signed on July 27, 2018. (Public Law 115–220)

S. 2734, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 1300 Victoria Street in Laredo, Texas, as the “George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse”. Signed on July 27, 2018. (Public Law 115–221)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, JULY 31, 2018

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: business meeting to consider the nominations of Dan Michael Berkovitz, of Maryland, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and James E. Hubbard, of Colorado, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet, to hold hearings to examine the internet and digital communications, focusing on the impact of global internet governance, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Michael A. Hammer, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kyle McCarter, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Kenya, Stephanie Sanders Sullivan, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Ghana, and Donald R. Tapia, of Arizona, to be Ambassador to Jamaica, all of the Department of State, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine reducing health care costs, focusing on decreasing administrative spending, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold an oversight hearing to examine immigration enforcement and family reunification efforts, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Subcommittee on Oversight, Agency Action, Federal Rights and Federal Courts, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the structure of the Federal courts, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing regarding certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of July 31 through August 3, 2018
Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Britt Cagle Grant, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, post-cloture.

At 12:15 p.m., Senate will vote in relation to the House Message to accompany S. 1182, The American Legion 100th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act (legislative vehicle for National Flood Insurance Program).

At 2:15 p.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of Britt Cagle Grant.

Following disposition of the nomination of Britt Cagle Grant, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on Shelby Amendment No. 3399, to H.R. 6147, Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

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

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: July 31, business meeting to consider the nominations of Dan Michael Berkovitz, of Maryland, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and James E. Hubbard, of Colorado, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: August 2, business meeting to consider the nominations of Kathleen Laura Kraninger, of Ohio, to be Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, Kimberly A. Reed, of West Virginia, to be President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, Elad L. Roisman, of Maine, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Michael R. Bright, of the District of Columbia, to be President, Government National Mortgage Association, and Rae Oliver, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, both of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Dino Falaschetti, of Montana, to be Director, Office of Financial Research, Department of the Treasury, 10:15 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: July 31, Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet, to hold hearings to examine the internet and digital communications, focusing on the impact of global internet governance, 10 a.m., SR-253.

August 1, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 2242, to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to clarify the authority of the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration with respect to post-storm assessments, S. 2773, to improve the management of driftnet fishing, S. 2861, to prosecute, as a Federal crime, the assault or intimidation of a passenger train crew member to the same extent as such actions against aircraft crew members are prosecuted, S. 3119, to allow for the taking of sea lions on the Columbia River and its tributaries to protect endangered and threatened species of salmon and other non-listed fish species, S. 3143, to provide for a coordinated Federal program to accelerate quantum research and development for the economic and national security of the United States, S. 3265, to require the Secretary of Commerce to undertake certain activities to support waterfront community revitalization and resiliency, S. 3273, to improve the safety, efficiency, and reliability of the movement of goods through ports and intermodal connections to ports, an original bill entitled, "Space Frontier Act of 2019", and the nominations of Rick A. Dearborn, of

Oklahoma, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors, and Martin J. Oberman, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, 9:45 a.m., SD-G50.

August 1, Subcommittee on Space, Science, and Competitiveness, to hold hearings to examine the search for life, focusing on utilizing science to explore our solar system and make new discoveries, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: August 1, business meeting to consider H.R. 5772, to designate the J. Marvin Jones Federal Building and Courthouse in Amarillo, Texas, as the “J. Marvin Jones Federal Building and Mary Lou Robinson United States Courthouse”, S. 3021, to designate the United States courthouse located at 300 South Fourth Street in Minneapolis, Minnesota, as the “Diana E. Murphy United States Courthouse”, the nominations of William Charles McIntosh, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Administrator, and Peter C. Wright, of Michigan, to be Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste, both of the Environmental Protection Agency, Mary Bridget Neumayr, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Council on Environmental Quality, and John Fleming, of Louisiana, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, and General Services Administration resolutions, 9:45 a.m., SD-406.

August 1, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the Environmental Protection Agency’s agenda, focusing on protecting the environment and allowing America’s economy to grow, 10:30 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: August 1, business meeting to consider the nominations of Justin George Muzinich, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary, and Michael J. Desmond, of California, to be Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service and an Assistant General Counsel, both of the Department of the Treasury, 9:30 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: July 31, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Michael A. Hammer, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kyle McCarter, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Kenya, Stephanie Sanders Sullivan, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Ghana, and Donald R. Tapia, of Arizona, to be Ambassador to Jamaica, all of the Department of State, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

August 1, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of R. Clarke Cooper, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary (Political-Military Affairs), and John Cotton Richmond, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking, with the rank of Ambassador at Large, both of the Department of State, 10 a.m., SD-419.

August 2, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine assessing the value of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization alliance, 10:45 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: July 31, to hold hearings to examine reducing health care costs, focusing on decreasing administrative spending, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on the Judiciary: July 31, to hold an oversight hearing to examine immigration enforcement and family reunification efforts, 10 a.m., SH-216.

July 31, Subcommittee on Oversight, Agency Action, Federal Rights and Federal Courts, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the structure of the Federal courts, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

August 1, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Richard J. Sullivan, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Diane Gujarati, Eric Ross Komitee, and Rachel P. Kovner, each to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, John L. Sinatra, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Western District of New York, and Lewis J. Liman, and Mary Kay Vyskocil, both to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: August 1, to hold hearings to examine S. 3184, to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the requirements for applications for construction of State home facilities to increase the maximum percentage of nonveterans allowed to be treated at such facilities, S. 1596, to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase certain funeral benefits for veterans, S. 2881, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to seek to enter into an agreement with the city of Vallejo, California, for the transfer of Mare Island Naval Cemetery in Vallejo, California, S. 1952, to improve oversight and accountability of the financial processes of the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 1990, to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the amounts payable by the Department of Veterans Affairs for dependency and indemnity compensation, to modify the requirements for dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of certain veterans rated totally disabled at the time of death, S. 2485, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide payment of Medal of Honor special pension under such title to the surviving spouse of a deceased Medal of Honor recipient, S. 2748, to amend title 10, United States Code, to require members of the Armed Forces to receive additional training under the Transition Assistance Program, S. 514, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to provide access to magnetic EEG/EKG-guided resonance therapy to veterans, H.R. 299, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, H.R. 5418, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out the Medical Surgical Prime Vendor program using multiple prime vendors, an original bill entitled, “Veterans Dental Care Eligibility Expansion and Enhancement Act of 2018”, an original bill entitled, “VA Hiring Enhancement Act”, an original bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a program to award grants to persons to provide and coordinate the provision of suicide prevention services for veterans transitioning from service in the Armed Forces who are at risk of suicide and for their families, and an original bill entitled, “Modernization of Medical Records Access for Veterans Act”, 2:30 p.m., SR-418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: July 31, closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing regarding certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

August 1, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine foreign influence operations and their use of social media platforms, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, July 31

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Britt Cagle Grant, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, post-cloture.

At 12:15 p.m., Senate will vote in relation to the House Message to accompany S. 1182, The American Legion 100th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act (legislative vehicle for National Flood Insurance Program).

At 2:15 p.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of Britt Cagle Grant.

Following disposition of the nomination of Britt Cagle Grant, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on Shelby Amendment No. 3399, to H.R. 6147, Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

(Senate will recess from following disposition of the House Message to accompany S. 1182, until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Tuesday, July 31

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: House will meet in Pro forma session at 10 a.m.



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