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## House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 15, 2015, at 12 p.m.

### Senate

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015

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

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer: Let us pray. Eternal God, who knows what is best for us, have Your way in our Nation and world. Release the power of Your providence on Capitol Hill, using our lawmakers to bring peace on Earth and good will to humankind.

Lord, inspire them with Your wisdom in both their public and private lives, creating in them a desire to please You in all they do. May their first allegiance always be to You. Deliver them from that extreme hubris that sees itself as always right. Help them instead to remember that more can be accomplished by striving to unite rather than divide.

We pray in Your wonderful Name.

#### **NOTICE**

If the 114th Congress, 1st Session, adjourns sine die on or before December 24, 2015, a final issue of the *Congressional Record* for the 114th Congress, 1st Session, will be published on Thursday, December 31, 2015, to permit Members to insert statements.

All material for insertion must be signed by the Member and delivered to the respective offices of the Official Reporters of Debates (Room HT-59 or S-123 of the Capitol), Monday through Friday, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. through Wednesday, December 30. The final issue will be dated Thursday, December 31, 2015, and will be delivered on Monday, January 4, 2016.

None of the material printed in the final issue of the Congressional Record may contain subject matter, or relate to any event, that occurred after the sine die date.

Senators' statements should also be formatted according to the instructions at http://webster.senate.gov/secretary/ Departments/Reporters\_\_Debates/resources/cong\_\_record.pdf, and submitted electronically, either on a disk to accompany the signed statement, or by e-mail to the Official Reporters of Debates at "Record@Sec.Senate.gov".

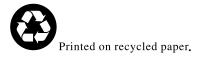
Members of the House of Representatives' statements may also be submitted electronically by e-mail, to accompany the signed statement, and formatted according to the instructions for the Extensions of Remarks template at https://housenet.house.gov/legislative/research-and-reference/transcripts-and-records/electronic-congressional-record-inserts. The Official Reporters will transmit to GPO the template formatted electronic file only after receipt of, and authentication with, the hard copy, and signed manuscript. Deliver statements to the Official Reporters in Room HT-59.

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By order of the Joint Committee on Printing.

GREGG HARPER, Chairman.

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



#### 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 (Mrs. ERNST). The majority leader is recognized.

### APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RELIEF NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. McConnell. Madam President, Members and staff from both parties are continuing their work on appropriations and on the tax relief measure. As we all know, they have made a lot of progress in recent days. I want to thank all who have been involved in this effort as it continues. We will continue to consult and engage with colleagues as we make further progress on these last two significant items we must complete this year.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

### OMNIBUS AND TAX EXTENDERS NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. REID. Madam President, I want to underscore what the Republican leader has said: Everyone is working hard toward a bipartisan compromise in the omnibus and the so-called tax extenders legislation. Many of us in the Senate and the House and our staffs worked through the weekend and have made a lot of progress. We are not there yet.

Keeping the Federal Government open and funded is a congressional responsibility. I am confident we will fulfill this most basic constitutional duty. It is just a question of when we do it. I hope it is sooner rather than later.

### $\begin{array}{c} \text{PARIS CLIMATE CHANGE} \\ \text{AGREEMENT} \end{array}$

Mr. REID. Madam President, this past weekend President Obama and the United States took yet another historic step in addressing climate change. The landmark agreement forged in Paris by the United States and about 200 other nations will go far in protecting our planet for future generations.

Climate change poses one of the greatest threats our world has ever known. Here in the United States, we are beginning to see the devastation caused by all kinds of things—in the Western part of the United States, raging wildfires that we have never, ever seen before; in arid places like Nevada

and in very, very non-arid places like in the mountains of California, Washington, and Oregon, rising sea levels; our military bases, coastal bases—those in Virginia and Florida—are feeling this impact, changing operation of the bases, with extreme weather and droughts. Now is the time to act to stem the tide of climate change.

I applaud President Obama for his work on this issue. His leadership has inspired the international community to address climate change and its catastrophic effects.

### TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL ROBERT T. HERBERT

Mr. REID. Madam President, on a note that I feel important to make for my staff and me, it is important to recognize the accomplishments of everyone here in Washington, here on Capitol Hill, here in the Senate; it is important to recognize the accomplishments of our staff. We have such remarkably dedicated people. I am so proud of my staff. They have worked this past week tirelessly.

I want to talk today, though, about just one of those who has worked for me. His name is BG Robert T. Herbert. He came to me as a congressional fellow two decades ago, and he never left. He was so good. This month marks the 40th year of General Herbert's service in the United States Armed Forces. In 1975, he joined the Army and embarked on a remarkable military career. He grew up in a military family and always dreamed of becoming a military aviator. He made that dream a reality, logging over 7,000 flight hours in all different kinds of aircraft—fixed-wing and rotary—spending time in virtually every aircraft within the United States Army inventory.

As with all pilots, as they get a little older and have different assignments, they just can't stand the fact that they can't fly as they used to. So he no longer spends his days in the cockpit when he does his duties at the National Guard. He is Special Assistant to the Chief of the National Guard Bureau for National Security Policy here in Washington. He previously worked as Nevada's assistant adjunct general.

I am grateful for Bob's service to our Nation. A 40-year military career is an incredible achievement. But I am also thankful for his work here in the Senate. He has been a tireless worker for the people of Nevada and for the country.

Congratulations to BG Robert T. Herbert on this important milestone, and I look forward to his many other accomplishments as Bob's illustrious career continues.

Would the Presiding Officer announce to the Senate what we are going to be doing the rest of the day.

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

#### MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 5 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

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

#### REMEMBERING DANIEL CAPUANO

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to speak about the loss of one of the bravest men in the Chicago Fire Department, Daniel Capuano.

Daniel went to work this morning—just as he has done every day for the past 15 years—ready to fight fires and risk his life to save the lives of others. Not many people can say they wake up each day ready to make that sacrifice, but this morning, Daniel Capuano did just that.

At 2:40 a.m. today, Daniel Capuano and his fellow firefighters were contacted about a warehouse fire in the 9200 block of South Baltimore Avenue on the South Side of Chicago. Daniel and the other firefighters were immediately dispatched to the scene. The warehouse was undergoing construction, and because of that, there were reports of holes in the floors. When they got there, they saw billowing smoke coming out of the vacant threestory warehouse. Firefighter Capuano and his team moved cautiously through the second floor of the warehouse in search of the cause of the fire. but the heavy, thick smoke made it nearly impossible to see, causing Capuano to fall through an elevator shaft from the second floor of the building to the basement. His fellow firefighters were able to find him quickly and get him on an ambulance and to a nearby hospital. Sadly, it was too late. By the time he arrived at the hospital, he was already in serious condition. At 4:25 a.m. this morning, Daniel Capuano was pronounced dead from trauma.

It is times like these when we are reminded of just how dangerous the job these men and women face every day really is. Daniel Capuano spent his entire career putting the safety of his community before his own. For 15 years he served the Chicago Fire Department fighting and eliminating fires while pulling others to safety. Before that, he was a firefighter in Evergreen Park, a Chicago suburb.

Daniel Capuano is a true hero who made the ultimate sacrifice to make the residents of his community and neighborhood safe. Daniel's death is a devastating loss and serves as a reminder of the risk our firefighters and

other first responders take every day. My condolences and prayers are with his wife Julie; his three children, Nicholas, Andrew, and Amanda; and his fellow firefighters.

Daniel, you are a hero to me and to the people of Chicago and Illinois. There are no words to truly describe the sorrow for your loss. I cannot, nor can anyone, thank you for the commitment you made for the safety of the people in your community.

#### FREEDOM OF RELIGION

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, it is interesting—the Midwest draws us together in the right way.

Last night in Springfield, IL, a typical midwestern American city, there was a gathering of people from all across the city at 5:30 on a Sunday night. It was a gathering at the Islamic Society of Springfield. A request had been made for people of all religions to come together and to pray in solidarity with our Islamic neighbors. It was billed as a peace rally originally scheduled to be held outside, even in winter weather. Although it has been warm for this time of year, it was raining heavy last night as we all arrived at the building, so everyone crammed inside the building. There was standing and sitting room only. It was a huge outpouring of support for our Muslim brothers and sisters in the Springfield community.

There were representatives of virtually every religion present, and many spoke—rabbis, ministers, Catholic nuns, and even a few elected officials—trying to let our friends in the Muslim community know that despite some of the things that had been said over the last few weeks by Presidential candidates, we in fact embrace them as part of the American family.

There was also an event this weekend that occurred far away from Springfield, in Scottsdale, AZ, where my colleague in the Senate, JEFF FLAKE of Arizona, visited a mosque. It was widely reported. He made outstanding remarks about the regret he felt over some of the political statements that had been made over the last several weeks by political candidates. JEFF FLAKE reminded us across the Nation, as I tried to remind those in Springfield last night, that America is a nation which values the freedom of religious belief.

Our Constitution speaks to only three elements when it comes to religion and our government. First, it says that each of us has the freedom and liberty to choose our own religion or to choose no religion. Second, it says our government will never establish an official state religion. Third, in article VI, it says there will be no religious test in the United States of America of candidates for public office.

It is hard to believe that those three simple thoughts have carried this Nation for more than two centuries when it comes to religion, but we have been successful. Our Nation has been successful where others have failed. There have been times when we failed to live up to our own ideals and our own values, and when hateful statements are made by Presidential candidates, it calls on us to remember our history and to remember triumphant moments and sad moments as well.

It was May of 1939 when the ship SS St. Louis left Germany with 900 Jewish passengers. They were trying to escape Hitler and the Nazis. They went to Havana, Cuba, and they were turned away. Then they came to Miami, FL, asking if they could be refugees, Jewish refugees, coming to the United States, and they were turned away as well. The 900 Jewish passengers went back to Germany. According to the records of the Holocaust Museum, 200 of them perished in the Holocaust. It was about that same time when Senator Robert Wagner of New York offered a measure in the Senate—in this very Chamber—that our country would accept 10,000 Jewish children from Germany who were seeking to escape the Holocaust. Sadly, that measure was defeated.

We have other instances in history that go back to the beginning of our Nation where we have been challenged to live up to the ideals and principles of the Constitution. That challenge is with us again today.

A candidate for President of the

A candidate for President of the United States—of a major political party—has called for the exclusion of Muslims from being allowed to immigrate into the United States. That is reprehensible, it is outrageous, and it is un-American. Members of both political parties in Congress have spoken out against it, as they should.

We must remember that many of our Nation's Founders fled religious persecution to come to this Nation. George Washington summed up the prevailing view when he said, "In this land of equal liberty, it is our boast, that a man's religious tenets will not forfeit the protection of the laws." That, of course, is included in the First Amendment to our Constitution.

Throughout our history, many religious minorities have faced intolerance, often prejudice. It was once Catholics from Ireland, Italy, and my mother's homeland of Lithuania who were questioned. Today American Muslims face the same threats of similar discrimination.

In recent weeks a number of prominent Republican leaders have made these threats. But I add quickly that there has been a greater number, thank goodness, who have spoken out against these statements, even on the Republican side.

One Presidential candidate compared Syrian refugees to "rabid dogs" and said that American Muslims should not be President of the United States. The frontrunner for the Republican nomination called for a "total and complete" ban on Muslim immigrants coming to the United States and advocated

for closing down their places of worship. These comments are reprehensible and do not reflect who we are as a nation.

These comments also don't reflect the vital role that millions of Muslim Americans play in my hometown of Springfield, IL, and across the United States. There are American Muslims who are teachers, professors, doctors, police officers, first responders, and members of the U.S. Armed Forces.

I am concerned that the anti-Muslim rhetoric we have heard in recent weeks could alienate the Muslim community and harm the important relationship between the community and Federal law enforcement.

Last night, as I was leaving the gathering in Springfield, a mother pulled me aside and said she feared for her daughter who wears a hijab—a veil—and who may be the subject of discrimination because of the things that have been said by some of these Presidential candidates. It is important for us to understand her feelings, the love of her children, just as we love our own children and grandchildren, and to also realize that the feelings of the Muslim Americans are truly part of our Nation.

Last night we began the gathering in Springfield, IL, pledging allegiance to the flag—all of us—and singing "The Star-Spangled Banner." Then the first person to make remarks in the Muslim community told us he had served in the U.S. Navy for 19 years. It is hard to imagine some of the hateful things that have been said in that context.

In testimony before the Senate Intelligence Committee in 2004—not long after 9/11—FBI Director Robert Mueller thanked the Muslim and Arab American communities "for their assistance and for their ongoing commitment to preventing acts of terrorism." It has been important to the United States. He went on to say: "All of us understand that the evolving threats we face today, and those we will face tomorrow, can only be defeated if we work together."

The current FBI Director, James Comey, spoke before a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing last week and said:

We've worked so hard over the last 15 years to build relationships of trust that allow us to find out who might be trouble and to stop it. That's in everybody's interest. And anything that gets in the way, that erodes that relationship of trust, is not a good thing.

The inflammatory speeches we have heard create a fertile ground for discrimination. Attorney General Loretta Lynch recently denounced the "disturbing rise in anti-Muslim rhetoric" and stated that her "greatest fear as a prosecutor . . . is that the rhetoric will be accompanied by acts of violence."

Sitting next to me last night in Springfield was the U.S. attorney for the Central District of Illinois, James Lewis—a friend and someone I am very honored and proud to have nominated to the President for this position. He

told me he spent the last several weeks traveling across Central Illinois, visiting Muslim mosques and assuring them that they were still part of America and that they had the full protection of the law. Nevertheless, there has been a dramatic increase of anti-Muslim bigotry since 9/11. In fear and anger, some Americans have wrongly struck out at Muslims.

I had my differences with former President George W. Bush. but he showed real insight, wisdom, and leadership after 9/11 when he made it clear to America that our war was with terrorists who perverted the teachings of the Islamic religion, not with Muslims who were faithful to what he called "a faith based upon love, not hate." Congress at that time spoke with a clear voice too. I cosponsored a resolution with John Sununu, a Republican from New Hampshire, who was then the only Arab American in the Senate. Our resolution condemned anti-Muslim, anti-Arab bigotry, and said that American Muslims are vibrant, peaceful, law-abiding, and greatly contribute to American society. That resolution passed both Chambers unanimously. I hope it would pass today.

Earlier this decade, we saw another wave of anti-Muslim rhetoric and discrimination. In 2011 I chaired the first ever congressional hearing on the civil rights of American Muslims. That hearing documented an alarming increase of anti-Muslim bigotry. At the time, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission found that Muslims accounted for approximately 25 percent of religious discrimination cases, although they were less than 1 percent of the population. Mary Jo O'Neill of the EEOC said:

There's a level of hatred and animosity that is shocking. I've been doing this for 31 years, and I've never seen such antipathy towards Muslim workers.

Unfortunately, we are again experiencing an increase in anti-Muslim discrimination. Last week Oren Segal of the Anti-Defamation League said, "We're definitely seeing anti-Muslim bigotry escalating around the country."

In recent weeks vandals defaced a mosque near Austin, TX; a pig's head was thrown on the doorstep of a Philadelphia mosque; a man was arrested for breaking into a Florida mosque and damaging property; a sixth grade girl in New York City was allegedly called "ISIS" as a group of boys punched her and tried to remove her hijab; and on Thanksgiving day a Muslim cabdriver from Pittsburgh was shot in the back by a passenger who reportedly asked the driver about ISIS and whether he was a "Pakistani guy."

Just this weekend a man in California was arrested and charged for a hate crime and arson after allegedly setting a fire in a mosque.

Last week Representative André Carson—a Democrat from Indiana and one of the two American Muslims who serve in the U.S. Congress—received a

death threat. Here is what Congressman CARSON said:

You have other politicians who are joining the bandwagon and who are fanning the flames of bigotry. That concerns me because we're putting people into the line of fire exposing them to death threats, discrimination at the workplace and assaults.

These incidents of intimidation, hostility, and violence impact the entire Muslim American community. They also play into our enemies' warped views of the United States. Director Comey of the FBI noted last week that "the notion that the U.S. is anti-Muslim is part of ISIL's narrative and Al Qaeda's narrative."

It is important to note that not only Muslim Americans are being targeted. Bigots have also targeted Arab Americans, many of whom are Christian, and Hindus, and Sikhs. After 9/11, the first victim killed in the backlash was Balbir Singh Sodhi, a Sikh American, in Mesa, AZ. I submitted a resolution, which passed the Senate unanimously, condemning bigotry against Sikh Americans.

In 2012, a White supremacist murdered six Sikhs at a gurdwara in Oak Creek, WI. Following this terrorist attack, I chaired a hearing on hate crimes and the threat of domestic extremism where we learned that the FBI wasn't even tracking these crimes against Arab Americans, Hindu Americans, and Sikh Americans. I asked the FBI to change the policy, and they did. Clearly there is more work to be done.

Last week, a vandal spray-painted anti-Muslim graffiti on a Sikh gurdwara in Buena Park, CA. In September, a Sikh man in my home State of Illinois suffered a fractured cheekbone after he was allegedly assaulted by a man who yelled "terrorist" and "go back to your country" at him.

As we work to combat terrorism, we must also work to prevent and punish discrimination and hate-fueled violence against Muslim Americans. The rights of Muslim Americans are just as important as the rights of Christians, Jews, followers of other faiths, and nonbelievers as well.

We know the First Amendment protects both the free exercise of religion and the freedom of speech. But all of us, especially those of us in public life, have a responsibility to choose our words carefully. We must condemn bias and bigotry aimed at Muslim Americans and make it clear that we will not tolerate religious discrimination in the United States of America. We can protect our Nation and still be true to the fundamental freedoms guaranteed by our Constitution.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Will the Senator withhold that suggestion? Mr. DURBIN. Yes.

### NOMINATION RETURNED TO THE EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The papers with respect to Presidential Nomi-

nation No. 742 having been returned from the White House, the nomination will be returned to the Calendar, pursuant to the order of November 30, 2015.

Mr. DURBIN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. AYOTTE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### 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 consider the following nominations, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read the nominations of Alissa M. Starzak, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army; John Conger, of Maryland, to be a Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense; Stephen P. Welby, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense; and Franklin R. Parker, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 30 minutes for debate equally divided in the usual form.

The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. REED. Madam President, will the Presiding Officer inform me when I have used 7 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator will be notified when his time has expired.

#### STARZAK NOMINATION

Mr. REED. Mr. President, these are all able and capable individuals who have been nominated and approved by the Senate Armed Services Committee. I want to pay particular attention to the nomination of Alissa Starzak to be general counsel of the Department of the Army. I have had the pleasure of working with Ms. Starzak for several years in her current capacity as the deputy general counsel of the Department of Defense. She has done an extraordinary job. I am confident that her extensive legal experience in her current—as well as previous—position has prepared her well for the position for which she has been nominated.

Prior to her current position at the Department of Defense, Ms. Starzak worked at the CIA's Office of General Counsel and also served as counsel on the staff of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. I don't need to

tell my colleagues in the Senate how much we rely on capable and motivated staff to fulfill our responsibilities on behalf of the American people.

I understand from Senator Feinstein, under whose chairmanship Ms. Starzak served, that her work in support of the committee was nothing short of exemplary. She was an extraordinary asset to the committee in all of its deliberations.

Ms. Starzak was originally nominated to be general counsel of the Army in July 2014, and she was later approved by the Senate Armed Services Committee by a voice vote in December 2014. Unfortunately, Ms. Starzak was not confirmed by the full Senate prior to the adjournment of the last session of the Congress. She was renominated in January of this year and her nomination was unanimously agreed to by a voice vote of the committee earlier this month.

The Army has now been without a Senate-confirmed general counsel for nearly 2 years, thereby contributing to institutional instability and uncertainty. It is time to provide the Army with the leadership it deserves. If confirmed today, Ms. Starzak will join a new Secretary of the Army and also a new Army Chief of Staff, GEN Mark Milley, where together they will begin to address the challenges—all of them critical—that face the Army and all of our services

I have no doubt that Ms. Starzak is up to the task and will execute her duties with the best interest of the men and women in uniform in the U.S. Army and their families. These thoughts will always be in the forefront of her mind, and I urge my colleagues to support her nomination.

I wish also to point out that there were several issues raised with respect to Ms. Starzak's performance as a member of the staff of the Intelligence Committee. All of them have been found to be inaccurate. One suggestion is that there was a document known as the Panetta review, and that the committee staff gained inappropriate access to this document.

Senator FEINSTEIN pointed out—at the time she was the chairman of the Intelligence Committee—during a March 2014 floor speech that this Panetta review and all of these documents were accessed by staff through the regular use of a search tool provided by the CIA on a computer network provided by the CIA to search documents provided by the CIA. This was a process that was overseen and monitored by the CIA, obviously.

This specific suggestion, allegation, or whatever you want to call it, has been reviewed by the CIA's Inspector General, the Senate's Sergeant at Arms, the CIA's Accountability Review Board, and they found no wrongdoing on the part of members on the Intelligence Committee staff.

There was another suggestion that some of these documents were marked deliberative and/or privileged. According to Senator FEINSTEIN, this was not especially noteworthy to SSCI—Intelligence Committee staff—because they were providing, at the direction of their Senators, a review of CIA activities, and thousands of these documents were marked deliberative, procedural, privileged, et cetera. The responsibility of the Congress is to oversee the CIA—not what they will let us look at but what we must look at.

Additionally, Senate legal counsel confirmed to Senator FEINSTEIN that Congress does not recognize these claims of privilege when it comes to documents provided to Congress for its oversight duties, and this review process was completely within the purview of the Senate's oversight responsibility.

And then there was another suggestion, or allegation, that, in fact, Ms. Starzak was involved in the relocation of these Panetta review documents from an offsite CIA facility to the offices of the Senate Intelligence Committee here in the Hart Building. These are absolutely and totally without merit because it turns out that the date of the removal of the documents from the offsite facility occurred late in 2013, more than 2 years after Ms. Starzak left the staff of the Intelligence Committee.

I think it is important to get these facts and conclusions by authoritative sources, such as the Sergeant at Arms, the CIA Inspector General, and the Accountability Review Board of the CIA because there have been some suggestions that she was, in fact, culpable, and that is not the case at all.

I again urge all of my colleagues to support a very capable individual who has the skill, the dedication, and the ability to be an extraordinary general counsel for Department of the Army.

With that, I retain the remainder of my time and yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If no one yields time, the time will be charged equally

Mr. REED. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the time be divided equally.

We have already divided the time equally.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

Mr. REED. How much time do we have remaining on our side?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Eight and a half minutes

Mr. REED. I believe Senator Feinstein is coming to the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the

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

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

Mr. REED. I ask unanimous consent that the time be equally charged to both sides.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered

Mr. REED. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Madam President, I am very pleased to rise in strong support of the confirmation of Alissa Starzak to be the general counsel of the Army. I urge my colleagues to support her nomination in the vote we are about to take.

Alissa was nominated for the position in July of 2014. While she was reported out favorably by the distinguished Armed Services Committee last year, she did not receive consideration by the full Senate prior to the end of the 113th Congress. The President nominated her again in January of this year, and I am very pleased that the Armed Services Committee, under the chairmanship of JOHN McCAIN and the ranking member, JACK REED, approved her nomination just a week ago, and I thank both of them for doing so.

I support Alissa Starzak for the only reason that matters: She will be an excellent general counsel for the Department of the Army. First, she is a strong lawyer. Second, she cares deeply about the men and women of the U.S. Army. Given the many challenges our military faces, we can't afford to have this position remain vacant when there is a very strong candidate before us.

Since mid-2011, Alissa Starzak has been a senior attorney within the Office of General Counsel of the Department of Defense. She currently serves as a deputy general counsel. She has led the Department's interactions with Congress on preparing and negotiating the annual Defense authorization, and she has had senior roles in policy discussions about detainee affairs, sexual assault, and harassment in the military.

Alissa has strong expertise in the legal challenges that confront the U.S. Army, and she is well suited to provide legal guidance to the Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Army and ensure the Department strictly obeys the law.

More importantly for me, Alissa was a counsel on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence from early 2007 to 2011, first under Chairman Jay Rockefeller and then continuing under my chairmanship. In that role, she worked diligently on legislation to update the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, culminating in the FISA Amendments Act of 2008, and she drafted our Intelligence authorization bills, among other issues.

From December 2007 until her departure from the committee in 2011, Alissa was one of two staff leads for our review of the CIA's Detention and Interrogation Program. She coauthored a

summary of interrogations of two early CIA detainees, Abu Zubaydah and al-Nashiri, that spurred the committee to approve, by a 14-to-1 vote, a full review of the entire program.

As the colead of that study, Ms. Starzak reviewed many thousands of documents, drafted portions of the committee's study, and advised me and other members of the committee on the progress of the investigation. She departed the committee in 2011—that was 4 years ago—before the completion of the report, its declassification, and its public release.

I know her work on the SSCI study came up during her confirmation hearing at the Armed Services Committee, and I want the record to be perfectly clear. Alissa Starzak departed the committee staff in May of 2011, well before the controversy of the CIA gaining unauthorized access to the committee staff computer network and well before the controversy over the so-called Panetta Review documents. So it is not fair to blame her for anything that happened during that time. She was not there and has not been there for 4 years.

As I stated in a Senate floor statement on March 11, 2014, a portion of the CIA's Panetta Review was transported securely, consistent with its classification from a CIA off-site location to another secure facility—the committee's safe in the Senate. This relocation occurred in late 2013, more than 2 years after Ms. Starzak left the committee staff and long after she began her work at the Pentagon. She had no prior knowledge and no role in the transportation of the document to the Senate. So there should be no confusion on that point.

Before coming to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, Alissa Starzak worked as an attorney at the CIA's Office of General Counsel and as an associate in the international law firm of O'Melveny & Myers.

She clerked for the Honorable E. Grady Jolly on the Fifth Circuit of Appeals after graduating from the University of Chicago Law School with honors. Ms. Starzak did her undergraduate work at Amherst College where she graduated magna cum laude. So Alissa Starzak has the intelligence, the right background, and the strong experience within the Department of Defense to be general counsel for the Army.

I urge my colleagues to confirm Alissa Starzak. It is unfortunate that it has taken a year and a half since she was first nominated, but I am very pleased we are voting to confirm her today.

I conclude by thanking Senator McCAIN and Senator REED for working together to get this done.

I thank the Chair, and 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.

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

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

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Madam President, since no one else seeks the floor at this time, it has just been brought to my attention that there are a couple of letters here which I thought are on point, and it will become clear.

This letter is from Alberto Mora:

I want to state my absolute and explicit endorsement for the nomination of Alissa Starzak to be the next General Counsel of the Army.

By my current affiliation with the Harvard Kennedy School's Carr Center for Human Rights Policy, I served as the General Counsel of the Navy from 2001–2006. I have served alongside many of the most senior civilians in the Department of Defense, and I know what qualities successful civilian leaders should bring to their work, among them professional competence and a commitment to honorable public service. These two qualities describe Ms. Starzak.

The Senate has honored me four times by confirming me for appointments in both Republican and Democratic administrations. I am familiar with and supportive of the Senate's role in confirming senior federal officials, but I fear that in Ms. Starzak's case her confirmation has been impeded for reasons unworthy of the Senate. As you are no doubt aware, she served as counsel on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence for more than four years. Her work on that committee was thorough and professional; she has served the Congress and our republic ably. That she has been disparaged for her work is wrong. It sends a clear and troubling signal to every congressional staffer of both parties that his or her dedicated public service may be treated not as a credential but as a disqualification for senior administration appointments. If that signal is confirmed by failing to confirm Ms. Starzak—not for what she did wrong, but for what she did right—it would only serve to damage the Senate, this and future administrations, and our nation.

It is signed by Alberto Mora.

I would also like to submit a letter from RADM John D. Hutson, U.S. Navy, head of the JAG Corps, retired.

I write to express my complete and unequivocal support for the nomination of Alissa Starzak to be the next General Counsel of the Army. I have deep concerns that her nomination has been the subject of unfortunate and nasty political theater, but I am heartened to know that her nomination will receive a full floor vote on Monday, 14 December 2015. As you are no doubt aware, she served as a professional staff member on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence for more than four years. . . .

I served as The Judge Advocate General of the Navy. I underwent the confirmation process. As the senior uniformed lawyer in our service, I spent significant time assisting nominees with confirmation. Throughout my career I worked alongside, and under, some of the most capable, professional, and brilliant people who make up the civilian ranks of appointed leaders in our government. While I don't know her personally, I am very familiar with her reputation, which is stellar.

I write because I believe her case has been one that has damaged our republic. She has been maligned for performing her duties as a public servant, and her nomination was held up because of events that occurred after she left the committee staff.

I encourage you in the strongest terms to confirm her for this position. Losing her services to the rankling of partisan disputes would be to the detriment of both the Department of Defense and the country.

Sincerely.

JOHN D. HUTSON, Rear Admiral, USN.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that both of these letters be printed in the RECORD.

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

MCLEAN, VA, December 11, 2015.

DEAR SENATOR: I write to state my absolute and explicit endorsement for the nomination of Alissa Starzak to be the next General Counsel of the Army.

Before my current affiliation with the Harvard Kennedy School's Carr Center for Human Rights Policy, I served as the General Counsel of the Navy from 2001–2006. I have served alongside many of the most senior civilians in the Department of Defense, and I know what qualities successful civilian leaders should bring to their work, among them professional competence and a commitment to honorable public service. These two qualities describe Ms. Starzak

qualities describe Ms. Starzak.

The Senate has honored me four times by confirming me for appointments in both Republican and Democratic administrations, I am familiar with and supportive of the Senate's role in confirming senior federal officials, but I fear that in Ms. Starzak's case her confirmation has been impeded for reasons unworthy of the Senate. As you are no doubt aware, she served as counsel on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence for more than four years. Her work on that committee was thorough and professional: she has served the Congress and our republic ably. That she has been disparaged for her work is wrong. It sends a clear and troubling signal to every congressional staffer of both parties that his or her dedicated public service may be treated not as a credential, but as a disqualification for senior administration appointments. If that signal is confirmed by failing to confirm Ms. Starzak—not for what she did wrong, but for what she did right-it would only serve to damage the Senate, this and future administrations, and our nation.

I encourage you to confirm Ms. Starzak without further delay.

Sincerely,

ALBERTO MORA.

DECEMBER 11, 2015.

DEAR SENATOR: I write to express my complete and unequivocal support for the nomination of Alissa Starzak to be the next General Counsel of the Army. I have deep concerns that her nomination has been the subject of unfortunate and nasty political theater, but I am heartened to know that her nomination will receive a full floor vote on Monday, 14 December 2015. As you are no doubt aware, she served as a professional staff member on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence for more than four years. Unfortunately, she has been unfairly and inappropriately used as "leverage" in a partisan quarrel.

I served as The Judge Advocate General of the Navy. I underwent the confirmation process. As the senior uniformed lawyer in our service, I spent significant time assisting nominees with confirmation. Throughout my career I worked alongside, and under, some of the most capable, professional, and briliant people who make up the civilian ranks of appointed leaders in our government. While I don't know her personally, I am very familiar with her reputation, which is stellar

I write because I believe her case has been one that has damaged our republic. She has been maligned for performing her duties as a public servant, and her nomination was held up because of events that occurred after she left the committee staff.

I encourage you in the strongest terms to confirm her for this position. Losing her services to the rankling of partisan disputes would be to the detriment of both the Department of Defense and the country.

Sincerely.

 $\begin{array}{c} {\rm JOHN~D.~HUTSON,} \\ {\it Rear~Admiral,~USN,~JACG,~(Ret.).} \end{array}$ 

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Thank you very much.

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

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

Mr. COTTON. I yield back all time. The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time

is yielded back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Starzak nomination?

Mr. COTTON. I ask for the yeas and

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. COATS), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), Senator from Arizona McCain), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Florida (Mr. Rubio), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. Scott), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) would have voted "nay."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 45, nays 34, as follows:

#### [Rollcall Vote No. 335 Ex.] YEAS—45

Baldwin	Franken	Mikulski
Bennet	Gillibrand	Murphy
Blumenthal	Hatch	Murray
Booker	Heinrich	Nelson
Brown	Heitkamp	Reed
Cantwell	Hirono	Reid
Cardin	Isakson	Schatz
Carper	Kaine	Schumer
Casey	King	Shaheen
Collins	Klobuchar	Tester
Coons	Leahy	Thune
Corker	Manchin	Udall
Donnelly	Markey	Warner
Durbin	McCaskill	Warren
Feinstein	Menendez	Whitehouse

#### NAYS-34

Alexander	Daines	Perdue
Ayotte	Enzi	Portman
Barrasso	Ernst	Roberts
Blunt	Fischer	Rounds
Boozman	Gardner	Sasse
Burr	Grassley	Sessions
Capito	Hoeven	Shelby
Cassidy	Inhofe	Tillis
Cochran	Lankford	Toomev
Cornyn	Lee	Wicker
Cotton	McConnell	WICKEI
Crapo	Murkowski	

#### NOT VOTING-21

Boxer	Kirk	Rubio
Coats	McCain	Sanders
Cruz	Merkley	Scott
Flake	Moran	Stabenov
Graham	Paul	Sullivan
Heller	Peters	Vitter
Johnson	Risch	Wyden

The nomination was confirmed.

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, unfortunately, due to inclement weather that delayed my flight to Washington, DC, I was unable to attend today's roll-call vote on the nomination of Alissa M. Starzak to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army. Had I been able to attend, I would have supported her nomination.

VOTE ON CONGER NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Conger nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

VOTE ON WELBY NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Welby nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

VOTE ON PARKER NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Parker nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

Mr. CRAPO. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in 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.

TRIBUTE TO KENTUCKY ADJU-TANT GENERAL EDWARD W. TONINI

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute today to a distinguished airman and honored Kentuckian who has given over four decades of his life to military service. Maj. Gen. Edward W. Tonini, for 8 years the adjutant general of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, retired from service on December 8.

General Tonini is a career Air National Guard officer and was appointed adjutant general by the former Governor in 2007. As adjutant general, he served as the commanding general of both the Kentucky Army and Air National Guard and as executive director of the Department of Military Affairs.

In his 8 years of service in that role, he successfully led the National Guard and Kentucky through many difficult challenges with great skill and ability. He leaves Kentucky's National Guard stronger and more effective than when he found it.

During his tenure, Kentucky's National Guard continued to deploy soldiers and airmen to Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Djibouti, Kenya, Ethiopia, South America, and even Antarctica. In fact, Kentucky National Guard soldiers and airmen were deployed in support of contingency operations every day of General Tonini's tenure, to the tune of over 16,000 servicemembers over the years.

In January 2009, Kentucky experienced one of the worst natural disasters in the State's history when 10 inches of snow fell on top of 3 inches of ice throughout most of the State. More than 100 counties declared states of emergency while FEMA declared the whole State a disaster zone.

In response to this crisis, General Tonini led the largest State-active-duty call up in Kentucky's history. More than 4,600 servicemembers assisted Kentuckians in need, as nearly 800,000 people were without power and heat. Surely many lives were saved thanks to his leadership during these efforts.

General Tonini worked to establish Kentucky's new, state-of-the-art Commonwealth Emergency Operations Center, which serves as a vital command center and liaison to local governments in times of crisis. The new Commonwealth Emergency Operations Center

isn't the only new improvement under General Tonini's watch.

During the last 8 years, the Kentucky National Guard has undertaken nearly \$200 million in facility improvements, consisting of both new buildings and additions and alterations to existing buildings, to add about 650,000 square feet of facilities to the Guard's resources. These new facilities include the Paducah and Richmond Armed Forces Reserve Center, the Owensboro Readiness Center, and the Army Aviation Support Facility in Frankfort, among others. General Tonini was also a champion of the important work taking place at the Bluegrass Station industrial park in central Kentucky.

General Tonini was a strong advocate of Kentucky's Agribusiness Development Teams, a program in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. These teams of Kentucky soldiers and airmen taught agricultural expertise to the people of Afghanistan, sharing their knowledge of irrigation techniques, food preservation, veterinary medicine, and more with hundreds of Afghans across the country

General Tonini also was a strong supporter of the Guard's state partnership program, where the Kentucky National Guard partners with a foreign nation to strengthen the operations of both partners. The Kentucky National Guard has partnered with Ecuador for 19 years. Under the general's leadership, Kentucky added a second partnership program with Djibouti, making my State the first to partner with an east African nation. Djibouti is a key strategic partner for us in humanitarian and counterterrorist operations.

General Tonini's leadership has also been recognized outside the Commonwealth. In 2013, he was elected the president of the Adjutants General Association of the United States. During his tenure as president, America's National Guard boasted more than 450,000 personnel across the Nation.

Under General Tonini, Kentucky hosted the two largest events in the Nation for survivor outreach to support the family members of fallen servicemembers, one in Louisville and the other in northern Kentucky. We were able to honor more than 850 survivors from multiple States.

Finally, the Kentucky National Guard Memorial saw completion after 10 years thanks to General Tonini's persistence and his prodigious fundraising efforts. Located at Boone National Guard Center in Frankfort, the memorial honors 234 Kentucky guardsmen who have given their lives in the line of duty since 1912.

General Tonini has all these accomplishments and many more to be proud of as he steps down from the adjutant general post he so ably filled for 8 years. He has truly earned a place not just in Kentucky history, but in Kentuckians' hearts for his honorable service.

I would be remiss if I did not also laud the general's wife, Carol, who has

been a consistent presence with him at the full range of National Guard events, both in Kentucky and throughout the country. She has been a tremendous asset to him thanks to her grace, her support for those in uniform and their families, and her rock-solid support for her husband.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating General Edward W. Tonini upon his retirement and thanking him for his service—not just over the last 8 years, but over the last four decades. Kentucky is thankful for the many sacrifices he has made over the years to protect our communities and our Nation. I certainly want to wish General Tonini all the best in whatever awaits him in his next endeavors, and I am sure he will tackle all future challenges with the same vigor and fortitude he applied to his military service. Thank you, General Tonini, on behalf of a grateful Commonwealth.

RECOGNIZING THE 80TH ANNIVER-SARY OF THE CULINARY WORK-ERS UNION LOCAL 226

Mr. REID. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 80th anniversary of the Culinary Workers Union Local 226

Since it was founded in 1935, the Culinary Workers Union Local 226 has successfully advocated on behalf of thousands of hospitality workers throughout Nevada. These workers include the housekeepers, kitchen staff, cooks, and food and beverage servers who play an indispensable role in our local and national economy. Along with local partners, the culinary union has effectively represented workers by advocating for competitive wages, affordable health insurance coverage, and enhanced working conditions. The culinary union is vital in the effort to provide real opportunities for working-class individuals and families.

Over the past eight decades, workplace environments across the United States have been transformed to meet country's changing needs Throughout these changes, the culinary union has always been on the frontlines to ensure that workers continue to receive fair treatment and the benefits they have earned. In particular, the culinary union successfully mobilized casino workers on many occasions to ensure that they received adequate health care coverage, improved contract terms, and pension benefits.

The organization has also had a positive impact on its members through the establishment of local services, such as the culinary health fund and the culinary pharmacy. The culinary health fund is a health plan that provides benefits to more than 130,000 participants, ensuring that union members and their families have access to essential health care services that keep them healthy. Additionally, in 2001, the culinary union launched a citizen project, which provides assistance for

individuals and families navigating the citizenship process.

I applaud the Culinary Workers Union Local 226 for their dedicated work and commitment to improving the lives of Nevadans. Their work is truly appreciated and admired, and I wish the organization continued success for years to come.

#### TRIBUTE TO LOURDES TIBAN

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I want other Senators to be aware of information I received about Ecuadorian National Assembly member Lourdes Tiban, a prominent and respected leader of Ecuador's indigenous people.

As an indigenous leader, Ms. Tiban has become one of the most outspoken advocates for freedom of expression, indigenous rights, and social rights in Ecuador. Not surprisingly, this has made her the target of verbal attacks by President Rafael Correa.

Earlier this year, Ms. Tiban was beaten by unidentified assailants as she was walking to work. The assault was filmed and then shared online by government supporters who posted humiliating comments.

This isn't the first time that Ms. Tiban has been physically assaulted. She is the victim of two other similar incidents which I am told have not been properly investigated.

It is regrettable that, instead of vigorously investigating this latest attack against Ms. Tiban, a National Assembly member from President Correa's political party has brought a criminal case for libel against her. This is believed to be in retaliation for Ms. Tiban's claim that government supporters were responsible for targeting her, presumably in an attempt to silence her and remove her from the National Assembly.

Ecuador is a country where judicial independence is seriously compromised. I have spoken about this several times, and it has been well documented by the Department of State, the United Nations, and human rights organizations. It is also illustrated by the fact that the Council of the Judiciary, with the power to appoint and remove judges, is comprised of five former officials of the Correa administration. It is likely that the criminal investigation against Ms. Tiban could result in an unjust conviction.

We should condemn these attacks on freedom of expression, political rights, and the rights of indigenous people, and we should defend judicial independence which is fundamental to democracy in Ecuador and throughout the hemisphere.

Lourdes Tiban has devoted her legislative efforts to protecting human rights for her people, and I am confident that she will continue to do so as she is not easily intimidated. She has my support and the support of others who believe in the principles of democracy.

### RECOGNIZING THE GRAND ISLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, many talented Vermonters support local agencies charged with ensuring the safety of Vermont communities throughout the State, each and every day. Today I would like to recognize one such department—the Grand Isle County Sheriff's Department, which received two national Highway Safety Awards at last month's annual gathering of the International Association of Chiefs of Police in Chicago.

Grand Isle County lies in the northwest reaches of Vermont, covering five towns and 85 square miles of land. It is actually a chain of islands surrounded by the waters of Lake Champlain, with commanding views of the Adirondacks to the west and the Green Mountains to the east. Its communities swell with summer visitors who come to enjoy the "beauty spot" of the islands. While it is a rural area, Grand Isle County is also home to the busy Route 2 corridor that links the United States and Canada, a critical transportation route for commerce between the two countries. As such, Grand Isle provides unique challenges for Sheriff Ray Allen and his 13 sworn deputies who work to protect the safety of its visitors and residents while ensuring that traffic is not impeded.

The Grand Isle Sheriff's Department was one of only three small sheriff agencies to be recognized with the National Law Enforcement Safety Challenge award, as noted by the Burlington Free Press. The award cited the department's excellence in traffic safety, with specific focus on impaired driving and speeding violations.

Sheriff Allen's department was also honored with the National Sheriffs' Association's Top Traffic Safety Award, sharing that distinction with the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office.

These two awards are a notable achievement for a small department and in no small part due to Sheriff Allen's strong leadership. Sheriff Allen is the type of law enforcement officer who cares deeply about the communities he serves and the department he represents. Sheriff Allen was sworn into office in 2011, following 20 years of service as a deputy sheriff. When he is not tending to highways, he is tending to the family's well-known apple orchard.

On the Grand Isle Sheriff's Department Web site, Sheriff Allen cites "the great working relationship with Local, State and Federal agencies" that his department enjoys. This, we know, does not happen by accident, and such cooperation is a trademark of successful policing.

"We will strive to build upon the confidence and trust the citizens of Grand Isle County have placed upon us by developing strong relationships with the community and providing high quality, cost effective law enforcement services." This is Sheriff Allen's pledge, and one supported by those who work with him.

With these awards, Sheriff Allen has done just that. He has made his department and his community proud. Congratulations. Sheriff Ray Allen.

### TRIBUTE TO PRISCILLA HOBSON HANLEY

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I wish to commemorate the contributions of Priscilla Hobson Hanley, who is retiring after more than 30 years of distinguished public service as staff in the U.S. Congress.

Since the very beginning of my service in the Senate nearly 19 years ago, Priscilla has been one of my most valued advisers. She has always provided me with expertise on health care issues and Social Security, and most recently, she has served as staff director for the Senate Aging Committee. She exemplifies the ideal public servant; integrity, thoroughness, a spirit of inquiry, and hard work characterize her service. Above all, Priscilla has always demonstrated her belief that it is an honor to serve the people of Maine and our Nation.

I first met Priscilla in 1984 when we both worked for Maine Senator Bill Cohen. After brief stints working in the House for two Congressmen from her native California, Priscilla was hired by Senator Cohen that year and developed an in-depth knowledge of health care issues. She became deputy staff director of the Aging Committee when Senator Cohen served as chairman.

When I assumed Senator Cohen's seat in 1997, Priscilla was one of the very first people I hired; thus I had a terrific expert in two subject areas of great concern to my Maine constituents: health care and senior issues. As health policy adviser and legislative assistant, Priscilla brought her intelligence and experience to bear on the complex and myriad issues of health care, biomedical research, access to care in rural areas, women's health, Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security. Through her leadership role on the Aging Committee staff, she advanced our priorities of improving retirement security, increasing funding for research on diseases like Alzheimer's and diabetes, and protecting against scams targeting seniors.

Three examples illustrate Priscilla's commitment to service. In 1997, my very first year in the Senate, we were considering a massive tax bill. At the last minute, a one-sentence provision appeared out of nowhere that was, beneath the innocuous wording, a \$50-billion tax giveaway to Big Tobacco. Priscilla spotted that one sentence in the 327-page bill, and we were able to put an end to the subsidy.

Priscilla also helped me start the Diabetes Caucus in the Senate in 1998. As a result of her dedication, funding for diabetes research has tripled since that year.

In 2003, our Nation was still reeling from the attacks of 9/11, and Congress

was working on a tax-cut bill to invigorate the struggling economy. A key to the success of that bill and to the economic rebound that followed was the temporary increase in the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage, or FMAP, to help States provide health care to low-income families. Priscilla led the way in developing that key provision.

From dramatic increases in funding for diabetes and Alzheimer's research to improvements in rural health care and advancements in mental health parity, Priscilla has played a leadership role. Her work, due to her unassuming nature, may often be unheralded, but her legacy is inspiring to all of us who serve.

When not working for the American people, Priscilla's great passion is a love of musical theater. In fact, a rare interruption in her more than three decades of service on the Hill came when she took a brief respite from Congress to help run an opera company in Virginia.

Priscilla has a particular fondness for the comic operas of Gilbert and Sullivan, and like Major General Stanley of The Pirates of Penzance, she has an encyclopedic knowledge of all things "vegetable, animal, and mineral." She truly is the very model of a modern Senate staffer, a model all should emulate

A life so devoted to public service brings to mind the parable of the talents. The master, leaving on a journey, entrusts a servant with a portion of his treasure. Upon his return, the master is delighted to find that his wealth was been wisely invested and multiplied.

Priscilla Hobson Hanley was entrusted the great treasure of intelligence, energy, and passion. She invested that treasure wisely and through hard work and determination multiplied its benefits to all. To her, I quote Scripture and say, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

#### TRIBUTE TO MARK FELTON

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I wish to recognize one of West Virginia's prized public servants, Mark Felton, on the occasion of his retirement. Through his various roles in the Region III Planning and Development Council, Mark has been an indispensable resource to the four counties he has served for over 30 years.

After earning his bachelor's and master's degrees in geography from Marshall University, Mark began his career in the transportation department of the regional planning council in 1983. Mark authored and supervised innumerable transportation-related studies that benefited residents of the region through improved roads, bridges, travel times, and safety.

The regional councils serve as integral partners in the planning and execution of infrastructure improvements, including water and sewer projects. During my time representing the 2nd

Congressional District and continuing through to my time in the Senate, my staff and I worked with Mark and the council to complete numerous infrastructure projects; as a result, we provided potable water to thousands of West Virginians. I have always appreciated the technical assistance and knowledge that Mark and his staff bring to any undertaking. These projects are not always the most glamorous, but they are necessary for the health of the people we serve.

In 2006, Mark was promoted to executive director of the regional planning council. In this role, Mark successfully worked alongside local, county, and State leaders to achieve many goals throughout the region. Mark was consistent in his determination to utilize region III's resources in the most efficient manner possible.

One highlight of Mark's career includes working with the West Virginia Division of Highways and the U.S. Department of Transportation to build the Saint Albans-Nitro Bridge. This was a major achievement that required patience and diligent planning to complete. Through a clever design variation, millions of taxpayer dollars were saved, and the project was completed ahead of schedule. I commend Mark and his team for working skillfully with Federal and State partners to accomplish this huge undertaking under budget and on time. Time and again, Mark exhibited great leadership and wisdom in his roles with the regional planning council and has made a lasting difference in the health and safety of residents of Kanawha, Clay, Boone, and Putnam Counties.

In his spare time, Mark actively participates in local theater activities in the Kanawha Valley, acting in roles for the Charleston Light Opera Guild and Kanawha Players. In addition, he previously served as president of the Children's Theater of Charleston. Hopefully he will continue with his passion, as I have always enjoyed seeing him on stage

Mark is also a member of Kanawha United Presbyterian Church where he actively participates in the church and bell choirs. Additionally, he is a property trustee of the church and plans to be more involved in both internal operations and outreach ministries after his retirement. Mark and his wife, Kerry, a kindergarten teacher for Kanawha County Schools, have two children, Erin and Patrick.

I wish Mark a fond farewell and the best of luck to him and his family in the next phase of their lives. Our State owes Mark a debt of gratitude for his hard work and dedication to his community. It has been a privilege working with him, and I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mark on a wonderful career.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

### TRIBUTE TO MAYOR DONNALEE LOZEAU

• Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Nashua Mayor Donnalee Lozeau. As a resident of Nashua, I am so proud to call Donnalee my mayor. She is an extraordinary public servant, and I extend my heartfelt gratitude as she approaches the conclusion of her two terms serving the people of the Gate City.

As a third generation resident of Nashua and a graduate of the city's public school system, Donnalee cares deeply about Nashua's future, and she has a long record of service to the people of our city. That includes her previous service to Nashua in the New Hampshire House of Representatives for eight terms, earning the role of deputy speaker. She has always been known for her independent leadership, her commitment to bringing people together to build consensus, and for ensuring that government is responsive and efficient on behalf of hard-working taxpavers. Donnalee grasps the qualities of what makes our State unique, and in turn, she leads with a passion for problem-solving and a dedication to delivering results. She truly listens to everyone and communicates in sincere and candid terms-which I believe makes her an exceptional leader. In addition, as Nashua's first female mayor. Donnalee is an inspiration for young women in our State to pursue public

Under her leadership, Nashua's growth and resilience as a city helped lead to major accomplishments in infrastructure, public education, new husiness sectors, and companies Donnalee brought her welcoming, honest, and accessible approach to governing and enhanced the reputation of the city of Nashua by exemplifying those values. In addition to her tireless work at city hall, she has also been an active leader promoting philanthropic, cultural, and business activity across the city. As part of her ongoing dedication to serving Nashua's community and those in need, Donnalee will continue to contribute to our city as executive director of Southern New Hampshire Services, a nonprofit social services agency. Her legacy is also being honored by Nashua's Rivier University with the creation of the Mayor Donnalee Lozeau Leadership Scholarship, which will be used to support the development of many generations of new leaders to come.

As Donnalee prepares to leave city hall, I would like to thank her for the thousands of hours she devoted to making Nashua an even better place to live, work, and raise a family. I am so grateful for Donnalee's leadership, commitment, and friendship, and I wish her all the best as she begins the next chapter of her career.

### TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT E. WOLVERTON, SR.

• Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to commend the remarkable 66year, and still counting, career of Mississippi State University professor and lifelong educator, Robert E. "Bob" Wolverton, Sr., of Starkville, MS. His many years of hard work and dedication continue to inspire the Mississippi State family to learn more and achieve more for the betterment of our State and Nation. I congratulate Wolverton for his important contributions to higher education throughout his distinguished career. He and his wife, Peggy, are well respected and admired throughout the university and community.

Mr. President, I ask that a December 1, 2015, article from Mississippi State University, titled "MSU honors Wolverton with naming of new building rotunda," be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

[From the Mississippi State University, Dec. 1, 2015]

MSU HONORS WOLVERTON WITH NAMING OF NEW BUILDING ROTUNDA

(By Harriet Laird)

STARKVILLE, MS.—An accomplished professor and lifelong educator whose career spans more than six decades will be honored by Mississippi State with the naming of a select area in one of the university's newest and largest buildings.

Robert E. "Bob" Wolverton Sr., former vice president for academic affairs and long-time professor of classics, will see his name etched into the rotunda of MSU's new class-room building, a 150,000 square foot structure currently under construction in the heart of the 137-year-old campus. The honor comes while the 90-year-old educator is still active as a member of the MSU faculty.

Seeing more than 2,000 students walk each day through the facility's rotunda once construction is completed in the fall of 2016, this naming reflects Wolverton's dedication to educating students for 66 years, 38 of those at Mississippi State.

"Simply put, Dr. Wolverton is a venerable institution at our university," said MSU President Mark E. Keenum. "At an age where most professors have long since retired, Dr. Wolverton continues to inspire his students, his colleagues, and this administration through his true wisdom and the passion he still has for the subject matter he imparts. What a fitting honor that the rotunda in one of our soon-to-be iconic buildings will forever bear his name."

Wolverton began his tenure at MSU in 1977 when he became the university's vice president of academic affairs, having served previously as president for the College of Mount St. Joseph in Ohio. In 1986, he began teaching in the Department of Foreign Languages, now the Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures, serving as the unit's head from 1991–1996.

A two-term chair of MSU's Robert Holland Faculty Senate, he last held the title eight years ago at age 82, with many regarding him as the "elder statesman" in such a position at any college or university.

Also an MSU John Grisham Master Teacher, the highest honor given for excellence in classroom instruction, Wolverton has been honored with the MSU Alumni Association Faculty Achievement Award and College of Arts and Sciences Humanist Award.

"All of us admire Bob Wolverton for his unwavering commitment to excellence in teaching and to the students of MSU," said Jerry Gilbert, MSU provost and executive vice president. "Through his many years of service, he has established himself as a tremendous asset to the university. I am so proud that we have chosen to recognize Bob by naming the rotunda in his honor."

Wolverton holds a bachelor's degree in classics from Hanover (Indiana) College, a master's from the University of Michigan, and a doctorate from the University of North Carolina. He has been on the faculty at the University of Georgia, and Tufts and Florida State universities.

Active in the community, he was honored in 2001 as one of Mississippi's "Ageless Heroes" by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Mississippi. He has served as a board member for the Starkville Friends of the Library, president of the Starkville-MSU Symphony Association, and was a founding member of the Starkville Community Theatre.

### REMEMBERING LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN J. NOLAN

• Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I rise to honor a Nebraskan who was recently interred at Arlington National Cemetery. Lt. Col. John J. Nolan of Lincoln, NE, was a U.S. Air Force pilot who deserves our respect and gratitude. After the bombing at Pearl Harbor, he gave up a football scholarship at Temple University to enlist in the Army Air Corps in 1943.

During World War II, John was a B-25 aircraft commander with the heralded Air Apaches, 345th Bombardment Group, assigned to the Fifth Air Force operating in the Southwest Pacific.

In this capacity, he flew low-level strafing missions in specially configured B-25s with eight .50-caliber machine guns that were controlled by pilots. He flew in the Black Sunday raid on Hollandia, New Guinea, on April 16, 1944. This raid became the worst operational loss ever suffered by the Fifth Air Force in a single day.

Following World War II, the Air Force realized more pilots had been lost on instruments than in actual combat. In response, the Instrument Pilot Instruction School was created. John was one of the initial cadre of pilots tasked with providing standardized instrument procedures, techniques, and training methods. These pilots were also required to test and evaluate flight instruments in adverse weather conditions. During this period, he became the B-25 high-time pilot for the entire U.S. Air Force.

John also wrote a substantial part of the instrument flying guidelines, known as Air Force Manual 51-37. Many pilots owe their lives to this manual. As a matter of fact, when his two sons went through pilot training in 1967 and 1973, respectively, his instructions were still in the manual.

John transitioned to F-86s as a part of the Air Force's newly created All Weather Interceptors. He also served in Japan during the Korean war.

In the 1960s, when commercial aviation was converting to jet-powered aircraft and entering into military airspace at high altitudes, John was as-

signed to Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base, known as Air Defense Command. He became the Air Force liaison to the FAA Central Region, and he was tasked with developing and coordinating procedures to ensure safe arrival and departures within this shared airspace. In this capacity, John was also responsible for maintaining military readiness and operational capabilities.

Upon his retirement in October 1963, John was chosen to serve as the Midwest recruiter for the Air Force Academy.

John dedicated his entire life to his beloved U.S. Air Force. Not only did he serve honorably, John was also an integral participant in so many of the milestones that are now a part of Air Force history.

John never lost his love of flight. He continued to fly well into his late eighties in his restored Fairchild PT 19/26, which is the same aircraft he initially learned to fly in as a cadet in the Army Air Corps.

Lt. Col. John Nolan's entire life was for God and country. He married Marie Di Giambattista on January 6, 1944, before he was assigned overseas. Together, they raised four children. Marie sacrificed much, as so many of our military families experience today, moving 23 times in John's 20-year career. They were married 71 years. Only 27 days after Marie passed, John died this past July 3, 2015, at the age of 94.

We owe a debt of gratitude to John Nolan and his family. He led an extraordinary life at a time when our country needed people like him the most. Through all of this, he remained humble. We will never forget his sacrifices and patriotism.●

#### TRIBUTE TO FRED GRAY

• Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the life and accomplishments of civil rights attorney Fred Gray, Sr., of Montgomery, AL.

Fred Gray was born in Montgomery, AL, on December 14, 1930. He attended the Nashville Christian Institute and received a baccalaureate degree from the then-Alabama State College for Negroes. From there, he went on to receive a law degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Law in Cleveland, OH. Mr. Gray passed the bar examination and returned to his home town of Montgomery to establish a law office. He dedicated himself to the goal of "destroying everything segregated he could find." He also began preaching at the Holt Street Church of Christ.

During the 1950s and 1960s civil rights movement, Mr. Gray worked alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., E.D. Nixon, and other leaders of the movement. He represented Claudette Colvin and Rosa Parks, who were charged with disorderly conduct for refusing to seat themselves in the rear of segregated city buses. Mr. Gray also successfully defended Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., against tax evasion charges.

In addition, he represented the Montgomery Improvement Association during the more than yearlong Montgomery Bus Boycott of 1955, which ultimately led to the United States Supreme Court case Browder v. Gayle. This case was filed by Mr. Gray. Additionally, Mr. Gray filed and argued the historic and much-cited case of Gomillion v. Lightfoot before the U.S. Supreme Court, which overturned State redistricting of Tuskegee, AL. After this case, Mr. Gray continued to lead legal efforts to desegregate schools in Alabama.

In 1970, Mr. Gray was one of the first African Americans elected as a State legislator in Alabama. However, he did not allow his new role to prevent him from continuing to represent local Alabamians in the judicial system.

In the early 1970s, Mr. Gray represented plaintiffs in the class-action lawsuit regarding the Federal Tuskegee syphilis study and succeeded in securing appropriate damages and restitutions for 72 study survivors. As a result of efforts led by Mr. Gray, President Clinton invited the study survivors and their families to a ceremony at the White House, where he officially apologized for the actions of the Federal Government regarding the study.

In 2002, Fred Gray became the first African-American president of the Alabama Bar Association. Mr. Gray has spent his life working to achieve equal justice and liberty for the citizens of Alabama. His dedication to the civil rights movement is unequaled, and we are all grateful for the tireless work he has done on behalf of all Americans.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

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

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

### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 2015, the Secretary of the Senate, on December 4, 2015, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. COMSTOCK) had signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 22. An act to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 2015, the enrolled bill was signed on December 4, 2015, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 2015, the Secretary of the Senate, on December 11, 2015, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 2250. An act Further Continuing Appropriations Act. 2016

propriations Act, 2016. H.R. 2693. An act to designate the arboretum at the Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center in Richmond, Virginia, as the "Phyllis E. Galanti Arboretum".

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 2015, the enrolled bills were signed on December 11, 2015, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

Under the order of the Senate of January 6, 2015, the Secretary of the Senate, on December 11, 2015, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 808. An act to establish the Surface Transportation Board as an independent establishment, and for other purposes.

Under the order of the Senate of January 6, 2015, the Secretary of the Senate, on December 11, 2015, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 644) to reauthorize trade facilitation and trade enforcement functions and activities, and for other purposes.

Under the order of the Senate of January 6, 2015, the Secretary of the Senate, on December 11, 2015, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the text of the bill (H.R. 2250) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes, and agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the title of the bill.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2795. An act to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a study on the circumstances which may impact the effectiveness and availability of first responders before, during, or after a terrorist threat or event.

H.R. 3578. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to strengthen and make improvements to the Directorate of Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3831. An act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend the annual comment period for payment rates under Medicare Advantage.

H.R. 3869. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to assist State and local coordination on cybersecurity with the national cybersecurity and communications integration center, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3875. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish within the Department of Homeland Security a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives Office, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4188. An act to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2016 and 2017, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 2795. An act to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a study on the circumstances which may impact the effectiveness and availability of first responders before, during, or after a terrorist threat or event; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3578. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to strengthen and make improvements to the Directorate of Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3869. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to assist State and local coordination on cybersecurity with the national cybersecurity and communications integration center, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3875. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish within the Department of Homeland Security a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives Office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-3849. A communication from the Associate Administrator of the Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Raisins Produced from Grapes Grown in California; Increased Assessment Rate" (Docket No. AMS-FV-15-0032) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3850. A communication from the Associate Administrator of the Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Onions Grown in South Texas; Increased Assessment Rate" (Docket No. AMS-FV-15-0036) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3851. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Matthew L. Nathan, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3852. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of General John F. Kelly, United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3853. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the redevelopment potential of military properties and facilities; to the Committee on Armed Services

EC-3854. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, a semiannual report entitled, "Acceptance of Contributions for Defense Programs, Projects, and Activities; Defense Cooperation Account" and a semiannual listing of personal property contributed by coalition partners; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3855. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, a semiannual report entitled, "Acceptance of Contributions for Defense Programs, Projects, and Activities; Defense Cooperation Account" and a semiannual listing of personal property contributed by coalition partners; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3856. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Updated Statements of Legal Authority for the Export Administration Regulations to Include Continuation of Emergency Declared in Executive Order 12938" (RIN0694–AG78) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs .

EC-3857. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the export to the People's Republic of China of items not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3858. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, two reports entitled "Progress of the Federal Government in Meeting the Renewable Energy Goals of the Energy Policy Act of 2005" for fiscal years 2009 and 2010, and fiscal years 2011 and 2012; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3859. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for High-Intensity Discharge Lamps" ((RIN1904-AD36) (Docket No. EERE-2010-BT-STD-0047)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3860. A communication from the Administrator, U.S. Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Availability and Price of Petroleum

and Petroleum Products Produced in Countries Other Than Iran"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3861. A communication from the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report from the Office of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3862. A communication from the Inspector General of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3863. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Energy's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2015 to September 30, 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3864. A communication from the Director of the Peace Corps, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General's Semiannual Report for the period of April 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3865. A communication from the Director, National Science Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the Foundation's fiscal year 2015 Agency Financial Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3866. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Defense Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3867. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act Provisions; American Lobster Fishery" (RIN0648-BF16) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3868. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Process for Divestiture of Excess Quota Shares in the Individual Fishing Quota Fishery" (RIN0648-BF11) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3869. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pacific Island Pelagic Fisheries; 2015 Territorial Longline Bigeye Tuna Catch Limits for Guam" (RIN0648-XD998) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3870. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries Off West Coast States; Modifica-

tions of the West Coast Commercial and Recreational Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Actions Number 37 and Number 39" (RIN0648–XE259) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3871. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Yellowfin Sole for Vessels Participating in the BSAI Trawl Limited Access Fishery in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648–XE312) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3872. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Delaware River; New Castle, DE" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-1032)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3873. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Witt-Penn Bridge Construction, Hackensack River; Jersey City, NJ" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2014-1008)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3874. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Titan SPAR, Mississippi Canyon 941, Outer Continental Shelf on the Gulf of Mexico" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0320)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3875. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Turritella FPSO, Walker Ridge 551, Outer Continental Shelf on the Gulf of Mexico" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0318)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3876. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Unknown substance in the vicinity of Kelley's Island Shoal, Lake Erie; Kelley's Island, OH'' ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0994)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3877. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Rich Passage, Manchester, WA" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0943)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3878. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled

"Safety Zone; Shell Arctic Drilling/Exploration Vessels, Puget Sound, WA" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0295)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3879. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Grounded Vessel, Atlantic Ocean, Port St. Lucie, FL" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0992)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce Science and Transportation

EC-3880. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Pago Pago Harbor, American Samoa" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0906)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC\_9881. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Mississippi River between mile 467.0 and 472.0; Transylvania, LA" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0893)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3882. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Mississippi River between mile 488.0 and 480.5; Lake Providence, LA" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0894)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3883. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; 520 Bridge Construction, Lake Washington; Seattle, WA" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0570)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3884. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway; Oak Island, NC" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0809)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3885. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; West Larose Vertical Lift Bridge; Houma, LA" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0886)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3886. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Labor Day Long Neck Style Fireworks, Indian River Bay; Long Neck, DE" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0823)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3887. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Mad Dog Truss Spar, Green Canyon 782, Outer Continental Shelf on the Gulf of Mexico" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0512)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3888. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; 520 Bridge Construction, Lake Washington; Seattle, WA" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0570)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3889. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Intermedix IRONMAN 70.3 Event , Savannah River; August, GA" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0604)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3890. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Kaskaskia River MM 28 to 29; New Athens, IL'" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0777)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3891. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Snake Creek, Islamorada, FL" ((RIN1625-AA09) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0046)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3892. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics Celebration Fireworks; Lake Erie, Cleveland, OH" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0833)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3893. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Delaware River; Philadelphia, PA" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0732)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3894. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Dredging Rouge River, Detroit, MI" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0835)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3895. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Special Local Regulation; Mavericks Surf Com-

petition, Half Moon, CA" ((RIN1625-AA08) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0949)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3896. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Special Local Regulation for Battle of Hampton; Hampton River, Hampton, VA" ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG-2015–0820)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3897. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Special Local Regulations; Temporary Change for Recurring Marine Event in the Fifth Coast Guard District" ((RIN1625-AA08) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0400)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3898. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Security Zone: Escorted Vessels, Los Angeles-Long Beach, CA, Captain of the Port Zone" ((RIN1625-AA87) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0880)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3899. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulated Navigation Area; Herbert C. Bonner Bridge, Oregon Inlet, NC" ((RIN1625-AA11) (Docket No. USCG-2014-0987)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3900. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Rancocas Creek, Centerton, NJ" ((RIN1625-AA11) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0423)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3901. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of the Eagle Foothills Viticultural Area" (RIN1513-AC18) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3902. 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 "Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; U.S. Navy Training and Testing Activities in the Northwest Training and Testing Study Area" (RIN0648-BD89) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3903. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Ballast Water Management Reporting and Recordkeeping" ((RIN1625-AB68) (Docket No. USCG-2012-0924)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2015;

to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. THUNE, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1250. A bill to encourage States to require the installation of residential carbon monoxide detectors in homes, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114–179).

### 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. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 2400. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reinstate the financing for the Hazardous Substance Superfund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. TOOMEY):

S. Res. 334. A resolution congratulating the Pennsylvania State University women's soccer team for winning the 2015 National Collegiate Athletic Association Soccer Championship: considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 804

At the request of Ms. Collins, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. Baldwin) was added as a cosponsor of S. 804, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to specify coverage of continuous glucose monitoring devices, and for other purposes.

S. 928

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. Burr) was added as a cosponsor of S. 928, a bill to reauthorize the World Trade Center Health Program and the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund of 2001, and for other purposes.

S. 968

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. Bennet) was added as a cosponsor of S. 968, a bill to require the Commissioner of Social Security to revise the medical and evaluation criteria for determining disability in a person diagnosed with Huntington's Disease and to waive the 24-month waiting period for Medicare eligibility for individuals disabled by Huntington's Disease.

S. 1446

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from Vermont

(Mr. Leahy) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1446, a bill to establish the Stop, Observe, Ask, and Respond to Health and Wellness Training pilot program to address human trafficking in the health care system.

S. 1513

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1513, a bill to reauthorize the Second Chance Act of 2007.

S. 1767

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1767, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to combination products, and for other purposes.

S. 2033

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2033, a bill to provide that 6 of the 12 weeks of parental leave made available to a Federal employee shall be paid leave, and for other purposes.

S. 2185

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2185, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of the fight against breast cancer.

S. 2196

At the request of Mr. Casey, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2196, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the non-application of Medicare competitive acquisition rates to complex rehabilitative wheelchairs and accessories.

S. 2200

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2200, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to strengthen equal pay requirements.

S. 2282

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2282, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program and the National Cord Blood Inventory, and for other purposes.

S. 2297

At the request of Mr. Coons, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2297, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to encourage Medicare beneficiaries to voluntarily adopt advance directives guiding the medical care they receive.

S. 2312

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from New Hamp-

shire (Ms. Ayotte) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2312, a bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to make improvements to payments for durable medical equipment under the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. Tester) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2312, supra.

S. 2337

At the request of Mrs. Feinstein, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. Coons) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2337, a bill to improve homeland security by enhancing the requirements for participation in the Visa Waiver Program, and for other purposes.

S. 2338

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2338, a bill to award grants to States for the development of innovative long-term services and supports programs.

S. 2344

At the request of Mr. Cotton, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. Sessions) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2344, a bill to provide authority for access to certain business records collected under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 prior to November 29, 2015, to make the authority for roving surveillance, the authority to treat individual terrorists as agents of foreign powers, and title VII of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 permanent, and to modify the certification requirements for access to telephone toll and transactional records by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and for other pur-

S. 2361

At the request of Mr. Thune, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. Johnson) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2361, a bill to enhance airport security, and for other purposes.

S. 2393

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE. the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. Franken), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLO-BUCHAR), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. Menendez), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WAR-REN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2393. a bill to extend temporarily the extended period of protection for members of uniformed services relating to mortgages, mortgage foreclosure, and eviction, and for other purposes.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 334—CONGRATULATING THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2015 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. Toomey) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S RES 334

Whereas, on December 6, 2015, the Pennsylvania State University Nittany Lions won the 2015 National Collegiate Athletic Association (referred to in this preamble as the "NCAA") Soccer Championship, also known as the College Cup, in Cary, North Carolina with a hard-fought victory over the Duke University Blue Devils in a 1-0 match;

Whereas the Nittany Lions women's soccer team won their first ever NCAA Soccer Championship after advancing to the College Cup for the fifth time and the College Cup Final for the second time;

Whereas the Pennsylvania State University Nittany Lions are the first Big Ten team to earn an NCAA Women's Soccer Championship;

Whereas the Pennsylvania State University Nittany Lions won both the Big Ten regular season title and the Big Ten Tournament, concluding the 2015 season with a record of 16 wins, including 15 shutouts, and only 3 losses;

Whereas senior Raquel Rodriguez was named a First Team All-American by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America:

Whereas seniors Britt Eckerstrom and Raquel Rodriguez were named to the Academic All-District 2 First Team by the College Sports Information Directors of America; and

Whereas, this season, Head Coach Erica Walsh and her coaching staff depended on team captains Raquel Rodriguez, Mallory Weber, and Britt Eckerstrom to lead by example on the field: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the Pennsylvania State University women's soccer team, coaches, and staff for winning the 2015 National Collegiate Athletic Association Soccer Championship:

(2) commends the Pennsylvania State University women's soccer team, coaches, and staff for their hard work and dedication; and

(3) recognizes the students, faculty, alumni, and devoted fans of Pennsylvania State University who supported the Nittany Lions on the path to winning their first ever National Collegiate Athletic Association Soccer Championship.

### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2927. Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. Thune (for himself, Mr. Schatz, Mr. Moran, Mr. Daines, Mr. Blumenthal, Mr. Booker, and Mr. Wyden)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2044, to prohibit the use of certain clauses in form contracts that restrict the ability of a consumer to communicate regarding the goods or services offered in interstate commerce that were the subject of the contract, and for other purposes.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2927. Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. Thune (for himself, Mr. Schatz, Mr. Moran, Mr. Daines, Mr. Blumenthal, Mr. Booker, and Mr. Wyden)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2044, to prohibit the use of certain clauses in form contracts that restrict the ability of a consumer to communicate regarding the goods or services offered in interstate commerce that were the subject of the contract, and for other purposes: as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Consumer Review Freedom Act of 2015".

#### SEC. 2. CONSUMER REVIEW PROTECTION.

- (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:
- (1) COMMISSION.—The term "Commission" means the Federal Trade Commission.
- (2) COVERED COMMUNICATION.—The term "covered communication" means a written, oral, or pictorial review, performance assessment of, or other similar analysis of, including by electronic means, the goods, services, or conduct of a person by an individual who is party to a form contract with respect to which such person is also a party.
  - (3) FORM CONTRACT.—
- (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term "form contract" means a contract with standardized terms—
- (i) used by a person in the course of selling or leasing the person's goods or services; and
- (ii) imposed on an individual without a meaningful opportunity for such individual to negotiate the standardized terms.
- (B) EXCEPTION.—The term "form contract" does not include an employer-employee or independent contractor contract.
- (4) PICTORIAL.—The term "pictorial" includes pictures, photographs, video, illustrations, and symbols.
- (b) Invalidity of Contracts That Impede Consumer Reviews.—
- (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), a provision of a form contract is void from the inception of such contract if such provision—
- (A) prohibits or restricts the ability of an individual who is a party to the form contract to engage in a covered communication;
- (B) imposes a penalty or fee against an individual who is a party to the form contract for engaging in a covered communication; or
- (C) transfers or requires an individual who is a party to the form contract to transfer to any person any intellectual property rights in review or feedback content, with the exception of a non-exclusive license to use the content, that the individual may have in any otherwise lawful covered communication about such person or the goods or services provided by such person.
- (2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in paragraph (1) shall be construed to affect—
- (A) any duty of confidentiality imposed by law (including agency guidance);
- (B) any civil cause of action for defamation, libel, or slander, or any similar cause of action;
- (C) any party's right to remove or refuse to display publicly on an Internet website or webpage owned, operated, or otherwise controlled by such party any content of a covered communication that—
- (i) contains the personal information or likeness of another person or is libelous, harassing, abusive, obscene, vulgar, sexually explicit, or inappropriate with respect to race, gender, sexuality, ethnicity, or other intrinsic characteristic;

- (ii) is unrelated to the goods or services offered by or available at such party's Internet website or webpage; or
- (iii) is clearly false or misleading; or
- (D) a party's right to establish terms and conditions with respect to the creation of photographs or video of such party's property when those photographs or video are created by an employee or independent contractor of a commercial entity and solely intended for commercial purposes by that entity.
- (3) EXCEPTIONS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the extent that a provision of a form contract prohibits disclosure or submission of, or reserves the right of a person or business that hosts online consumer reviews or comments to remove—
- (A) trade secrets or commercial or financial information obtained from a person and considered privileged or confidential:
- (B) personnel and medical files and similar information the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy:
- (C) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (D) content that is unlawful or otherwise meets the requirements of paragraph (2)(C); or
- (E) content that contains any computer viruses, worms, or other potentially damaging computer code, processes, programs, applications, or files.
- (c) PROHIBITION.—It shall be unlawful for a person to offer a form contract containing a provision described as void in subsection (b).
  - (d) Enforcement by Commission.-
- (1) UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES.—A violation of subsection (c) by a person with respect to which the Commission is empowered under section 5(a)(2) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 45(a)(2)) shall be treated as a violation of a rule defining an unfair or deceptive act or practice prescribed under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)).
  - (2) POWERS OF COMMISSION.—
- (A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall enforce this section in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this Act.
- (B) PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.—Any person who violates this section shall be subject to the penalties and entitled to the privileges and immunities provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.).
- (e) Enforcement by States.—
- (1) AUTHORIZATION.—Subject to subparagraph (B), in any case in which the attorney general of a State has reason to believe that an interest of the residents of the State has been or is threatened or adversely affected by the engagement of any person subject to subsection (c) in a practice that violates such subsection, the attorney general of the State may, as parens patriae, bring a civil action on behalf of the residents of the State in an appropriate district court of the United States to obtain appropriate relief.
- (2) RIGHTS OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.—

  (A) NOTICE TO FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.—
- (i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (iii), the attorney general of a State shall notify the Commission in writing that the attorney general intends to bring a civil action under paragraph (1) before initiating the civil action against a person described in subsection (d)(1).

- (ii) CONTENTS.—The notification required by clause (i) with respect to a civil action shall include a copy of the complaint to be filed to initiate the civil action.
- (iii) EXCEPTION.—If it is not feasible for the attorney general of a State to provide the notification required by clause (i) before initiating a civil action under paragraph (1), the attorney general shall notify the Commission immediately upon instituting the civil action
- (B) INTERVENTION BY FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.—The Commission may—
- (i) intervene in any civil action brought by the attorney general of a State under paragraph (1) against a person described in subsection (d)(1); and
  - (ii) upon intervening-
- (I) be heard on all matters arising in the civil action; and
- (II) file petitions for appeal of a decision in the civil action.
- (3) INVESTIGATORY POWERS.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to prevent the attorney general of a State from exercising the powers conferred on the attorney general by the laws of the State to conduct investigations, to administer oaths or affirmations, or to compel the attendance of witnesses or the production of documentary or other evidence.
- (4) PREEMPTIVE ACTION BY FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.—If the Federal Trade Commission institutes a civil action or an administrative action with respect to a violation of subsection (c), the attorney general of a State may not, during the pendency of such action, bring a civil action under paragraph (1) against any defendant named in the complaint of the Commission for the violation with respect to which the Commission instituted such action.
  - (5) VENUE; SERVICE OF PROCESS.—
- (A) VENUE.—Any action brought under paragraph (1) may be brought in—
- (i) the district court of the United States that meets applicable requirements relating to venue under section 1391 of title 28, United States Code; or
- (ii) another court of competent jurisdiction.
- (B) SERVICE OF PROCESS.—In an action brought under paragraph (1), process may be served in any district in which the defendant
  - (i) is an inhabitant; or
  - (ii) may be found.
  - (6) ACTIONS BY OTHER STATE OFFICIALS.—
- (A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to civil actions brought by attorneys general under paragraph (1), any other consumer protection officer of a State who is authorized by the State to do so may bring a civil action under paragraph (1), subject to the same requirements and limitations that apply under this subsection to civil actions brought by attorneys general.
- (B) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to prohibit an authorized official of a State from initiating or continuing any proceeding in a court of the State for a violation of any civil or criminal law of the State.
- (f) EDUCATION AND OUTREACH FOR BUSINESSES.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall commence conducting education and outreach that provides businesses with non-binding best practices for compliance with this Act.
- (g) RELATION TO STATE CAUSES OF ACTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect any cause of action brought by a person that exists or may exist under State law.
- (h) EFFECTIVE DATES.—This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act, except that—

- (1) subsections (b) and (c) shall apply with respect to contracts in effect on or after the date that is 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act; and
- (2) subsections (d) and (e) shall apply with respect to contracts in effect on or after the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

### CONSUMER REVIEW FREEDOM ACT OF 2015

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 316, S. 2044.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2044) to prohibit the use of certain clauses in form contracts that restrict the ability of a consumer to communicate regarding the goods or services offered in interstate commerce that were the subject of the contract, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Consumer Review Freedom Act of 2015".

#### SEC. 2. CONSUMER REVIEW PROTECTION.

- (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:
- (1) COMMISSION.—The term "Commission" means the Federal Trade Commission.
- (2) COVERED COMMUNICATION.—The term "covered communication" means a written, oral, or pictorial review, performance assessment of, or other similar analysis of, including by electronic means, the goods, services, or conduct of a person by an individual who is party to a form contract with respect to which such person is also a party.
  - (3) FORM CONTRACT.—
- (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term "form contract" means a contract with standardized terms—
- (i) used by a person in the course of selling or leasing the person's goods or services; and
- (ii) imposed on an individual without a meaningful opportunity for such individual to negotiate the standardized terms.
- (B) Exception.—The term "form contract" does not include an employer-employee or independent contractor contract.
- (4) PICTORIAL.—The term "pictorial" includes pictures, photographs, video, illustrations, and symbols.
- (b) INVALIDITY OF CONTRACTS THAT IMPEDE CONSUMER REVIEWS.—
- (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), a provision of a form contract is void from the inception of such contract if such provision—
- (A) prohibits or restricts the ability of an individual who is a party to the form contract to engage in a covered communication;
- (B) imposes a penalty or fee against an individual who is a party to the form contract for engaging in a covered communication; or
- (C) transfers or requires an individual who is a party to the form contract to transfer to any person any intellectual property rights in review or feedback content, with the exception of a non-exclusive license to use the content, that the individual may have in any otherwise lawful covered communication about such person or the goods or services provided by such person.
- (2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in paragraph (1) shall be construed to affect—

(A) any duty of confidentiality imposed by law (including agency guidance);

(B) any civil action for defamation, libel, or slander, or any similar cause of action:

(C) any party's right to remove or refuse to publish any statement on an Internet website owned or operated by such party that contains the personal information or likeness of another person or is libelous, harassing, abusive, obscene, vulgar, sexually explicit, inappropriate with respect to race, gender, sexuality, ethnicity, or other intrinsic characteristic, or that is unrelated to the goods or services offered by such party; or

(D) a party's right to establish terms and conditions with respect to the creation of photographs or video of such party's property when those photographs or video are created by an employee or independent contractor of a commercial entity and solely intended for commercial purposes by that entity.

(3) EXCEPTIONS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the extent that a provision of a form contract prohibits disclosure of the following:

(A) Trade secrets or commercial or financial information obtained from a person and considered privileged or confidential.

(B) Personnel and medical files and similar information the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

(C) Records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

(c) PROHIBITION.—It shall be unlawful for a person to offer or enter into a form contract containing a provision described as void in subsection (b).

(d) Enforcement by Commission.—

- (1) UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES.—A violation of subsection (c) by a person with respect to which the Commission is empowered under section 5(a)(2) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 45(a)(2)) shall be treated as a violation of a rule defining an unfair or deceptive act or practice prescribed under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)).
- (2) POWERS OF COMMISSION.—
- (A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall enforce this section in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this Act.
- (B) PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.—Any person who violates this section shall be subject to the penalties and entitled to the privileges and immunities provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.).

(e) Enforcement by States.—

- (1) AUTHORIZATION.—Subject to subparagraph (B), in any case in which the attorney general of a State has reason to believe that an interest of the residents of the State has been or is threatened or adversely affected by the engagement of any person subject to subsection (c) in a practice that violates such subsection, the attorney general of the State may, as parens patriae, bring a civil action on behalf of the residents of the State in an appropriate district court of the United States to obtain appropriate relief.
- (2) RIGHTS OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.—
  (A) NOTICE TO FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.—
- (ii) In GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (iii), the attorney general of a State shall notify the Commission in writing that the attorney general intends to bring a civil action under paragraph (1) before initiating the civil action against a person described in subsection (d)(1).
- (ii) CONTENTS.—The notification required by clause (i) with respect to a civil action shall include a copy of the complaint to be filed to initiate the civil action.
- (iii) EXCEPTION.—If it is not feasible for the attorney general of a State to provide the notifi-

cation required by clause (i) before initiating a civil action under paragraph (1), the attorney general shall notify the Commission immediately upon instituting the civil action.

- (B) Intervention by Federal trade commission.—The Commission may—
- (i) intervene in any civil action brought by the attorney general of a State under paragraph (1) against a person described in subsection (d)(1); and
  - (ii) upon intervening-
- (I) be heard on all matters arising in the civil action; and
- (II) file petitions for appeal of a decision in the civil action.
- (3) INVESTIGATORY POWERS.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to prevent the attorney general of a State from exercising the powers conferred on the attorney general by the laws of the State to conduct investigations, to administer oaths or affirmations, or to compel the attendance of witnesses or the production of documentary or other evidence.
- (4) PREEMPTIVE ACTION BY FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.—If the Federal Trade Commission institutes a civil action or an administrative action with respect to a violation of subsection (c), the attorney general of a State may not, during the pendency of such action, bring a civil action under paragraph (1) against any defendant named in the complaint of the Commission for the violation with respect to which the Commission instituted such action.
  - (5) VENUE; SERVICE OF PROCESS.-
- (A) VENUE.—Any action brought under paragraph (1) may be brought in—
- (i) the district court of the United States that meets applicable requirements relating to venue under section 1391 of title 28, United States Code; or
  - (ii) another court of competent jurisdiction.
- (B) SERVICE OF PROCESS.—In an action brought under paragraph (1), process may be served in any district in which the defendant—
  - (i) is an inhabitant; or
  - (ii) may be found.(6) ACTIONS BY OTHER STATE OFFICIALS.-
- (A) In GENERAL.—In addition to civil actions brought by attorneys general under paragraph (1), any other officer of a State who is authorized by the State to do so may bring a civil action under paragraph (1), subject to the same requirements and limitations that apply under this subsection to civil actions brought by attorneys general.
- (B) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to prohibit an authorized official of a State from initiating or continuing any proceeding in a court of the State for a violation of any civil or criminal law of the State.
- (f) EDUCATION AND OUTREACH FOR BUSINESSES.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall commence conducting education and outreach that provides businesses with non-binding best practices for compliance with this Act.
- (g) RELATION TO STATE CAUSES OF ACTION.— Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect any cause of action brought by a person that exists or may exist under State law.
- (h) Effective Dates.—This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act, except that—
- (1) subsections (b) and (c) shall apply with respect to contracts in effect on or after the date that is 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act; and
- (2) subsections (d) and (e) shall apply with respect to contracts in effect on or after the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.
- Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute be withdrawn; that the Thune substitute amendment be agreed to; that the bill,

as amended, be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported substitute amendment was withdrawn.

The amendment (No. 2927) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

The bill (S. 2044), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### BILLY FRANK JR. TELL YOUR STORY ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 2270, which was received from the House.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2270) to redesignate the Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, located in the State of Washington, as the Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, to establish the Medicine Creek Treaty National Memorial within the wildlife refuge, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. I further ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed and the motion 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 bill (H.R. 2270) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time,

CONGRATULATING THE PENNSYL-VANIA STATE UNIVERSITY WOM-EN'S SOCCER TEAM FOR WIN-NING THE 2015 NATIONAL COLLE-GIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 334, submitted earlier today.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 334) congratulating the Pennsylvania State University women's soccer team for winning the 2015 National Collegiate Athletic Association Championship.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I 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. 334) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### APPOINTMENTS

PRESIDING OFFICER. The The Chair announces, on behalf of the Democratic leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 106-398, as amended by Public Law 108-7, and in consultation with the chairmen of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the United States-China Economic Security Review Commission: Byron Dorgan of North Dakota and Carte P. Goodwin of West Virginia.

#### ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, **DECEMBER 15, 2015**

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, December 15; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business until 5 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each; finally, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings.

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

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:34 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, December 15, 2015, at 10 a.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

ALAN J. KRECZKO, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE OVERSIGHT BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 14, 2019, VICE PAUL CHERECWICH, JR., RESIGNED.

JAMES B. WHITE OF MARYLAND TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE OVERSIGHT BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 14, 2020, VICE NANCY KILLEFER TERM EXPIRED

#### FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

EDITH RAMIREZ, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSIONER FOR THE TERM OF SEVEN YEARS FROM SEPTEMBER 26, 2015. (REAPPOINTMENT)

#### EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

ANDREW MAYOCK, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR MANAGEMENT, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, VICE BETH F. COBERT.

#### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINT-MENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

#### To be lieutenant colonel

PETER L. REYNOLDS

To be major

CHRISTOPHER P. CALDER.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be colonel

JEREMY W. CANNON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be colonel

TED W. LIEU

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be colonel

JODENE M. ALEXANDER MICHAEL C. BRICE EDWARD L. CULLUMBER DEBORAH J. ROBINSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be colonel

JOHN LOUIS ARENDALE II KAMMIE J. DEGHETTO KAREN L. GARDNER JAMES P. PALMISANO MINH-TRI BA TRINH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be colonel

BONNIE JOY BOSLER LEE W. BRADSHAW ADA MIREA COLLIER SUSAN G. GEER MILDRED CAMILLA GLOVER GARY W. HOPKINS JEANNE K. LAFOUNTAIN DIANNE LOUISE SLATEN STEVEN J. THEOHARES MICHELLE B. TIRADO JENNIFER LYNN WEDEL ESTHER L. WEIGHTMAN LIANE L. WEINBERGER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be colonel

ARDEN B. ANDERSEN JEFFREY S. BUI PETER K. DERUSSY DAVID A. GERBER CRYSTAL L. HNATKO PATRICK U. HSIEH MIGUEL ANGEL PIRELA-CRUZ CATHERINE R. S. PLATT STEVEN D. PODNOS NEAL PATRICK RIDGE SIRAJ A. SAYEED HENRY SCHWARTZ JOSHUA L. WRIGHT MARK A. ZELKOVIC

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be colonel

TODD ANDREW LUCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be colonel

LEBANE S. HALL

DAVID F. PENDLETON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be colonel

WILLIAM CHARLES DUNLAP JOHN P. GILLESPIE ROBERT K. MCGHEE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be colonel

DAWN D. BELLACK WALTER F. COPPERSMITH CHRISTOPHER W. DENTEL SCOTT S. DRIGGS

SHANNON R. HANSCOM JEFFERY B. MORRIS CLAYTON E. ROBERTSON ANGELA LYNN TILLMAN ANDREW J. TURNER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be colonel

KATHERINE E. AASEN DAVID R. ANDERSON DANTE C. BADIA MANTE C. BADIA MICHAEL V. BAUTISTA SAMUEL P. BAXTER BRIAN KERTULLA BEACHKOFSKI BRIAN ALLAN BETTS PATRICK ALLEN BROWN ROBERT N. BURGESS PATRICK EDWARD CAMPBELL ROBERT N. DENGESS
PATRICK EDWARD CAMPBELL
SCOTT A. CARLIN
SEAN M. CARPENTER
LIESL RADERER CARTER
RANDALL WILKINS CASON, JR.
JEANNETTE E. CLARK
IAN S. COOGAN
DAVID L. CORRICK
ANDREW A. CRUM
RICHARD A. DEEMER, JR.
MATTHEW CHRISTOPHER DIXON
XAVIAN L. DRAPER
BRIAN W. EDDY
MICHAEL H. EGBALIC
ANDREW J. EILER, JR.
MARGARET J. ELDER
DAVID W. ENFIELD
JASON W. EVENSON
SPIROS L. FAFALIOS
HEATH D. FOWLER
LONNIE GARRIS III LONNIE GARRIS III KENNETH L. GEILE JAMES R. GRESIS ANGELA GUNDERSEN WILLIAM H. GUTERMUTH LESLIE S. HADLEY SHANNON D. HAILES PETER J. HALL JAMES L. HARTLE WILLIAM L. HATZFELD ANDREAS SIGMUND HAU RICHARD M. HEASLIP AARON J. HEICK ASHLEY LEWIS HEYEN BEBE D. HOLLINGSHEAD BEBE D. HOLLINGSHEA JOE D. HOUK BRENT A. HYDEN MICHELLE K. IDLE JOSEPH DANIEL JANIK BRADY G. JOHNSON JAY D. JOHNSON DAVID LEE JONES DEANNA L. KETTERER DAVID LEE JONES
DEANNA L. KETTERER
THOMAS J. KLEMAS
ERIC T. KOS
ROBERT F. KUEHN
DAVID M. KURLE
ANDREW T. LYONS
SUSAN L. MAKI
SARAH W. MANGAHAS
CRISTIANO A. MARCHIORI
SHANE M. MATHERNE
MICHAEL B. MCCLANAHAN MICHAEL B. MCCLANAHAN MICHAEL T. MCGINLEY ANDRE A. MCMILLIAN JAMES GABRIEL MEAD JAMES GABRIEL MEAL
KATHRYN A. MERCER
MARVIN T. MERCIER
MATTHEW T. MUHA
STEPHEN J. NESTER
KARLA K. OCONNOR
JOSEPH R. ORCUTT
NEIL D. OTTO
STEPHANIE A. OLIDING NEIL D. OTTO
STEPHANIE A. OUDING
DARREN A. PALADINO
KIRSTEN M. PALMER
MARLENA V. PARKER
NIKHIL S. PATEL
MELISSA K. PHILLIPS
TAMARA R. POHLE
SOLEIMAN RAHEL
FENNERIU E. DARI URE SOLEIMAN RAHEL
KENNETH S. RATLIFF
MARK D. RICHEY
ARTHUR J. RODI
MICHAEL W. RYAN
REGINA A. SABRIC
RICHARD THOMAS SAUNDERS
JAMES C. SAVAGE
VANESSA E. SAVAS
LEAH C. SCHMIDT
EDWARD C. SEGURA
JASON E. SHROYER JASON E. SHROYER DEAN D. SNIEGOWSKI WILLIAM G. STEVENS II KEVIN M. STEWART KEVIN M. STEWART
MARK T. STEWART
JEFFERY T. STRICKER
NICLAS P. SZOKE
MICHAEL A. THOMAS
ROBERT W. VANHOY II
CHRISTOPHER A. VORSE
MATTHEW F. WADD
JENNIFER L. WALLER JENNIFER L. WALLEI ROBERT A. WIEMAN JAMES C. WOOD JENNIFER L. WRYNN

SAXON T. YANDELL ARCHER M. YATES, JR CHRISTOPHER M. ZIDEK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

#### To be lieutenant colonel

BRYAN M. BARROQUEIRO RYAN P. CORRIGAN ARNOLD R. DEASIS DENNIS M. DUKE DAVID I. FINK JOSEPH MANNINO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

#### To be major

BRYAN M. DAVIS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

TODD E. COMBS

#### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

#### To be major

DAVID H. AAMIDOR DAVID H. AAMIDOR
CHRISTIAN A. ABNEY
MARK A. ABOWD
KYLE R. ABRUZZESE
ERIC R. ACKLES
BEMORY O. ADAMS
JEFFREY C. AGNEW
BRUCE E. AHO
DAVID P. ALLEN
KHRISTINA N. ALLEN
KHRISTINA N. ALLEN
TIMOTHY L. ALVARADO
CHAD E. AMACKER
BRADEN I. AMIGO
BARRY G. AMMONS
ABRAHAM S. ANDERSON
JONATHAN G. ANDERSON
WINCENT J. ANNUNZIATO
JEAN D. ARCHER
BRANDON J. ARCHULETA
JEREMY J. ARIAS
FRANK ARMESON
THOMAS D. ARNOLD
AMARA J. ATELLA
JOEL F. ATER
ARTHUR J. ATHENS
NATHAN B. AUBE
ANTWAN C. AUSTIN
JULIE V. BAILEY
CHASE S. BAKER
TYLER D. BAKKAR
ASHER J. BALLEW
WALLACE W. BANDEFF
BRANDON M. BANGSBOLL
JOSEPH B. BARBER
NICOLE R. BARDWELL
NATHAN J. BARLOW CHAD A. BARNES JOHN D. BARRINGTON NICHOLAS G. BARRY ERIC M. BARTON ERIC M. BARTON
MATTHEW S. BAUER
LUTHUR A. BEAZLEY IV
ROBERT G. BECOTTE
ALEXANDER J. BEDARD
LLOYD E. BEDFORD III
JAMES H. BELINGA
ILLIANA A DENITORY DENI JULIAN A. BENITEZPENUELAS DEREK M. BENZ JAY R. BERGER JEFFREY L. G. BERNASCONI JOSEPH BETZ DAVID K. BHATTA DANIELLE N. BIERING BRIAN W. BIFULCO JOHN S. BILAL JENNIFER L. BLACKWELL TIMOTHY R. BLAIR ERIC L. BLEWETT ERIC L. BLEWETT
BILLY D. BLUE
CRAIG A. BONHAM
ANTHONY A. BOOHER
DAVID T. BOOKER
BENJAMIN N. BOOTH
TEDDY W. BORAWSKI
JOSHUA K. BORRELL
TIMOTHY L. BOSWELL
JOSHUA D. BOWNS
MICHAEL R. BRABENDER
WILLIAM H. BRADLEY WILLIAM H. BRADLEY DANIEL P. BRADY THOMAS J. BRAMANTI WILLIAM A. BRANCH

DANIEL R. BRANER
MARK D. BRIDGES
ROBERT J. BRIGGS
KEVIN P. BRITT
WYATTA A. BRITTEN
BENJAMIN S. BROBERG
SHELDON E. BROEDEL
DANIEL T. BROOKS
LATISHA M. BROOKS
OWEN M. BROOM
CONRAD C. BROWN
GLEN A. BROWN
MATTHEW R. BROWN
PAUL R. BROWN
WILLIAM A. BROWN IV
JONATHAN R. BROWNING
RYAN D. BRUNER
ADAM R. BUCHANAN
RODNEY J. BUNYAN
JOHN T. BURCH III DANIEL R. BRANER JOHN T. BURCH III ROBERT M. BURNHAM III BRIAN S. BURNS JOHN P. BURNS JOHN P. BURNS
MATTHEW B. BURTON
NOAH E. B. BUSBEY
LUKE S. BUSHATZ
NEREA M. CAL
TRIVIUS G. CALDWELL
LUKE A. CALVERT
THOMAS S. CAMPBELL
RYAN D. CANNON
NUMBER A. G. CANNON
NUMBER A. G. CANNON RYAN D. CANNON
NICHOLAS J. CAPUTO
ZACHARY CARBONELL
KRISTINA A. CARNEY
CARL J. CAROFFINO
BEAU G. CARROLL
BRIAN A. CARROLL
JAMES R. CARROLL
JUSTIN R. CARTER
PATRICK T. CARUSO
MICHAEL P. CARVELLI
MICHAEL L. CASIANO
MARIA C. CASTILLO
VENANCIO O. CASTRO VENANCIO O. CASTRO ALAN C. CAUSEY HARRY A. CENTENO JUSTIN J. CHABALKO DAVID D. CHAMBERLAIN JOHN R. CHAMBERS MICAH J. CHAPMAN FECKER CHARLOT BRANDON T. CHASE JEFFREY W. CHASE BRANDON M. CHENEY BRETT H. CHERESKIN JIM D. CHESHIER PAUL P. CHEVAL JIM D. CHESHIER
PAUL P. CHEVAL
BENJAMIN A. CHOVANEC
ALEXANDER N. CHUNG
DAVID S. CLAMON
ADAM M. CLARK
JAMES R. CLEARY
SAM E. CLEGG III
LOGAN G. CLOANINGER
LEILA M. COCKEREL
JOAB H. COHE
KENNETH T. COLLINS
MELANIE D. COLLINS
MELANIE D. COLLINS
CURBY A. COLVIN
JONATHAN K. COMBS
AUSTIN G. COMMONS
TIMOTHY D. CONLEY
NIGEL R. COOK
ALLEN M. COONES
RICHARD A. CORDERO
COLIN M. CORDIGAN
CHRISTOPHER M. COUCH
MATTHEW A. COYNE
ASHLEY L. CRAIG
BRENDAN M. CRANE
CHARLES C. CRAWFORD
PETER J. CRAWFORD
PETER J. CRIGGER
JUSTIN M. CROWE
DAVID R. CRIGGER
JUSTIN M. CROWE
DAVID R. CRIGGER
JUSTIN M. CROWE
DAVID R. CRIGGER
JUSTIN M. CROWE
DANIEL B. CRUMBY
LAWRENCE M. CSASZAR
NICHOLAS C. CURRIE
DREW A. CURRISTON NICHOLAS C. CURRIE DREW A. CURRISTON GARY R. CUTLER, JR. BRENT A. DALTON DAVID N. DANFORD QUYEN N. DANG IANA J. DANIELS RYAN K. DAVID AIDA M. DAVIS JASON C. M. DAVIS JORDON S. DAVIS JOSEPH R. DAVIS JOSEPH W. DAVIS CHRISTOPHER T. DAY CHRISTOPHER T. DAY JOHN F. DEAL, JR. RYAN J. DEBELTZ KENT C. DEBENEDICTIS JOSEPH M. DECHAUNY ADAM J. DECKER DAVID J. DEDERICH ALEX J. DEEP ZACHARY F. DEGROOT ROSA A. DELANEY JONATHAN M. DELL AMANDA L. DELRE PHILLIP M. DENKER ZACHARY D. DENTON JUSTIN A. DEPUE JAISON D. DESAI

STEPHEN D. DEUBLE PAMELA J. DEVILLE JAMES P. DEVLIN JAMES P. DEVLIN
NATHAN C. DIAZ
LOGAN J. DICK
JONATHAN M. DOERSCH
FRANK A. DOLEBERRY
CLAUDIA L. DONAHUE
MATHEW DONOFRIO
ANDRES R. DONOSO
MARK S. DORSEY
MATTHEW A. DO'TSON
RYAN P. DOUGHERTY
AARON T. DOUTT
JAMES T. DOWELL
JEANPIERRE DRAGAN AARON I. DOUTI
JAMES T. DOWELL
JEANPIERRE DRAGAN
ASHLEY L. DRAKE
DOUGLAS D. DROESCH
JUSTIN M. DUCOTE
JACOB D. DUDLEY
ALEX J. DUFFY
DONOVAN C. DUKE
RYAN M. DUNBAR
DAVID F. DUNHAM
ANTHONY R. DUNKIN
TERRENCE P. DUNN
JEREMY A. DUPLECHIN
JASON M. DYE
AUSTIN S. DZIENGELEWSKI
ANDREW S. EAGEN
RYAN J. EANDI
JONATHAN R. EASTER RYAN J. BANDI
JONATHAN R. EASTER
CLINT T. EDWARDS
WILLIAM B. EDWARDS
ANDREW P. EGGERS
ANDREW H. EICKBUSH
MATTHEW G. EIDT
JAMES T. ELLIOTT
ERIC P. ELSENER
ROY E. EMBERSON
BRADLEY M. EPICKSON ERIC P. ELSENER
ROY E. EMBERSON
BRADLEY M. ERICKSON
PEDRO A. ESCAMILLA
SCOTT D. ESHOM
NICHOLAS M. ESLINGER
ANTHONY W. EVANS
CHRISTOPHER A. EVANS
RICHARD W. EVANS, JR.
JENNIFER L. FALCETTO
BLAKE FALLER
PETER R. FARESE
THOMAS F. FEENEY
WILLIAM J. FEHRENBACH
SCOTT A. FENNELL
MICHAEL P. FFRRITER
ELISE V. FFITCH
BRANDY L. FIELDS
JONATHAN D. FIETKAU
BENJAMIN J. FITTING
JOHN P. FLACH
TANNER N. FLECK
THOMAS C. FLOUNDERS
GARY P. FLOWERS II
JUSTIN R. FOLGEY JUSTIN R. FOLEY ANDY K. FONG TIMOTHY C. FORRY JAMES R. FORSYTH JAMES R. FORSYTH
NATHANIEL I. FOUST
JOEL L. FRANCESCHI
KEVIN R. FRANKE
JASON E. FRANKLIN
RICHARD L. FRANKO
MICHAEL A. FRANSON
TRENTON L. FREEMAN
RDYAN D. FRENEMAN BRYAN D. FRENCH ERIN S. FRITZLER HAROLD G. FROST ROBERT M. FULLERTON JOEL D. FUNK CHRISTOPHER T. GAGE JEFFREY P. GAINES JAMES D. GALLAGHER JAMES D. GALLAGHER
CLINT R. GALLOWAY
BRIAN A. GALNEAU
TANNER C. GARRETT
DOMINIC V. GARRITANO
MICHAEL T. GASSER
CHRISTOPHER A. GEHRI
MATTHEW A. GEORGE
ERIC M. GIANNARIS
MATTHEW S. GIFFEN
KEITH L. GILBERT
SAMUEL S. GILSTRAP
NICOLE M. GIVENS
THOMAS A. GIVENS
SERGE GLUSHENKO
MATTHEW J. GOMOLL MATTHEW J. GOMOLL JENNIFER L. GONSER DANIEL I. GONZALEZ ROBERTO GONZALEZ ROBERTO GONZALEZ
JAMES M. GORMAN
RYAN W. GRAF
WILLIAM H. GRATZ
ROBERT B. GRAVES
DOUGLAS G. GRAY
MATTHEW L. GREEN
SETH M. GREEN
LONOTHAN D. GREEN SETH M. GREEN
JONOTHAN D. GREENWOOD
ALLEN T. GRIFFITH
ROLAND D. GRIFFITH
JEFFERSON T. GRIMES
CODY R. GRIMM
SETH A. GRIMM
DANIEL C. GROLLER
JOSHUA A. GRUBB
PETER A. GULEBY

JENNY M. GUNDERSON WILLIAM HACKENBRACHT JONATHAN E. HAGEN
ASHLEY B. HAHN
ALEXANDER D. HAIN
COLLIN N. HAMEL
ANDERS C. HAMLIN
WILLIAM R. HANCOCK III
MICHAEL S. HANDLAN
CHRISTOPHER L. HANES
EMILY C. HANNENBERG
JOSEPH W. HANSEN
DREW HANSON
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KATHRYN L. HILLEGASS

TRISH S. HOLM

COREY T. HOLZER MATTHEW S. HICKS
KATHRYN L. HILLECASS
TRISH S. HOLM
COREY T. HOLZER
BENJAMIN J. HOOKER
TERRY M. HORNER
ANDREW H. HORSFALL
JOE C. HOWARD
JOHN C. HOYT
THOMAS J. HUDAK
KEITH W. HUMBARD
STEPHEN G. HUMMEL
NATHAN L. HUNTER
MICHAEL W. HUNTINGTON
PETER S. W. HWANG
ZACHARY E. IIAMS
CURTIS I. IVINS
MEGAN L. JANTOS
ALEXANDER L. JEHLE
LACEY A. JOHNSON
LEONARD M. JOYNER II
ROBERT KANG ROBERT KANG ROSS M. KASTNER ALEXANDER L. KEDROWITSCH ALEXANDER L. KEDROWY
ERIC E. KELLY
NEIL E. KESTER
JAMES E. KIM
CURTIS L. KIMBRELL
ALICIA E. KING
KENNETH T. KING
KURT M. KLINGENSMITH
DAVID M. KNOX
MATTHEW J. KUHLMAN
ANDRZEJ V. KUJAWSKI
FADJI K. KUMAPLEY
JOSEPH K. KYSER FADJI K. KUMAPLEY
JOSEPH K. KYSER
ALEXANDER V. LAMOLINARA
JOHN B. LAMONT III
COLIN J. LASATER
JACOB W. LAWRENCE
JAMES A. LAX
JACKSON LEE
JOSHUA J. LEE
MICHAEL N. K. LEE
NICHOLAS L. LEE
MARYA J. LEONG
DAVID M. LISOVICH
MICHAEL E. LITTLE
JOSE L. LIY
JOSE L. LIY
JENNIFER A. LONG JENNIFER A. LONG CHAD R. LORENZ JONATHAN M. LOVELACE TROY A. LOVELY

GREGORY L. LUDEMAN JUAN D. MAGRI JAMES F. MALLOY II MATTHEW W. MANESS JOHN V. MARICEVIC CHRISTOPHER E. MARION GREGORY L. LUDEMAN CHRISTOPHER E. MARION
ELIZABETH M. MARLIN
ROBERT D. MARTINDILL
QUINCY MAYS
MARIAH A. MCCALLUM
HEATHER L. MCCLELLAN
IAN M. MCCORMACK
SAMUEL P. MCDOWELL
MICHEAL J. MCGATH
COUNTY A. MCGATH
COUNTY A. MCGATH
COUNTY A. MCGATH STEWART A. MCGURK KENT W. MCINNIS SEAN R. MCMAHON CHARLES L. MCMILLIAN JACK E. MCMURROUGH, JR. MARK R. MEDLOCK SELINA A. MEINERS DENNIS N. MERCADO SELINA A. MEINERS
DENNIS N. MERCADO
KAINE A. MESHKIN
ALAN T. MESKIL
LEANDER A. METCALF
JUSTIN T. MILLER
PEDER C. MILLER
JEFFREY P. MILLS
JAMES D. MOFFITT, JR.
JOSHUA J. MOLGAARD
MATTHEW J. MOLINO
DIONTANESE Y. MONROE
RUTHANN L. MORGAN
CARRIEN S. MOTTE
CHRISTOPHER A. MULLER
PATRICK C. MULLOY
RANDAL W. MYERS
JENNIFER J. NAM
BRIAN C. NICKLAS
CHINEDU J. NJOKU
PATRICK J. NORDAHL
WILLIAM K. NORTH
NADIR R. NUMAN
JOSHUA N. NUNALLY
ROBERT J. NUSSBAUMER
NATHAN A. OBERMEYER
NATHAN A. OBERMEYER
NATHAN D. OLIN
ERIC W. OLSON
RANDER NATHAN D. OLIN ERIC W. OLSON RANDY E. PACE ROBERT L. PAGE ALLISON Y. Y. PAN JOSEPH J. PARETTA DEREK A. PARNELL JEREMY E. PARR JEREMY E. PARR
JOSHUA B. PARRISH
WILLIAM B. PARSONS, JR.
SCOTT M. PASTOR
NICHOLAS R. PAUL
JOSEPH M. PEDERSEN
CLIFFORD C. PEDERSON
TRINITY T. PETERSON
SCOTT L. PIELUSZCZAK
SUMATTHANA D. PITTMAN
AARON J. PLUTO
MARVIN E. POLK
STEPHEN L. PRATER
MICHAEL E. PREMONT
MARNI E. PRENELL
ROBERT J. PRESCOTT
NICOLE L. PROTZ ROBERT J. PRESCOTT NICOLE L. PROTZ EDWIN QUILES BJORN S. QUIROGA LEOPELE S. RAABE JUAN C. RAMOS DANIELLE E. REDMON ANDREW K. REMBER EDILO G. DEMIDIEDE ERIC G. REMPFER
CHRISTOPHER A. RENOLL
JAMES T. REYNOLDS
OLEGARIO REYNOSO OLEGARIO REYNOSO
JONATHAN P. RHODES
MICHAEL D. RILEY
CESAR E. RIVERA
ZULEIKA M. RIVERA
DANIEL S. ROBINSON
CALVIN P. ROE II TANYA J. ROMAN TANYA J. ROMAN
NADIA L. ROMERO
BRIAN H. ROOT
MAX R. ROVZAR
DIAZ A. B. RUBY
JOEL M. R. SABELLA
MELISSA C. SALAMANCA
ANITA M. SCATTONEFRADY
BRIAN M. SCHULTZ
PAUL H. SCHUMACHER
JOSEPH J. SCHWENDEMANN
TENNILLE W. SCOTT
JACINTO G. SERNA JOSEPH J. SCHWENDEMAN TENNILLE W. SCOTT JACINTO G. SERNA CHRISTOPHER J. SHAFER RICHARD L. SHARPE WILLIAM D. SHARPE WILLIAM D. SHARPE NICHOLAS R. SHAW CHRISTINE L. SHEEHAN JACOB T. SHEEHAN DON D. SHEPPARD, JR. LUKE T. SHIBILSKI MATTHEW H. SHOENFELT DENNIS E. SIDRE II ERIK W. SIMONSON DAVID D. SINCLAIR JESSE A. SLADEK JOSHUA D. SLATTERY RYAN F. SLOCUM MATTHEW A. SMALLEY BENJIMAN A. SMITH

GABRIEL A. LUCERO

BRIAN W. SMITH BRYAN C. SMITH CHRISTOPHER R. SMITH MATTHEW D. SMITH NICOLAS R. SNYDER NICOLAS R. SNYDER
JASON L. SONG
STEVEN C. SONG
NATHANIEL R. SPARKS
EMMA A. SPARKSHEDMAN
TIMOTHY A. SPEACE
ADAM M. SPERRY
JAMES D. SPILLMAN
JEREMY A. SPRUCE
JONATHAN E. STAFFORD
THOMAS L. STALL
LESLIE A. STANFIELD ROCK A. STANFIELD ROCK A. STEVENS BRIAN J. STOFFER CRIS A. STREETZEL CRIS A. STREETZEL
TYRONE E. STREIFEL
KIRMANIE G. STUART
WENDY A. STULL
CHRISTINE L. SULENTIC
MARGARET A. SYTEMA
RAFAL B. SZELAGOWSKI
RICHARD I. TANG
HAROLD A. TATE
DIANNA V. TAYLOR
JUSTIN E. THAMES
JOY L. THOMAS
GARWAY THOMASJOHNSON
ANA P. THOMPSON
JUSTIN A. THOMPSON
ANA P. THOMPSON
KRYSTAL J. THOMPSON
KRYSTAL J. THOMPSON
HARRY F. THOMS
CHRISTOPHER D. THORNTON
AARON A. THURMAN
LAWRENCE M. TOBIN, JR.
JOSHUA J. TOMPKINS
MARISOL M. TORRES
DANIEL M. TREVINO
ALICEMARY TRIVETTE
VIKTOR T. TSUBER
JOSEPH A. TURNER
JOSEPH A. TURNER
JOHN E. TWITTY, JR.
ANDREW J. UNDERWOOD
RUBEN A. VALLENZUELA
MICHAEL D. VALLETTA
KURT E. VANSLOOTEN
MATTHEW B. VANSTAVERN
MATTHEW B. VANSTAVERN
MATTHEW B. VANSTAVERN
MATTHEW D. VANWINKLE
BRIAN N. VEGA
DAVILL STUARTS
SCOTT D. WARNKE
DARRYL T. WASHINGTON
STEPPHANIE M. WENTZ
JONATHAN M. WERTZ
MATTHEW S. WEST
GEORGIANA L. WHITE
WENDY R. WILLDER
JOHN G. WILLDER JOHN G. WILDT
CRYSTAL M. WILHITE
GISELLE M. WILLIAMS
ROBERT A. WILLIAMS
TERRILYN A. WILLIAMS
MATTHEW T. WILLIAMSON
PHILIP J. WINGO
JILLIAN M. WISNIEWSKI
ALYSSA J. WOOD
BENJAMIN W. WOODS
CAMERON A. WRIGHT
SANG M. YIM
JONATHAN P. YILDT SANG M. YIM
JONATHAN P. YUDT
MARY J. ZARLENGA
BRIAN M. ZENO
PETER T. ZIMMERMAN
ANDREW J. ZISKIN
NICHOLAS R. ZUCK
D011952 D011952 D001853 D012494 G010337 G010295 D011389 D012295 G010288 D011475 D012158

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

#### To be colonel

PETER J. KOCH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

DEREK P. JONES PATRICK E. PROCTOR WILLIAM J. RICE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

MICHAEL S. ABBOTT
RAFAEL R. ACEVEDO
MATEO K. R. ACOSTA
FRANK L. ADAMS
AKUATHAYRE A. ADJEPONG
MARIA A. ALCALA
ROBERT B. ALEXANDER
GREGORY E. ALLEN
EDIX A. AMSTRUEY GREGORY E. ALLEN
ERIK A. AMSTUTZ
ANGELA M. ANDERSON
JESSICA S. ARMSTRONG
CARLOS G. ARRIAZA
NYRALIZ AVILA
ANN L. AYERS
ERIC D. BACA
TIMMY R. BARCUS, JR.
KELSEY M. BARLEY
TRAVIS J. BASSETT
SPENCER C. BEATTY
JASON M. BEHLLER
MICHAEL D. BELL
REGINALD K. BENNETT MICHAEL D. BELL REGINALD K. BENNETT JAMES P. BERTOLINO JOHN M. BIDWELL, JR. PAULA P. BIRCH JONATHAN BLANDING JONATHAN BLANDING
JASON M. BOST
JILLIAN R. BOURQUE
JUSTIN N. BOWMAN
PATRICK S. BOYD
MICHAEL P. BRABNER
CATORY D. BRADLEY
JACOB M. BRADLY
BENIAMID. BRONKE! JACOB M. BRADY
BENJAMIN D. BRONKEMA
MARION A. BROOKSHOOKER
DANIEL R. BROWN
JESSICA L. BROWN
WESLEY A. BROWN
MIANAH A. BURDIN
CHRISTOPHER W. BUSSE
LAUREN A. CABRAL
HANNAH K. CALDWELL
LULLE A. CAMERLE JULIE A. CAMPBELL MICHAEL A. CANUPSUAREZ ANTHONY S. CARISTI NICHOLAS J. CARLTON NICHOLAS J. CARLTO FRANKLIN B. CARR JERAD L. CASIAS RONALD C. CASPER VINCENT CERCHIONE RAFAEL CHAGOLLA JEFFERY B. CHERRY EUGENE CHOI LAY M. CHUNC EUGENE CHOI
JAY M. CHUNG
STEPHEN M. COLEY
JAMES R. COLLARD
CARLOS E. COMASHORTA
KEVIN M. COOK
LOUIS L. COOK
LOUIS L. COOK
PEDRO J. COSTAS
BRADLEY COULE
BRIAN T. COVERT
PATRICIA L. CRAFT
LIANNA M. CRAWFORD
JASON B. CROSS JASON B. CROSS
ABRA R. CROSTHWAITE
CAROLINA CRUZ
RAVI N. CRUZ RAVI N. CRUZ
JOSEPH D. DACUS
ADAM J. DAINO
DAVID A. DANIELS
BRYON C. DARLING
WESLEY A. DAVIS
MARSHAN DAYMON
THOMAS A. DEAN
KIMBERLY N. DEFOUR
DAVID J. DELASSUS
JEFFREY L. DELP
MICHAEL E. DEMBECK
MICHAEL E. DEMICHIEI
LUKASZ DERDA
KEITH A. DESSILVA
BRIAN D. DIERCKS
LEISA A. DIXON REITH A. DESILVA
BRIAN D. DIERCKS
LEISA A. DIXON
ROGER A. DOMINIQUE
SEAN W. DONAHOE
COMARO J. DOUGLAS
CHARLES R. DRUCKER
SEAN P. DUNSTAN
ADAM J. DYET
BRANDON S. EBEL
JEREMY R. ECKEL
MATTHEW T. EINHORN
BEATRICE R. ELAM
ADAM T. ELLISON
SOPHIA L. ESTRADA
ANDREW J. FAIR
CRAIG A. FALK
JEROD J. FARKAS
GREGORY H. FASSETT
MATTHEW D. FERRETT MATTHEW D. FERRETTI
DAVID S. FERSTL
TIMOTHY P. FITZGERALD
MICHAEL W. FLINT
DUSTIN W. FLOWERS
JONATHAN A. FORONDA
RAYGAN C. FRANCE
BRYAN T. FRENCH
GEORGE A. FRUTH
TYCHZETTE N. FRYER
MARY K. FULLENKAMP
NICHOLAS R. GAUVIN
JEFFEREY V. GERACI
STEPHEN D. GERRY
REGINALD J. GHOLSTON MATTHEW D. FERRETTI

TESSHA L. GIAMMONA
RYAN M. GLIELMI
EVAN K. GODDERZ
JASON M. GOLDSTEIN
PHILIP J. GRANADOS
ANDREA M. GREEN
KATRINA B. GRIMES
MARGIE J. GRIMES
JAMES C. GRYMES
CLINT L. GUDAN, JR.
TIMOTHY T. HALL
WILLIAM R. HALL
WILLIAM R. HALL
MICHAEL W. HALTER
LAURA A. HAMILTON
AARON J. HARLESS
LARRY A. HARMON LARRY A. HARMON BRANDON L. HARPER ALPHONSO P. HARRELL TONETTA M. HARRIS TONETTA M. HARRIS
JONATHAN D. HARVEY
MARQUESSA L. HARVEY
GENEVIEVE B. HAYES
MATTHEW J. HEISS
TABITHA L. F. HERNANDEZ
SUZE HEROLD
JOSEPH W. HERON
ROSS M. HERTLEIN
ELAINA B. HULL ROSS M. HERTLEIN
ELAINA R. HILL
RYAN E. HILL
RYAN E. HILL
STEVEN M. HOAK
MITCHELL C. HOCKENBURY
ADAM M. HODGES
TAUARA HODO
CLINTON L. HOPKINS
ANDREW S. HORN
LAURA E. HOUSE
NATHALIA C. HOWARDMORE LACKA E. HOUSE
NATHALIA C. HOWARDMORENO
JASON L. HOWELL
ROBERT T. HRUSKA
JED W. HUDSON MICHAEL L. HUDSON RYAN T. HUGHES MITCHELL T. HUNT BRIAN J. HUTCHINSON JOSEPH R. IRWIN ALEXIS D. JACKSON JASMINE S. JALLAH JASMINE S. JALLAH
KENNA T. JAMES
PAUL L. JANKER
BOBBY J. JEFFORDS, JR.
LARRY W. JEWETT
CHRISTOPHER P. JOHNSON
TANESHIA R. JOHNSON
BRIAN C. JONES
CHARLIE R. JONES
CHRISTOPHER B. JONES
THOMAS A. JONES
JONATHAN J. KALCZYNSKI
ELIJAH T. KANG ELIJAH T. KANG BRIAN C. KARHOFF ELSA J. KARMAN ADAM D. KATZ MICHELLE L. KELLY ELIZABETH C. KENT SALEEM A. KHAN
PATRICK Y. KIM
DANIEL D. KING
DAVID A. KLINE
MICHAEL T. KNUCHEL MICHAEL T. KNUCHEL
WON J. KO
TIMOTHY R. KOENIG
SCOTT J. KORITZ
SIMEAMAT KRUSETAYLORGARCIA
JOHN P. KURTZWEIL
MARY R. B. LADIERO
JOSEPHINE E. LADNIER
CHRISTOPHER T. LAMAR
JAMES S. LAWSON
JOSEPH W. LEAP
WESLEY J. LEWIS
JULIA LIM JOSEPH W. LEAP
WESLEY J. LEWIS
JULIA LIM
TIMOTHY W. LOHSE
CHRISTOPHER S. LUCAS
AUSTIN W. LUHER
DERRICK L. LYLES
LOGAN MAIER
LINDSAY S. MAPLES
MARK MARTINEZ
RICHARD MARTINEZ
RICHARD MARTINEZ
RICHARD MARTINEZ
REVIN M. MATHENY
JESSICA M. MCCARTHY
ERIKSON A. MCCLEARY
ROBERT P. MCCLELLAND
TRAVIS J. MCCRACKEN
MICHAEL B. MCDANIEL
RYAN E. MCDONALD
OMAR L. MCKEN
JEREMY T. MCNEIL
JASON G. MCPHEE
FFEDERICK D. MEEKS
SARA E. MEYER
MICHAEL R. MULLER
LUREL R. MILLER
LUREL R. MILLER
LUREL R. MILLER
LUREL R. MILLER
CHRISTOPHER P. MITCHUM
STEVEN D. MOEBES
SHEILA M. MOFFETT
CHAROKGE M. MOLINA
KEVIN L. MONTGOMERY, JR.
MARK R. MOORE
MARIO MORGAN
JOHN D. MOSBY, JR. YOLANDA L. MORGAN JOHN D. MOSBY, JR. JOHN E. MOSSMAN ROBERT S. MURPHY

TESSHA L. GIAMMONA

#### CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

ELLEN G. MURRAY ELLLEN G. MURKAY
JONATHAN C. NAGLE
BENJAMIN T. NAKAMURA
JONATHAN K. NEAL
TRAVIS A. NEDDERSEN
ERIC S. NELSON
STEPHEN J. NEVES STEPHEN J. NEVES
HUE N. NGUYEN
SEAN A. NICE
CHASE E. OCHOA
PATRICK C. ODONNELL
WESLEY R. OGDEN
ROHAN R. OLDACRE
DEVETTE M. OLDS
RYAN E. OLIVER BRANDON T. OLSON SHAWN T. ORSKOG KIMBERLY R. OSORIOTORRES MIHAILS OVSIJENKO MIHAILS OVSIJENKO
JUNG W. PAK
PHILLIP PALOMO II
VERNIE Y. PARAM
THORIN A. PARRIS
JOHN M. PAUL
CALLEA M. PAVELKA
KRYSTLE G. PENAHERRERA
LUIS E. PERDOMO
MARC D. PETFERMAN
CARSON A. PETRY
AUBRIE A. PFEIFFERSMITH
ADAM R. PHEARSDORF
JASON D. PHILLIPS
MICHAEL R. PINTER
REBECCA G. PINYAN
NATHAN D. PLATZ
ERIC S. PREDMORE NATHAN D. PLATZ
ERIC S. PREDMORE
JEREMY C. RAGAN
JACQUELINE S. RALSTON
BRIAN L. RAMIREZ
JONATHON D. REAMS
HOWARD W. REARDON BYRON O. REBURN RYAN R. RESSLER CORREY W. RETZLOFF CORREY W. RETZLOFF
KENNETH REYES
BRIAN C. RIESER
ASHLEY M. RITCHEY
EDUARDO L. RIVERA
MARCUS A. RIVERS
WANDLYN D. ROBINSON
AARON A. ROGERS
MIGUEL A. ROSARIO
NINOTCHKA ROSAS HERNANDEZ
ROBERT L. ROWLAND, JR.
TREVOR D. ROWLANDS
KRAIG A. G. ROXBERRY KRAIG A. G. ROXBERRY ADAM D. RUNION CHRISTOPHER J. SADOSKI CHRISTOPHER J. SADOSKI JOYCE H. SARAOS JONATHAN D. SAUER WILLIAM B. SCHREINER JADORE M. SCOVELL RICHARD A. SCRIMA JAMES J. SEALE JAMES C. SEALOCK TIMOTHY C. SECHRIST QUAMMIE J. SEMPER STEPHEN S. SETTEMBRE MICHAEL J. SIDDALL

KORAK R. SIMMONS
MICHAEL C. SIMMONS
MICHAEL C. SIMMONS
IAASAC A. SIMPSON
KEN E. W. SMITH
JULIE L. SNYDER
JONATHAN W. SOHL
KEVIN E. SOLOMON
ANGELA P. SOMNUK
DAREN B. SOTILLEO
BENJAMIN L. SOURIALL
BRANDON M. STALDING
ERIC M. STANGLE
RAYMOND E. STAPLETON
JENNIFER M. STARNES
JOHN M. STEINER
SCOTT L. STEPHENS
RYAN T. STEULER
CHAD M. STORMOEN
ADAM C. STOVER
DAVID A. STRAHL
KEVIN P. STRAMARA
MARTHA L. SUAREZ
SEAN L. SUMMERS
KELLY R. SVARSTAD
FRANK R. TALBERT
JONATHAN J. TALIS
IVAN R. TAPIA
MONTE L. TARTT
STEVEN C. TAYLOR
TONY T. TAYLOR
BRIAN E. THOMPSON
ONN T. THOMPSON
RICHARD D. THOMPSON
SARAH J. THOMPSON
SARAH J. THOMPSON
SARAH J. THOMPSON
SARAH J. THOMPSON
MICHAEL N. TIFFANY
LINDSEY N. TRAVIS
ROBERT F. TURNER
JOSHUA UNVERZAGT
THOMAS L. VALL
ZACHARY G. VALENTINE KORAK R. SIMMONS MICHAEL C. SIMMONS JOSHUA UNVERZAGT
THOMAS L. VAIL
ZACHARY G. VALENTINE
JEREMIA M. VAN
STEVEN G. VANDEZANDE
PETER J. VANHOWE
DANIEL W. VARLEY
JON B. VAUGHAN
AMANDA S. VELA
BRENDA S. VIANNA
JASON J. VIVIAN
JACOB H. WADE
MICHAEL S. WALTER
JONATHAN M. WATSON
LATRICE L. WATSON
MICHAEL J. WEBB
TAKASHIA M. WELCH
BRICE R. WESTHOVEN TAKASHIA M. WELCH
BRICE R. WESTHOVEN
JAMES E. WHEELER
ANDREW C. WHITLEY
TRENTON P. WILHITE
TERENCE J. WILKIN
ALEXANDER WILKINS
CECILE Y. WILLIAMS
ERIC B. WILLIAMS
OCCEPHED WILLIAMS ERIC B. WILLIAMS
JOSEPH J. WILLIAMS
MICHAEL M. WILLIAMS
NATOSHIA L. WILLIAMS
RAYMOND E. WILLSON
ISAAC J. WISNIEWSKI
ROBERT J. WOLFE

ALAN K. WOOD GREGORY WOOTEN, JR. BRADLEY A. WRIGHT DAVID E. WYCHE DOUGLAS E. YODER EDGAR A. YU MICHAEL W. ZDROJESKY BRADLEY A. ZIELINSKI D006692 D012584 D011609

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

#### To be colonel

DENNY L. WINNINGHAM

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS PERMANENT PROFESSOR AT THE UNITED STATES
ARMY AND AS PERMANENT PROFESSOR AT THE UNITED
STATES MILITARY ACADEMY IN THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 4333(B) AND 4336(A):

To be colonel

JOHN C. BASKERVILLE

#### IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

WILLIAM T. HENNESSY JAMES R. LENARD

#### IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION

To be captain

JENNIFER K. GRZELAK ANDREW R. SHEFFIELD

#### CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate December 14, 2015:

#### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

ALISSA M. STARZAK, OF NEW YORK, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY.
JOHN CONGER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A PRINCIPAL
DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.

STEPHEN P. WELBY, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSIST-ANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE. FRANKLIN R. PARKER, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE AN ASSIST-ANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

### 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, December 15, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

### MEETINGS SCHEDULED DECEMBER 16

2 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine Azerbaijan's persecution of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty reporter Khadija Ismayilova.

2200-RHOB

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the Administration's strategy in Afghanistan.

SD-419

#### DECEMBER 17

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the status of Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action implementation and related issues.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

#### JANUARY 20

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Task Force for Business and Stability Operations projects in Afghanistan.

SR-232A

# Daily Digest

# Senate

### Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages \$8623-\$8646.

Measures Introduced: One bill and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2400, and S. Res. 334.

#### Measures Reported:

S. 1250, to encourage States to require the installation of residential carbon monoxide detectors in homes, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 114–179)

Page S8636

#### Measures Passed:

Consumer Review Freedom Act: Senate passed S. 2044, to prohibit the use of certain clauses in form contracts that restrict the ability of a consumer to communicate regarding the goods or services offered in interstate commerce that were the subject of the contract, after withdrawing the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S8639-40

McConnell (for Thune) Amendment No. 2927, in the nature of a substitute. Page S8640

Billy Frank Jr. Tell Your Story Act: Senate passed H.R. 2270, to redesignate the Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, located in the State of Washington, as the Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, to establish the Medicine Creek Treaty National Memorial within the wildlife refuge.

Page S8640

Congratulating Pennsylvania State University Women's Soccer Team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 334, congratulating the Pennsylvania State University women's soccer team for winning the 2015 National Collegiate Athletic Association Soccer Championship.

Page S8640

#### Appointments:

United States-China Economic Security Review Commission: The Chair announced, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 106–398, as amended by Public Law 108–7, and in consultation with the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate

Committee on Finance, the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the United States-China Economic Security Review Commission: Byron Dorgan of North Dakota, and Carte P. Goodwin of West Virginia (reappointment).

Page S8640

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 45 yeas to 34 nays (Vote No. EX. 335), Alissa M. Starzak, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army.

John Conger, of Maryland, to be a Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense.

Stephen P. Welby, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Franklin R. Parker, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy. Page S8626-8629, S8646

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Alan J. Kreczko, of Connecticut, to be a Member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board for a term expiring September 14, 2019.

James R. White, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board for a term expiring September 14, 2020.

Edith Ramirez, of California, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner for the term of seven years from September 26, 2015.

Andrew Mayock, of Illinois, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, and Marine Corps. Pages \$8640-46

Messages from the House: Page S8634

Measures Referred: Page S8634
Executive Communications: Pages S8634–36

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S8636-37

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Page S8637

Additional Statements: Pages \$8632-33

Amendments Submitted: Pages \$8637-39

D1315

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—335)

Page S8629

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:34 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, December 15, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page \$8640.)

### 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 at 12 noon on Tuesday, December 15, 2015.

### Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

### Joint Meetings

#### **HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN CRIMEA**

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: On Friday, December 11, 2015, commission received a briefing on human rights violations in Russian-occupied Crimea from Ivanna Bilych, VOLYA Institute, New York, New York; Andriy Klymenko, Black Sea News, and Bohdan Yaremenko, Maidan of Foreign Affairs, both of Kyiv, Ukraine; and Yuriy Yatsenko, Lviv, Ukraine.

#### **NEW PUBLIC LAWS**

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1281)

S. 1177, to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to ensure that every child achieves. Signed on December 10, 2015. (Public Law 114–95)

#### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

#### Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Patrick Joseph Murphy, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary of the Army, Janine Anne Davidson, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of the Navy, and Lisa S. Disbrow, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to receive a closed briefing on an assessment of Afghanistan intelligence, 2:15 p.m., SVC-217.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold hearings to examine transition assistance, 2:30 p.m., SR-418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 10 a.m., SH-219.

#### House

No hearings are scheduled.

#### CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of December 15 through December 18, 2015

#### Senate Chamber

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 Armed Services: December 15, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Patrick Joseph Murphy, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary of the Army, Janine Anne Davidson, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of the Navy, and Lisa S. Disbrow, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Foreign Relations: December 15, to receive a closed briefing on an assessment of Afghanistan intelligence, 2:15 p.m., SVC-217.

December 16, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the Administration's strategy in Afghanistan, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

December 17, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the status of Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action implementation and related issues, 9:30 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: December 15, to hold hearings to examine transition assistance, 2:30 p.m., SR-418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: December 15, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 10 a.m., SH–219.

December 17, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

#### **House Committees**

Committee on Financial Services, December 16, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Examining the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's Mass Data Collection Program", 10:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, December 16, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The Future of U.S.-Pakistan Relations", 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

December 16, Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, hearing entitled "Egypt Two Years After Morsi (Part II)", 1 p.m., 2172 Rayburn. Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, December 16, Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled "Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB), Office of Government Ethics (OGE), and Office of Special Council (OSC) Reauthorization", 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

December 17, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Terrorist Travel: Vetting for National Security Concerns", 9 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

#### Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: December 16, to hold hearings to examine Azerbaijan's persecution of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty reporter Khadija Ismayilova, 2 p.m., 2200–RHOB.

Next Meeting of the SENATE 10 a.m., Tuesday, December 15 Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 12 noon, Tuesday, December 15

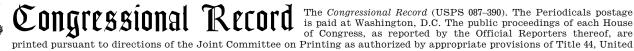
#### Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will be in a period of morning business until 5 p.m.

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

#### House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: The House is scheduled to meet at 12 noon on Tuesday, December 15, 2015.



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