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No. 205

Senate

The Senate met at 4 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable PAT ROBERTS, a Senator from the State of Kansas.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

O God of wisdom and order, who filled the universe with the mysteries of Your power, bring wisdom and order to our Nation and our world. Stay close to our lawmakers. Remind them to trust always in the multitude of Your mercy. Deliver them from the mire of division and despair, as You lead them to Your desired destination. Refusing to lean solely on their own wisdom, may our Senators trust You, O God, to choreograph our destinies. Make haste, O God, to deliver.

We pray in Your strong Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer 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.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, December 27, 2018.

To the Senate:

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

ORRIN G. HATCH,
President pro tempore.

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

CHILD PROTECTION IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2017

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the House message to accompany H.R. 695, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

House message to accompany H.R. 695, a bill to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.

Pending:

McConnell motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the bill.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Secretary of the Senate, on December 24, 2018, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 7. An act to amend title 51, United States Code, to extend the authority of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to enter into leases of non-excess property of the Administration.

S. 2200. An act to reauthorize the National Integrated Drought Information System, and for other purposes.

S. 2276. An act to require agencies to submit reports on outstanding recommendations in the annual budget justification submitted to Congress.

S. 2652. An act to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Stephen Michael Gleason.

S. 2679. An act to provide access to and manage the distribution of excess or surplus property to veteran-owned small businesses.

S. 2765. An act to amend the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to exempt investment advisers who solely advise certain rural business investment companies, and for other purposes.

S. 2896. An act to require disclosure by lobbyists of convictions for bribery, extortion, embezzlement, illegal kickbacks, tax evasion, fraud, conflicts of interest, making false statements, perjury, or money laundering.

S. 2961. An act to reauthorize subtitle A of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990.

S. 3031. An act to amend chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, to improve the management of Federal personal property.

S. 3191. An act to provide for the expeditious disclosure of records related to civil rights cold cases, and for other purposes.

S. 3367. An act to amend certain transportation-related reporting requirements to improve congressional oversight, reduce reporting burdens, and promote transparency, and for other purposes.

S. 3444. An act to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Lake Charles, Louisiana, as the "Douglas Fournet Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic".

S. 3777. An act to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a tiger team dedicated to addressing the difficulties encountered by the Department of Veterans Affairs in carrying out section 3313 of title 38, United States Code, after the enactment of sections 107 and 501 of the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017.

H.R. 1660. An act to direct the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to submit to Congress a report on the development and use of global health innovations in the programs, projects, and activities of the Agency.

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



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H.R. 2200. An act to reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3460. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 323 East Chapel Hill Street in Durham, North Carolina, as the "John Hervey Wheeler United States Courthouse".

H.R. 6287. An act to provide competitive grants for the operation, security, and maintenance, of certain memorials to victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the enrolled bills were signed on December 24, 2018, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. ROBERTS).

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:01 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to section 431(a)(3) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017 (Public Law 115-31), and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission to fill the existing vacancy thereon: Ms. Penny Young Nance of Fairfax, Virginia.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 103(c) of the Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Act of 2008 (34 U.S.C. 50313), and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker and Minority Leader jointly appoint the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Federal Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Board: Mrs. VAL BUTLER DEMINGS of Orlando, Florida.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 203(c) of the Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Act of 2008 (34 U.S.C. 50323), and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker and Minority Leader jointly appoint the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the State and Local Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Board: Mr. David Moore of Janesville, Wisconsin.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, December 27, 2018, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 7. An act to amend title 51, United States Code, to extend the authority of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to enter into leases of non-excess property of the Administration.

S. 943. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct an accurate comprehensive student count for the purposes of calculating formula allocations for programs under the Johnson-O'Malley Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1520. An act to expand recreational fishing opportunities through enhanced marine fishery conservation and management, and for other purposes.

S. 2076. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the expansion of activities related to Alzheimer's disease, cognitive decline, and brain health under the Alzheimer's Disease and Healthy Aging Program, and for other purposes.

S. 2200. An act to reauthorize the National Integrated Drought Information System, and for other purposes.

S. 2248. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide certain burial benefits for spouses and children of veterans who are buried in tribal cemeteries, and for other purposes.

S. 2276. An act to require agencies to submit reports on outstanding recommendations in the annual budget justification submitted to Congress.

S. 2278. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grants to improve health care in rural areas.

S. 2652. An act to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Stephen Michael Gleason.

S. 2679. An act to provide access to and manage the distribution of excess or surplus property to veteran-owned small businesses.

S. 2736. An act to develop a long-term strategic vision and a comprehensive, multifaceted, and principled United States policy for the Indo-Pacific region, and for other purposes.

S. 2765. An act to amend the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to exempt investment advisers who solely advise certain rural business investment companies, and for other purposes.

S. 2896. An act to require disclosure by lobbyists of convictions for bribery, extortion, embezzlement, illegal kickbacks, tax evasion, fraud, conflicts of interest, making false statements, perjury, or money laundering.

S. 2961. An act to reauthorize subtitle A of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990.

S. 3031. An act to amend chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, to improve the management of Federal personal property.

S. 3191. An act to provide for the expeditious disclosure of records related to civil rights cold cases, and for other purposes.

S. 3367. An act to amend certain transportation-related reporting requirements to improve congressional oversight, reduce reporting burdens, and promote transparency, and for other purposes.

S. 3444. An act to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Lake Charles, Louisiana, as the "Douglas Fournet Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic".

S. 3530. An act to reauthorize the Museum and Library Services Act.

S. 3777. An act to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a tiger team dedicated to addressing the difficulties encountered by the Department of Veterans Affairs in carrying out section 3313 of title 38, United States Code, after the enactment of sections 107 and 501 of the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2018, THROUGH WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2019

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as the Senator from Kansas, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn to then convene for a pro forma session on Monday, December 31, at 10 a.m. I further ask that when the Senate adjourns on Monday December 31, it next convene at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, January 2; and that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; finally, that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the House message to accompany H.R. 695.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2018, AT 4 P.M.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. In my capacity as the Senator from Kansas, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

Thereupon, the Senate at 4:04 p.m., adjourned until Monday, December 31, 2018, at 10 a.m.