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Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, the Creator of new beginnings, thank You for Your constant love and for the opportunity to learn from each other.

As we turn to a new chapter in our labors, illuminate the path of our lawmakers with Your holy light. May Your sacred Word provide them with a lamp and light in this world's darkness, keeping them from the detours that lead to ruin. Give them a humility that seeks first to understand instead of striving to be understood.

Lord, guide us all with Your powerful hand until the kingdoms of this world acknowledge Your sovereignty and might.

We pray in Your Holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF A RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY—VETO

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COTTON). The Chair lays before the Senate the President's veto message on S.J. Res. 23, which the clerk will read and which will be spread in full upon the Journal.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Veto message to accompany S.J. Res. 23, a joint resolution providing for congressional

disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of a rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Standards of Performance for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from New, Modified, and Reconstructed Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units."

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the veto message on S.J. Res. 23 be considered as having been read; that it be printed in the RECORD, spread in full upon the Journal, and held at the desk.

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

The veto message ordered to be printed in the RECORD is as follows:

MEMORANDUM OF DISAPPROVAL

S.J. Res. 23 is a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5 of the United States Code of a rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) relating to "Standards of Performance for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from New, Modified, and Reconstructed Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units." This resolution would nullify EPA's carbon pollution standards for new, modified, and reconstructed power plants. Accordingly, I am withholding my approval of this resolution. (The Pocket Veto Case, 279 U.S. 655 (1929)).

Climate change poses a profound threat to our future and future generations. Atmospheric levels of carbon dioxide, a primary greenhouse gas, are higher than they have been in at least 800,000 years. In 2009, EPA determined that greenhouse gas pollution endangers Americans' health and welfare by causing long-lasting changes in the climate that can have, and are already having, a range of negative effects on human health, the climate, and the environment. We are already seeing the impacts of climate change, and established science confirms that we will experience stronger storms, deeper droughts, longer wildfire seasons, and

other intensified impacts as the planet warms. The Pentagon has determined that climate change poses immediate risks to our national security.

Power plants are the largest source of greenhouse gas pollution in our country. Although we have limits on other dangerous pollutants from power plants, the carbon pollution standards and the Clean Power Plan ensure that we will finally have national standards to reduce the amount of carbon pollution that our power plants can emit.

The carbon pollution standards will ensure that, when we make major investments in power generation infrastructure, we also deploy available technologies to make that infrastructure as low-emitting as possible. By blocking these standards from taking effect, S.J. Res. 23 would delay our transition to cleaner electricity generating technologies by enabling continued build-out of outdated, high-polluting infrastructure. Because it would overturn carbon pollution standards that are critical to protecting against climate change and ensuring the health and well-being of our Nation, I cannot support the resolution.

To leave no doubt that the resolution is being vetoed, in addition to withholding my signature, I am returning S.J. Res. 23 to the Secretary of the Senate, along with this Memorandum of Disapproval.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, December 18, 2015.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF A RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY—VETO

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair lays before the Senate the President's veto message on S.J. Res. 24, which the clerk will read and which will be spread in full upon the Journal.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

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



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Veto message to accompany S.J. Res. 24, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of a rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Carbon Pollution Emission Guidelines for Existing Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units."

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the veto message on S.J. Res. 24 be considered as having been read; that it be printed in the RECORD, spread in full upon the Journal, and held at the desk.

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

The veto message ordered to be printed in the RECORD is as follows:

MEMORANDUM OF DISAPPROVAL

S.J. Res. 24 is a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5 of the United States Code of a rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) relating to "Carbon Pollution Emission Guidelines for Existing Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units." This resolution would nullify the Clean Power Plan, the first national standards to address climate-destabilizing greenhouse gas pollution from existing power plants. Accordingly, I am withholding my approval of this resolution. (The Pocket Veto Case, 279 U.S. 655 (1929)).

Climate change poses a profound threat to our future and future generations. Atmospheric levels of carbon dioxide, a primary greenhouse gas, are higher than they have been in at least 800,000 years. In 2009, EPA determined that greenhouse gas pollution endangers Americans' health and welfare by causing long-lasting changes in the climate that can have, and are already having, a range of negative effects on human health, the climate, and the environment. We are already seeing the impacts of climate change, and established science confirms that we will experience stronger storms, deeper droughts, longer wildfire seasons, and other intensified impacts as the planet warms. The Pentagon has determined that climate change poses immediate risks to our national security.

The Clean Power Plan is a tremendously important step in the fight against global climate change. It is projected to reduce carbon pollution from power plants by 32 percent from 2005 levels by 2030. It builds on progress States and the power sector are already making to move toward cleaner energy production, and gives States the time and flexibility they need to develop tailored, cost-effective plans to reduce their emissions. By nullifying the Clean Power Plan, S.J. Res. 24 not only threatens ongoing progress toward cleaner energy, but would also eliminate public health and other benefits of up to \$54 billion per year by 2030, including thousands fewer premature deaths from air pollution and thousands fewer childhood asthma attacks each year.

The Clean Power Plan is essential in addressing the largest source of greenhouse gas pollution in our country. It is past time to act to mitigate climate impacts on American communities. Because the resolution would overturn the Clean Power Plan, which is critical to protecting against climate change and ensuring the health and well-being of our Nation, I cannot support it.

To leave no doubt that the resolution is being vetoed, in addition to withholding my signature, I am returning S.J. Res. 24 to the Secretary of the Senate, along with this Memorandum of Disapproval.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, December 18, 2015.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2434

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk that is due a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2434) to provide that any executive action that infringes on the powers and duties of Congress under section 8 of article I of the Constitution of the United States or on the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States has no force or effect, and to prohibit the use of funds for certain purposes.

Mr. MCCONNELL. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

WELCOMING COLLEAGUES BACK AND THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO CONGRESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I wish to welcome colleagues back to a new year in a new Senate that is back to work for the American people. It is clear we had a successful 2015. Committees began functioning again. Senators began having more of a say again. We got important things accomplished for the American people. We are looking to build upon this progress in 2016. There is, of course, much to be done, but I am optimistic about what can be achieved with a bipartisan dedication to moving back to regular order, not just this year but in the years to come.

The scale of what any Congress will be able to accomplish in a given year often depends upon the willingness of the President to cooperate and engage in good faith. When President Obama comes to address Congress tomorrow, he will have an important opportunity

to demonstrate that to the American people. The question is, Will he rise to the moment? Based on what the White House has been saying in the media, it is unlikely we will hear a unifying message for our country tomorrow. That is unfortunate. I think the American people can expect to hear a positive message from Governor Haley. Many are looking forward to hearing what she has to say. I will have much more to say on all of that tomorrow.

REMEMBERING DALE BUMPERS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, let me again welcome all of our colleagues back. I think they will join me in remembering former Senator Dale Bumpers, who passed away over the holidays.

Some called Dale Bumpers an improbable Senator. Others have remarked on his humor and wit. But what is clear about this former Senate colleague is that he was larger than life in many ways. I am sure his name will continue to be remembered by Arkansans for many years to come. The Senate sends its condolences to the family and friends Senator Bumpers leaves behind.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

TRIBUTE TO CHAPLAIN DR. BLACK

Mr. REID. Mr. President, while the Chaplain is in the building, I wish to say a brief word. I have the good fortune—and have for many years—to come to the floor every day and listen to a prayer offered in sincerity by our Chaplain. The people who watch us on TV think that all he does is walk in here every day and give a little prayer. The fact is, I received information on the things he did this past year.

He represented the Senate in 27 out-of-town speaking engagements. Those speaking engagements are tremendous. He has been in Nevada on a number of occasions. He is a tremendous presenter of what he does and what is good for the country. He delivered the invocation and/or benediction to 17 different ceremonies. He spoke at 10 different Senate functions. He visited with 20 different school groups who came to visit the Capitol. He delivered the invocation at 12 local events. He spoke at 26 local events. He hosted 11 guest Chaplains. He hosted three Jewish programs. He administered premarital and marriage-enrichment counseling. He mentored 20 Senate staffers in a recurring, 10-week spiritual mentoring program. He facilitated the Wednesday morning weekly Prayer Breakfast. He hosted two men's Prayer Breakfasts for Senate staff featuring Os Guinness and Michael Franzese as guest speakers. He hosted a special program at Easter, our 20th

annual Thanksgiving service, and a holiday open house for the Senate community.

He prayed on the Senate floor for the convening of most Senate sessions. He taught 44 Bible studies for approximately 150 Senate staff. He taught 44 Bible studies for approximately 15 staff in the Postal Square Building. He taught 40 Bible studies for the Senators in Senator INHOFE's Capitol office. He taught 44 Bible studies for 15 chiefs of staff. He engaged in hospital visitations on frequent occasions and gave weekly updates about the sick and injured at the Senate Prayer Breakfast. He delivered the eulogy for former Senator Edward Brook at the National Cathedral. He spoke at memorial services and funerals for various Senate staff members. He ministered to Senate office staff members during times of grief. He spoke to Senate staff during staff meetings.

That is not all. In relation to his activities and duties, he hosted a ladies' small group Bible study every Monday, consisting of Senate staff. He had a small group of men consisting of Capitol police officers and other Senate staff for Bible study every Wednesday.

Mr. President, everyone should know that he does more than give this prayer opening the Senate every day. In fact, if that was all he did, it would be well worth the functions of the Senate Chaplain, but he does much more. I congratulate him and express the appreciation of the entire Senate for the good work and good representations this fine man does representing our country. Remember, he is a retired admiral of the U.S. Navy.

REMEMBERING DALE BUMPERS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, on another subject, I had the good fortune yesterday to attend the funeral of Dale Bumpers in Little Rock, AR. The ceremony lasted almost 2 hours. It was a stunningly spiritual, humorous, and historical occasion.

Dale Bumpers performed at that desk back there by the exit of this door. He had an extra long extension cord, and he traipsed around back there, walking back and forth, speaking only as he could do. It is what we do here in the Senate. Based on seniority, everyone moves forward. He served here for a quarter of a century, but he never wanted to leave that space back there because that was his place to inform the public about how he felt about different issues.

Coming from the Presiding Officer's State, he was a man who didn't fit the mold necessarily of what a lot of people expected of a Senator, but he was a giant killer politically. He defeated Orval Faubus after he had been in a governorship in the State of Arkansas for many years—a famous man; he beat him. Four years later, he beat William Fulbright, a longtime Member of the U.S. Senate and one of the most prominent, famous Senators in the history of

the country. Then he started 24 years of service here in the Senate.

I have great admiration for Dale Bumpers. The speeches and eulogies given yesterday were remarkable. His son Brent spoke for a short period of time. Former Senator David Pryor spoke for quite a while and talked about things they did together, the work they did on behalf of Arkansas.

At the Pryor Center, they are doing a recorded history of how people feel about Senator Bumpers. I had the ability to give my view. I said that I did not know of a Senate delegation with more power than Bumpers and Pryor had for the State of Arkansas during my more than three decades of service here in the Capitol. I have never seen two people who had as much power and prestige for a State as Bumpers and Pryor had.

I am very fortunate that Landra and I were able to attend that funeral and listen to the eulogies given by Pryor and then, of course, by President Bill Clinton. It is too bad that the entire service couldn't have been recorded because it was hilarious. He was an extremely funny man and a man who taught me a lot about the Senate. I have missed him for a long time, and I will always remember him for a number of reasons, not the least of which was his ability to speak.

THE PRESIDENT'S LEADERSHIP

Mr. REID. Mr. President, in less than 300 days, the American people will head to the polls to elect the President of the United States. An election year places the state of our Union under intense scrutiny. At this time it is important to remember just how far we have come through the leadership of President Barack Obama.

I can remember the first time I heard Barack Obama's name. I was in the House gym, where I worked out for many years. Former Members have a little room in the back. Abner Mikva—long-time Congressman from Illinois, top lawyer for President Clinton, appellate court judge, and has had quite a remarkable career himself—was there. While we were getting dressed, he said to me: We have a Senate race in Illinois. And I asked: Well, whom are you supporting? He said: Barack Obama. I thought he was trying to be funny. Barack Obama? Come on. That is basically what I said to him, but I was wrong and he was right. This man with the unusual name was elected President of the United States.

It is important to remember just how far we have come through his leadership. After 8 years of disaster under President Bush, the American people embraced President Obama's message of hope and change. On January 20, 2009, Barack Obama became the first African-American President in the history of our country. Instead of working with the President to repair our economy, strengthen the middle class, and help working families, Republicans

have chosen a path, for 7 years, of relentless obstruction.

In fact, during the President's first term, the Republican leader publicly said: "The single most important thing we want to achieve is for President Obama to be a one-term President." As we look back over 7 years of the Obama Presidency, one thing is clear: Republicans have failed in their radical crusade against him. President Obama inherited the worst recession since the Great Depression. He acted immediately to address the economic crisis and begin rebuilding our economy. Because of President Obama, our economy has fought back from the brink of destruction, which is what it really was.

Last month, record car sales were announced for the year 2015. How did it come about? Because President Obama went against the Republicans every step of the way by saving Chrysler and GM and giving Ford a great boost. The most significant car and truck sales in the history of our country occurred last year. Millions of Americans now have health care. The President made sure he fulfilled his promise of getting Osama bin Laden, and he did. He was killed. The President has taken bold action to address our broken immigration system, doubled our country's production of renewable energy, and expanded access to higher education for millions of Americans.

I have a lot of affection and admiration for President Obama and most everyone knows that. I have had the good fortune of working with him for the past 9 years in the Senate and as President. His rescuing the Nation from crisis, his bold legislative achievement, and his refusal to back down in the face of Republican obstruction have made him one of the best Presidents of all time.

No State was hit harder by the recession and foreclosure crisis than Nevada. President Obama provided the resources necessary to stabilize the shattered housing markets, keep responsible borrowers in their homes, and reduce foreclosures. Through the efforts he made, the President and his administration were able to provide about \$200 million to Nevada's hardest hit homes, and there were lots of them. It didn't take care of all the problems, but it certainly helped a great deal. These were programs that provided unemployed and underemployed homeowners financial assistance.

Nevada's unemployment rate reached almost 14 percent. Across the country, the rate of unemployment was about 10 percent. Today we have seen over 70 consecutive months of job growth, and our economy has added more than 14 million private sector jobs during the Obama years. Keep in mind what was happening during the last months of the Bush administration. During the first 2 months after the President was elected but not sworn into office, 800,000 jobs were lost 2 months in a row. It is hard to comprehend that, but that is what happened.

Now we have seen the evidence of our Nation's job market continuing to bounce back. Last week alone almost 300,000 jobs were announced in the preceding month of December. A recent report shows that businesses have added 5.6 million jobs in the last 2 years alone, the most since the end of the Clinton administration. This certainly wouldn't have been possible without President Obama's leadership.

Nevada's unemployment rate, which I have already mentioned, was the worst in the Nation. We had an ongoing struggle with the State of Rhode Island for years as to which had the worst unemployment—Rhode Island or Nevada. Neither State wanted to win, but we both won on many occasions as to which had the highest unemployment rate. Thanks to President Obama's leadership, we are finally coming back in a very strong way.

In December, the President signed a tax bill that includes one of the biggest anti-poverty tools in a generation. It will help lift 16 million modest- and low-income working families out of poverty, including 8 million children. Renewable energy is taking off like never before as a result of that legislation. President Obama and Senate Democrats have brought our economy back from the brink of destruction. I have already talked about the auto industry. We took on Wall Street to ensure that the greed and corruption which produced the great recession would never happen again. Republicans said no at every turn, but we succeeded in spite of their obstruction.

Health care. Before President Obama took office, tens of millions of Americans were denied health insurance. Thanks to the hard work of President Obama and the Democrats in Congress, the Affordable Care Act has banned insurance company discrimination, requiring coverage without regard to pre-existing conditions or health status. That is just a little bit of what has been done. Since the law took effect, 17 million uninsured Americans have now gained insurance coverage. The success of ObamaCare is undeniable and made health care available to millions, slowed the rate of health care cost growth, and it did not cause any of the horrible problems that were talked about, prophesied, and that were suggested would happen by Republicans. In effect, what they said was all wrong.

Immigration. Immigration was a problem before President Obama took office, but he tried to do something about it, and of course Republicans blocked that also. At the State of the Union Address 2 years ago, he said: I worked with you. I have tried, I have pleaded, and I am tired of doing this. I will have to do things on my own now because you will not do it legislatively. And he has done that.

We failed to pass the DREAM Act in 2010. President Obama acted to protect DREAMers, by announcing DACA, deferred action for childhood arrivals. To date, almost 700,000 young individuals

have been protected from deportation. Since then, Democrats led the charge for comprehensive immigration reform to fix our Nation's broken immigration system.

The Senate passed bipartisan immigration reform in 2013, which was important, but we now have people, such as the junior Senator from Florida, for example, who helped pass that legislation, but once he started running for national office decided that everything he did in bringing that bill to the Senate floor was wrong, and he has taken a 360-degree turn and said: I did all of that, but I guess I was wrong. We haven't been able to get it out of the House, and now we have people such as the junior Senator from Florida who is denigrating his own bill.

President Obama acted within his legal Executive authority to unite American families and strengthen our immigration system, including protecting some adults with children in the United States from deportation. It is a longer story than that, but that is the short story.

Energy and the environment. Climate change is one of the greatest, if not the greatest threat, the world has ever known. Because of President Obama's leadership, the world is on track to keep temperatures from rising and avoid the most catastrophic impact of climate change. By negotiating the historic Paris climate agreement, the President has crafted a version of clean energy and climate change for our country by establishing carbon emission standards on vehicles that help consumers save money on fuel for the first time by limiting carbon pollution from powerplants.

He established or expanded 19 national monuments. Why? Because Republicans—bills we passed matter-of-factly here—always refused to allow us to have votes on them. So he moved forward, as he said he would do, with an Executive action for 19 national monuments. In Nevada, it includes the 750,000 acres of the Basin and Range National Monument, which is something that is great and all Americans can share. The President believes these lands belong to all Americans and that our children and grandchildren should be able to enjoy the beauty and bounty of our country.

Education. When President Obama took office, our Nation's education system was in desperate need of reform. No Child Left Behind crippled schools around the country and graduation rates were at historic lows. One of the most important actions President Obama took through the recovery act was nearly \$100 billion in aid for K-12 and higher education.

Today students across the country have made tremendous progress. More students have graduated than ever before, particularly low-income and minority students. President Obama also took historic steps to address extreme levels of student debt in this country. By working with Democrats, President

Obama created new programs to help college graduates manage their student debt by capping their loan payments by 10 percent of their income. We wanted to do more, but obstruction raised its ugly head and Republicans refused to allow us to do even more.

Guns. Mass murders have taken place all over, and Nevada is no exception. It has happened there also. From the time he was elected President, Republicans have tried every means possible by working arm in arm and hand in hand with the NRA to stop everything the President has tried to accomplish. Even though more than 80 percent of the American people said there should be background checks for people who are crazy and criminals, it is not good enough for Republicans. They have still stopped us.

The President tried to work with Republicans and they have refused. This has brought about his new efforts to use Executive action. Last week he did just that. He addressed the epidemic of gun violence in this country through legal Executive action. Republicans have blocked this action, even in the wake of cold-blooded mass murders in schools, houses of worship, movie theaters, and many other places.

Tomorrow the President will deliver his final State of the Union Address to the American people. I look forward to hearing ways in which he plans to continue and push our Nation forward during his last year in office. We will do everything in our power, as Democrats, to build on the strong legacy President Obama has established. We will continue to fight to strengthen the middle class and working families by addressing the mountain of student debt that saddles Americans' higher education. We will continue fighting to increase the minimum wage. We will not rest until wages of women match the wages of their male counterparts, and we will continue to keep Wall Street accountable by prioritizing Main Street and protecting the good work the Dodd-Frank legislation did.

As we begin this legislative session, I hope we will find in our Republicans a willing partner to protect and strengthen our Nation. I hope it is not wishful thinking, but it probably is. We stand ready to work with our Republican colleagues to do what is right for the American people.

FEDERAL RESERVE TRANSPARENCY BILL

Mr. REID. Mr. President, for years I have supported a responsible audit of the Federal Reserve System. The American people deserve an audit of one of the most vital parts of our government. In the wake of the financial crisis that crippled our Nation's economy, I came to more fully understand how important it is that any audit respects the independence of the Federal Reserve. The Federal Reserve is crucial to our economy recovering after the disastrous debacle on Wall Street.

There were emergency provisions to address the catastrophes that only the Federal Reserve could respond to. They did it faster than the Congress could do it. Had the Federal Reserve not stepped in, the consequences of the great recession would have been tremendously worse. It would have been worse than the Great Depression. This Federal Reserve could act quickly to safeguard the national economy because of its independence, and it did just that.

One of the lessons we learned from the great recession is that the Federal Reserve should not be hamstrung. It is a cornerstone of our global economy. We must maintain a Federal Reserve that is transparent, but we must also respect the independence of the Federal Reserve in order to maintain the well-being of the global economy, and that is why we included an amendment to responsibly audit the Federal Reserve while respecting its independence. The amendment passed unanimously. The bill which the Senate will vote on tomorrow, sponsored by the junior Senator from Kentucky, will critically undermine this delicate balance.

Wall Street reform ensured that the Government Accountability Office could audit the Federal Reserve, and in accordance with the law, the Government Accountability Office has carried out those audits. In the year after the passage of Dodd-Frank, the Federal Reserve was audited 29 times. Since that time, the Federal Reserve has been audited 102 times.

My colleagues don't have to take my word for it. The 102 audits of the Federal Reserve are available to everyone. All they have to do is look at the Federal Reserve Website. Proponents of this bill know that. Their calls for audits have been answered.

So let's be clear. This bill is not about auditing the Federal Reserve. It is not about transparency or keeping the books for the Fed. The oversight already exists. This bill is about giving tea party Republicans and their billionaire donors the ability to control the economy of the United States. It is an attack on policies that are designed to stabilize the U.S. economy and help the middle class bounce back.

Political parties should not and cannot run monetary policy at the Federal Reserve. That would be disastrous. I am disappointed the Senate will waste its time on another misguided partisan attack such as this one. The bill is an attack on the Federal Reserve mandate to create full employment. These attacks are partisan in nature, and it is unconscionable to think that the Republican leader will begin this year attacking policies that benefit the middle class.

Some Republicans agree. Senator BOB CORKER, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee and a member of the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee, said this of the audit the Fed bill:

It's obvious to me that the Audit the Fed effort is to not address auditing the Fed be-

cause the Fed is audited. . . . to me it's an attempt to allow Congress to be able to put pressure on Fed members relative to monetary policy. And I would just advocate that that would not be a particularly good idea and it would cause us to put off tough decisions for the future, like we currently are doing with budgetary matters.

I agree with Senator CORKER. Injecting politics into the Federal Reserve is a bad idea.

This bill is a sham. We should dispense with it quickly, and we should do it—if there is any word quicker than quick, let's do it that way. I will vote against the bill, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

Will the Chair announce the business 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. Mr. President, I apologize to my friend, the assistant leader, for taking so much time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The assistant Democratic leader.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT'S "FOUR FREEDOMS" SPEECH

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, tomorrow evening President Obama will come before Congress to deliver his annual State of the Union Address.

America has changed a great deal since President Obama delivered his first State of the Union Address 7 years ago. We remember he inherited an economy in free fall. There was a real danger that the United States would face another Great Depression. Instead, we slid into a great recession. The President—President Obama—did all he could to bring our economy back to life. Recent economic indicators show that his strategy moved us in the right direction. More Americans are working. We are seeing prosperity and opportunity return. There are still challenges ahead. We still face income inequality, and there are many things we must do to make this a fairer nation when it comes to our economy, but we avoided a Great Depression because Americans are resilient and because our government, under the leadership of President Obama, had the courage to take bold action to help put Americans back to work and to invest in America's future when the private sector would not or could not.

Our Union—and our future—is undoubtedly stronger today than when the President first took office, and I look forward to tomorrow evening

when we hear this President's hopes and plans for his final year in service to our Nation.

This afternoon I wish to take a few minutes to talk about another President and an earlier State of the Union Address. It was 75 years ago, on January 6, 1941, when President Franklin Delano Roosevelt traveled from the White House to Capitol Hill to deliver his annual message to the Nation. FDR had been reelected weeks earlier to an unprecedented third term as President. Despite historic reforms in progress, America was still battling the Great Depression he had inherited.

Pearl Harbor was 11 months in the future. Understandably, many Americans wanted to believe that the war that was consuming Europe and beginning in the Pacific could remain their problem over there, but Franklin Delano Roosevelt sensed that would not be the case. He could see America would inevitably be drawn into this conflict.

In addressing Congress, FDR proposed to make America the "arsenal of democracy." He also urged Congress to create a new "lend lease" program, enabling our historic ally, Great Britain, and their allies to withstand the assault of Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy, and Imperial Japan.

He did something else. FDR knew that in order for the Nation to face World War II, America needed to know not just what they would be fighting against but what they would be fighting for. So in some of the darkest days of World War II, with Adolf Hitler vowing to impose a new order on Europe at gunpoint, Franklin Roosevelt spoke of a moral order founded on four essential human freedoms that would be the right of every person everywhere. Those four freedoms he spoke of were the freedom of speech, the freedom of worship, the freedom from want, and the freedom from fear.

Norman Rockwell was an amazing American. He was a great illustrator. It is interesting that he did so many cover drawings for great magazines of his time, such as the Saturday Evening Post. When he heard FDR's "Four Freedoms" speech given to Congress, it inspired him to create images. Those images emerged after the original speech was given, and many people credit those images created by Norman Rockwell with allowing Americans to visualize what each of the four freedoms meant in very human terms.

I brought copies of them to the floor because they so graphically illustrate the message which FDR delivered in his "Four Freedoms" speech.

The freedom of speech. This Norman Rockwell illustration shows a working man standing and speaking his mind in a townhall meeting.

Freedom of worship. This photo shows a group of people from different backgrounds, each praying to God—the God of his or her understanding.

Freedom from want. This classic illustration shows a family gathered for a Thanksgiving feast.

The last of the four freedoms is the freedom from fear. This illustration shows a mother and father looking at their sleeping children tucked safely into bed.

In the coming struggle, President Roosevelt said, America would defend itself not just with arms but also with “the stamina and courage which comes from unshakeable belief in the manner of life that we are defending.” That is exactly what they did.

During World War II, 16 million Americans—one out of every eight—put on a uniform and fought for the promise of the four freedoms. Tens of millions more Americans back home joined the fight by planting victory gardens, recycling everything from bacon grease to tin cans, serving as “soil soldiers” in the Civilian Conservation Corps, and working in war munitions factories as Rosie the Riveters.

After the war, the “greatest generation,” as Tom Brokaw characterized them, may have given up their uniforms, but they continued their fight for FDR’s four freedoms. From the earliest days of the Roosevelt administration, Franklin and Eleanor had worked to rewrite the rules of America’s economy to give average workers and families a fighting chance against powerful corporations and entrenched wealthy special interests. They strengthened labor unions to improve workers’ pay, working conditions, safety in the workplace, health care, retirement—things we take for granted today.

After the war, the same Americans who had endured the hardships of the Depression and who had saved the world from tyranny went to work and laid the foundation for the creation of the largest middle class and the strongest economy in the history of the world. They built new schools, new homes, new towns, an interstate highway system. At the same time, more Americans began to challenge longstanding injustices based on race, creed, gender, and other distinctions.

As the historian and author Harvey Kaye writes, under the leadership of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, America greatly “expanded the ‘we’ in ‘we the people.’”

Under the leadership of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, Americans saved our Nation’s economy from ruin, saved the world from tyranny, and they did all this while making America freer, more equal, and more democratic than it had ever been.

The promise of the four freedoms would inspire not only Americans, but it inspired the world. The four freedoms became part of the preamble to the United Nations “Universal Declaration of Human Rights.” That declaration, drafted by a committee chaired by the great stateswoman Eleanor Roosevelt, represents the first time in history that nations around the world agreed to a list of human rights to be universally protected.

My wife Loretta and I are honored to include among our friends Anna Elea-

nor Roosevelt, FDR and Eleanor’s granddaughter. She lives in Maine now, but she spent most of her life living in my home State of Illinois. Similar to her grandparents, Anna Eleanor Roosevelt is full of optimism, energy, and a fierce love for this Nation. She has done so much to advance her grandparents’ efforts to make America freer and fairer. I want to say to my friend Anna, America remembers and honors your grandparents’ legacy. We are a better Nation because of what their leadership and sacrifice meant to us.

As we celebrate the 75th anniversary of FDR’s “Four Freedoms” speech, it is clear that we still have a lot of work to do to make the promise of the four freedoms real. Income inequality in America is greater today than at any time since just before the Great Depression. There are many reasons for America’s growing economic inequality, including globalization and technology, but the biggest reason is nearly 40 years of deliberate political decisions to undo the progress of FDR’s New Deal and concentrate more and more income and wealth in the hands of the few. FDR was right when he said that “economic laws are not made by nature [but] by human beings.”

I hope this year we can work together to pass laws that will increase economic opportunity for all Americans, rebuild America’s middle class, and free more Americans from the fear of want.

FDR said that we Americans believe in the four freedoms not just for ourselves but for our families, for those who vote as we do or look like we do, who live in our neighborhoods and attend our same houses of worship, but we believe in the four freedoms for everyone everywhere.

An America that believes in freedom of worship doesn’t allow one religious group to deny basic rights to others. Think about our Constitution, which each of us in the Senate is sworn to uphold and defend. There are only three references in that great document to the issue of religion. The first is in the Bill of Rights to guarantee to each of us the right to believe as we wish or not to believe; second, that our government will never establish a religion; and, third, that there will never be a test for qualification for public office involving one’s religious beliefs.

Making a religious test for public office or even a religious test for immigration is inconsistent with those basic values—inconsistent with those four freedoms. Yet even in this Presidential campaign today, we hear candidates making that proposal.

Freedom of speech means allowing others to speak, too, not shouting down those who think differently than we do. Democracy works better with dialogue, not monologues.

Years ago when Loretta and I had our first baby, we faced some terrific medical challenges. Sadly, we had no health insurance. Let me state that as a new father, I was never more fright-

ened in my life. Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, ObamaCare, 17 million Americans and many millions of American parents are now free from that fear, and they know that if this act is eliminated, as has been proposed by some politicians, there is no alternative, there is no protection, and they will face the kind of fear no family should ever face.

This year, instead of voting over and over to kill the Affordable Care Act, I am calling the other party to work to strengthen the law. This law isn’t perfect, but together we can make the Affordable Care Act work better for all American families.

Freedom fear also means that Americans shouldn’t have to worry about getting shot when they are playing in a park, sitting in a movie theater, or attending a Bible study class. Even in an election year, we ought to be able to find commonsense ways to protect Americans from the fear and reality of gun violence. We ought to be able to find a way to keep guns out of the wrong hands without undermining basic Second Amendment rights. We owe it to America’s families to try.

Seventy-five years ago President Roosevelt saw that America would soon be drawn into war. While he didn’t live long enough to see America’s ultimate victory in World War II, his promise of the four freedoms helped achieve that victory.

As we know, the war ended officially with Japan’s unconditional surrender aboard the USS *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay. A member of Japan’s delegation who attended the surrender went to the ceremony fully expecting to hear how the allies intended to take their vengeance on the defeated Japanese people. Instead, he heard General MacArthur speak about the future of freedom for Japan. Years later, he wrote that it was at that ceremony that he understood that “we weren’t beaten on the battlefield by the dint of superior arms; we were defeated in the spiritual conquest by virtue of a nobler idea.” That idea—the inherent human dignity of every person—is the belief at the heart of the four freedoms. Those freedoms remain as powerful a weapon for peace and progress today as they were 75 years ago. I hope we will remember that this year.

GUN VIOLENCE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise to speak about the issue of gun violence and to commend the President for announcing last week a set of commonsense steps to make our country safer.

The need for action to reduce gun violence in America is urgent. About 32,000 Americans are killed by guns each year. Every day on average 297 men, women, and children are shot, 89 of them fatally. Last year, by one count, there were at least 372 mass shooting incidents where 4 or more people were shot—more than one a day in America. In the city of Chicago

alone last year, 2,939 people were injured by gunfire, and at least 88 people have been shot so far this year, 2016. The 468 homicides in Chicago last year sadly led the Nation—a number larger than the number of fatalities in the cities of New York or Los Angeles, which are much larger cities. There is an epidemic of gun violence in America.

Can you imagine if 32,000 Americans were dying each year from Ebola or from tainted drugs or at the hands of terrorists? Lawmakers would pull out all the stops to bring down those deaths. Compare the death toll from gun violence to the death toll from terrorism in the United States. According to the New America Foundation, since 9/11 a total of 93 people have been killed by terrorist incidents in America—48 have been killed by rightwing extremists and 45 have been killed by Islamic terrorists. Americans are rightly concerned about the threat of ISIS terrorism, but we cannot ignore the threat posed by gun violence to the citizens of our Nation.

Sadly, for years Members of Congress have just shrugged their shoulders as each day we hear another heart-breaking story of the victims of gun violence. It is baffling to me that Congress refuses to do anything about gun violence, especially since the American people overwhelmingly on a bipartisan basis agree on commonsense steps that we should take.

For example, about 90 percent of Americans agree that a background check should be conducted before a gun is sold. Background checks through what is known as the FBI NICS system help ensure that the buyer is not a convicted felon, a domestic abuser, or a person with a history of serious mental instability or who is otherwise prohibited from buying a gun.

Background checks work. Over 2 million gun sales have been denied to prohibited purchasers over the years. You think to yourself, why would a convicted felon be so stupid as to go in and try to buy a gun when he faces a background check? He does it anyway. They do it over and over, and 2 million times we have denied them weapons because they were prohibited by law because of their records.

There are still loopholes that would allow many sales to take place without this basic background check, especially at gun shows and over the Internet. Think about how people made Christmas and holiday purchases this year. Many of us went to the Internet. That is exactly where people are going to buy firearms without background checks. When you have loopholes like these, it is easy to understand how dangerous people can get their hands on guns.

Look at the way these loopholes have affected the city of Chicago. There is a flood of illegal guns coming into Chicago from Indiana, especially from Lake County, IN, which is right across the border from my State. Last Friday,

the Chicago Tribune newspaper quoted Sheriff John Buncich of Lake County, IN, saying:

Individuals are skirting federal law, especially at these gun shows, whether they want to admit it or not. There's a lot of illegal gun sales.

The Tribune article went on to say:

Buncich stressed he supports Second Amendment rights and doesn't want to take guns from people. He noted, however, that hundreds of guns from Lake County show up in Chicago crimes every year. "We need to do something to stem the violence," Buncich said. "It's not going to hurt the law-abiding citizen."

Last year I met with the head of the Chicago Field Division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Federal agency charged with enforcing our gun laws. He told me that in the highest crime neighborhoods of Chicago, when they confiscated the crime guns after the act, they found that as much as 40 percent of those crime guns were coming in from Indiana.

Here is an example of how it happens. In 2014 a man named David Lewisbey of South Holland, IL, was sentenced for illegally trafficking hundreds of guns from Indiana to Chicago. The U.S. attorney's office said that over a 4-year period, Lewisbey "routinely traveled to various gun shows in Indiana and purchased duffle bags full of guns that he brought back to Chicago." Lewisbey used a forged signature to procure an Indiana driver's license, and that was all he needed to fill up the trunk of his car with ammunition and guns and to drive that Skyway over into the State of Illinois and to sell those guns in Chicago to kill innocent people.

During just one 48-hour period in 2012, Lewisbey bought 43 guns in Indiana and delivered them to a convicted felon on Chicago's South Side. Does anyone believe he had a Second Amendment right to buy 43 guns with an illegal ID and sell them to a convicted felon in Chicago? I hope not.

If everyone who sells guns for profit at Indiana gun shows had conducted background checks, it is highly unlikely that a trafficker like this would be able to get away with this for years. The system would have caught him. But because of the loopholes in the system, the weaknesses in the law, this individual was able to avoid detection and literally supply hundreds of crime guns in Chicago. Of course we know what happened to those guns—they turned into tragedy and havoc in the neighborhoods around that great city.

I listened so many times when critics said: Well, look at Chicago, which has the toughest gun laws in the Nation, and look at all that gun violence.

Here it is: in some parts of Chicago up to 40 percent of those crime guns are coming across the border with no background checks and sold in alleyways and dark corridors of our city. That isn't because of weak or ineffective Illinois and Chicago laws; it is because of our inability to make the Federal law stronger.

Let's be clear. Background checks are not a heavy burden for law-abiding gun owners. At most, they would cause a short delay in buying a gun. But when we have gaping holes in the background check system, we are basically handing guns to criminals on a silver platter.

Sadly, this Congress has so far failed to even address this problem. We weren't able to overcome a Republican filibuster of the Manchin-Toomey legislation in 2013. We tried again last month and fell short again.

The President decided to do what he can within his lawful authority to close gaps in the system. Last week the President put forth guidance that makes clear that you can be engaged in the business of selling firearms even if you aren't a storefront operation. For too long people who sell guns for profit at gun shows or online have been able to avoid the requirement to conduct background checks. They were claiming they were just selling guns as a hobby. This man bought 43 guns at a gun show as a hobby and sold them to convicted felons in Chicago. The President's guidance makes clear that if you are repetitively buying or selling guns for profit, you need to get a gun dealer license and do background checks or you are breaking the law.

Of course, the President's actions won't close the gun show and Internet loopholes altogether. That would take an act of Congress. But the President has made a move in the right direction, and it will help.

The President took other important steps last week—clearly within his constitutional authority—that will help save lives. He is working to make the background check system faster by adding more FBI examiners and improving the system's technology. A faster system could have stopped the Charleston church shooter who killed nine worshippers last year in a horrific terrorist attack. This person was able to buy a gun under another loophole in the law because the background check hadn't been finished in 3 days. The default position, if you haven't cleared a background check, is that the gun is sold to you. That meant that this man picked up the gun when the background check wasn't completed and went out and caused this mayhem and took so many innocent lives.

The President is also strengthening the reporting requirements so law enforcement will know when guns are lost or stolen during shipment.

The administration is redoubling its efforts to improve mental health services and to make sure the background check system has complete records on those found to be mentally unstable.

Finally, the President has sponsored research on gun safety technology. This is critical. Right now we have security features on our phones, computers, and cars to prevent thieves and unauthorized people from using them. Similar technology is available today so that an unauthorized user will not

be able to fire a gun. That means a person can't steal a gun and resell it and a kid can't play with a gun and hurt himself or someone else.

For reasons that cannot be explained, the gun lobby opposes gun safety technology, even calling for a boycott of any company that uses it. Now this administration is going to use its research dollars and purchasing power to promote safer gun technology. This could be a game changer when it comes to preventing gun accidents and deterring illegal trafficking.

I commend the President for the reasonable, commonsense steps he has taken to combat the epidemic of gun violence. The steps he announced will not prevent all gun deaths—no single measure can—but they will help.

I hope my colleagues in Congress will not take a step backward and try to undermine these basic, commonsense reforms with riders or appropriations restrictions. I am going to fight hard against the gun lobby if they try. I hope Congress will instead move forward, finish the job on background checks, and do all we can to reduce the high toll of gun violence in our communities.

Over the weekend, I was visiting with friends and former colleague Mark Pryor of Arkansas. I went down to Stuttgart, AR. Anyone who is a duck hunter in the Midwest or in America knows the name of that town. Stuttgart, AR, is probably the capital of duck hunting in the Midwest or in the United States. The local radio station there is KWAK, giving an idea of their commitment to duck season 60 days of the year when Stuttgart comes to life with hunters from all over the United States and all over the world.

Saturday afternoon I went to the largest sporting goods store, Mac's, and watched hundreds of men and some women in camouflage clothes getting ready to go out for the duck hunt. For them, it is not only a rite of passage, it is a way of life. They love it. You see the camouflage on everything in sight.

Of course, when you go into Mac's, there are plenty of firearms for sale and other equipment that is needed so that you can hunt effectively and safely. You go in the store, and if you want to be a duck hunter in Arkansas, you first have to buy a license, which I did. Then you go through the ritual of making sure you have all the right equipment and getting ready to go out to hunt for ducks.

There is not a single thing proposed by President Obama that will in any way slow down or stop those men and women who want to legally use their firearms for that sport—nothing. What the President is trying to do is to stop convicted felons and people who are so mentally unstable that they shouldn't be able to buy a firearm from having that opportunity.

It turns out an overwhelming majority of firearm owners agree with the President. You would never know it, would you, as you hear every single Re-

publican Presidential candidate condemn President Obama's actions.

What a chasm there is in the culture between the people who are firearm owners and who enjoy that opportunity and responsibility and those who are on the political scene and ignore the fact that to preserve that right we should pass commonsense changes in the law to make them even more effective and make certain that people who misuse firearms do not have that opportunity.

I hope to work with my colleagues in the Senate and both political parties to achieve the goal of protecting the rights of those who use firearms legally, safely, and responsibly within the confines of the law and to stop the illicit trafficking of guns that are taking over 30,000 lives each and every year.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). The Senator from Ohio.

TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, after months of delay, last fall we finally were able to see the text of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, text that corporate lobbyists had access to long before the American people and Members of Congress and their staffs did. After examining the provisions in this deal, it is clear that far too many of these provisions sell out American workers and American jobs.

In the months leading up to the release of this deal, I warned that too often our trade agreements as far back as NAFTA and the Permanent Normal Trade Relations with China—not a trade agreement per se, but it had the same effect in many ways—the Central American Free Trade Agreement, the South Korea Free Trade Agreement—these trade agreements amounted to corporate handouts and worker sellouts. I warned our negotiators that they needed to do more to ensure that the deal created a truly level playing field for American workers and American businesses. Unfortunately, that is not what happened, particularly when it comes to standing up for the American auto industry.

We hear often about the supposed opportunities that trade agreements will create: opportunities for more jobs, opportunities for small business, opportunities for more exports, and for economic growth. But when I look at the Trans-Pacific Partnership, I don't see these actual—let's call them offensive opportunities—and by "offensive opportunities" I mean opportunities for American products to break into new markets. This is not just playing defense, but playing offense so that we can export into these new markets.

Cheerleaders for this agreement—whether it is the Wall Street Journal editorial page, most Republicans in the Senate, or whether it is Republican leadership in the House, whether it is corporate CEOs or whether it is the

White House—say that new markets will be opened for American cars, but we have heard these empty promises before.

Under TPP, many of these new markets will not be opened day one—as in the case of Malaysia and Vietnam. They won't be open in day two or year one or year two. It will be more than a decade until American automakers have full access to these closed markets.

The TPP will do nothing to level the playing field with our top competitor, Japan, or to change Japan's distinction as the most closed auto market in the world. We know it has been that in the past. We know it is that today. There is nothing in here that would change or open Japan's market, to sell into the Japanese auto market.

Carmakers in Ohio and carmakers across the country will compete with huge numbers of Japanese imports. We don't have it today, and under TPP we won't have the same opportunity to export to Japan. That is because for decades Japan has used barriers other than tariffs to keep their markets closed. Tariffs are one way. They charge huge tariffs, causing the price of the product that you import—let's say into Japan—to be too high for the Japanese to afford, but that is not what Japan does. Their tariffs are already at zero, so an agreement on tariffs will do nothing to create a level playing field. Japan keeps our products out in much more creative ways than tariffs.

We have seen this in the wake of the Korean Free Trade Agreement. Even after our trading partners promised to remove these barriers to allow American cars into their market, they often don't. Opening up Japan's market didn't work in the 1980s, it didn't work in the 1990s, and it didn't seem that it will be any different under the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

If there aren't new offensives—offensives in the sense of selling into those countries—then I would expect our negotiations at least make sure this trade agreement protected American carmakers and workers from a flood of cheap foreign competition. I would hope they made sure the benefits of the agreement would only go toward its members who have been part of the negotiating process and made concessions, but it is not. It is not just the TPP countries.

That is now how I read the text, particularly when it comes to something called the rules of origin for autos. These rules of origin provide provisions to determine how much of a car is made in the TPP region, and TPP rules are weaker than NAFTA's. That means how much of the car is actually made in the TPP countries, how much of the car must be made in the TPP countries to count as a TPP product.

That means 62.5 percent of a vehicle must be made in the NAFTA region in order for it to qualify for the benefits of the NAFTA agreement. But only 45

percent—much less than NAFTA and in some cases even less than that—of a car has to be made in the TPP region to qualify for the benefits of the agreement. Think about that. Under TPP, less than half a car has to be made in TPP countries, which include Canada, Mexico, and the United States, to receive the benefits of TPP.

So what does that mean? That means more than half of the components in the car—more than half of the car—can be made in China. So China can backdoor much of its supply chain into the Trans-Pacific Partnership. Then these cars, mostly made in China, will get the benefits of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, even though they aren't in the Trans-Pacific Partnership. As more countries join TPP, that 45-percent rule will become an even weaker standard, and fewer and fewer of our cars will come from the U.S. auto supply chain.

I never thought I would be able to say this, but this agreement makes NAFTA—an agreement I fought hard to defeat 20 years ago—look good. TPP's auto rules were written for Japanese automakers to the benefit of China and at the expense of American auto jobs.

TPP will jeopardize the livelihoods of thousands of Americans, including up to 600,000 Ohioans, whose jobs depend on the U.S. auto supply chain. These aren't just statistics. We are talking about real workers in real plants in real companies in real communities, in Ohio and across the country, with bills to pay and families to feed.

They fought hard to bring the American auto industry back to life. Their hard work made the auto rescue a success. Last year, 2015, was a record year for automakers. We can't pull the rug out from under them now with a trade deal that sells out American auto jobs.

Think of what we have done. In 2010, only—maybe fewer than this—10 million vehicles were made in the United States. Today that number is close to 17 million. Chrysler posted 7 percent gains in sales last year. GM and Ford were not far behind with 5 percent. I am proud to say the best-selling American vehicle for 34 years running, the Ford-150, runs on engines produced in Lima, OH. Five years ago the American President, President Obama, did the right thing when he personally committed to saving the American auto industry.

If you ask people in Ohio, in Toledo, in Avon Lake, in Cleveland, in Warren, in Lordstown, they know how important the auto rescue was. We were losing hundreds of thousands of jobs a month at the beginning of President Obama's term. Since the auto rescue, the next year—we have seen job growth in this country for 70 months in a row, 70 consecutive months of job growth starting with the auto rescue.

Now I hope the President will do the right thing again and go back to the drawing board on the aspects of this trade deal that we know will cost American auto jobs.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas

LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DAY

OFFICER SHAWN BAKR AND DEPUTY SONNY
SMITH

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, this past Saturday, January 9, was Law Enforcement Appreciation Day, a day set aside to honor the men and women who work in law enforcement, keeping our communities safe and enforcing the rule of law, which underpins any free and just society. Recently we have heard a great deal about controversies and scrutiny surrounding law enforcement in many parts of our country. It is easy to be distracted by these stories, but it is important to remember that many are inaccurate, and even the true ones are the exception, not the rule.

The rule is officers such as Little Rock Police Officer Shawn Bakr. On Saturday, Officer Bakr spent his Law Enforcement Appreciation Day and his night off working as a security guard at a local restaurant. During his shift, three armed men entered a restaurant and pointed a gun at an employee in an attempted robbery. Officer Bakr's law enforcement instincts kicked in, and he reacted with calm dispatch. He confronted the suspects, who subsequently shot him in the shoulder, yet he bravely managed to return fire and injure one of the robbers. The other two suspects fled but have since been apprehended after a standoff with Little Rock police earlier today.

The rule is also county sheriffs such as Johnson County Reserve Deputy Sonny Smith, who died in the line of duty last year after he was shot while responding to a burglary. Deputy Smith confronted danger head-on to protect his fellow Arkansans, and he gave the full measure of devotion to duty that only those called to serve in the front lines can fully understand.

The rule is also the large group of Deputy Smith's law enforcement colleagues who stood to the right of the stage, just hours after his death—a place typically reserved for parents—and saluted during his son's high school graduation ceremony so he would feel the support and love of the law enforcement community to which his dad belonged.

As a soldier in Iraq and Afghanistan, my soldiers and I knew what it meant to face our enemy head-on, but at the end of our tours, we went home. Many of us worked in much less dangerous jobs at military bases around the country until our next tour or we left the service.

For law enforcement officers, there is no end to the tour. They take risks every single day, often for the lengths of their careers. Officer Bakr's and Deputy Smith's actions are heroic by any definition, but to them and to countless other law enforcement offi-

cers across the country, that is simply part of the job description. Each day that they go to work, our law enforcement personnel around the country put themselves in harm's way to keep us and our communities safe.

So to all of our law enforcement officers, the men and women who serve with the selfless dedication of Shawn Bakr and Sonny Smith, thank you for your service and for your sacrifice. May God bless you and your families and keep you safe.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

REMEMBERING DALE BUMPERS

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I am here today with my colleague Senator COTTON to honor Dale Bumpers, a longtime advocate of Arkansas, who passed away on January 1 at the age of 90 after a long life of dedicated public service.

He was a soldier and a statesman who came from the small town of Charleston, AR. He did things not because of political pressure but because he believed they were the right things to do. He had a good foundation to understand the needs of Arkansans. He was a businessman, taking over operations at his father's former hardware, furniture, and appliance store, and he was a rancher and an attorney in Charleston, serving, as his memoirs indicate, as "the best lawyer in a one-lawyer town."

Following the Supreme Court's decision in the 1954 case *Brown v. Board of Education*, which outlawed segregation in schools, he advised compliance with the ruling, making it the first school district in the South to fully integrate.

He ran against incumbent Governor Winthrop Rockefeller to become the 38th Governor of the State of Arkansas. Four years later, he defeated longtime Senator William Fulbright in a primary before winning a seat in the Senate, a position he held for 24 years. He served as the chairman of the committee on small business from 1987 to 1994 and has a long list of accomplishments.

While he ended his Senate service more than a decade before I started serving in this Chamber, my colleagues who served alongside him regularly recall their memories of Senator Bumpers, a legendary orator who had a true gift for public speaking and who would tell stories in a way only a Southern gentleman with a keen sense of humor from smalltown Arkansas could. He was passionate about his convictions and spoke from his heart about matters that he believed in. In tributes to him on the floor during the last days of the 105th Congress, his colleagues described him as one of the most respected Members of this body. He was a champion of the environment, a supporter of the National Institutes of Health, funding the fight against HIV and AIDS, and a constant proponent

for Arkansans. You could tell by all of the things that bear his name—the White River National Wildlife Refuge, the Dale Bumpers National Rice Research Center. His impact on Arkansas agriculture was recognized by the University of Arkansas board of trustees, who renamed the college of agriculture the “Dale Bumpers College of Agriculture, Food and Life Sciences.” These are just a few of the many things in Arkansas that reflect his dedication and commitment to our State.

Senator Bumpers leaves behind a legacy of public service, civic responsibility, and accomplishments that has undoubtedly made Arkansas a better place to live.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, today I am proud to join my fellow Senator from Arkansas, JOHN BOOZMAN, in recognizing Senator Dale Bumpers’ service, as well as our majority leader and other Senators who are reminiscing about Senator Bumpers, who passed away earlier this month. Arkansas lost one of its most distinguished public servants when former Senator and Governor Dale Bumpers died at the age of 90. As both a Governor and Senator, Dale Bumpers’ tireless dedication to our State began before I was born and spanned many decades.

As someone who grew up with Dale Bumpers already in the Senate and who was unable to ever vote for him, I asked my mom Avis about her memories of Senator Bumpers. Like so many, she was quick to remember the oratory skills for which he was so famous—not only in Arkansas but also in Washington and in the Senate, which has had its share of famous orators over its history. But she also had fond memories of him on a personal scale as well from the Mount Nebo Chicken Fry, an annual event just outside my hometown of Dardanelle. In the early 1970s, as a young Governor, Senator Bumpers—then Governor Bumpers—always made it to our chicken fry. And if it weren’t for a few obvious clues—such as a State trooper or local photographers taking pictures—you wouldn’t have even known he was the top executive of our State, so humble and friendly was he to all the fairgoers. He spent time with each person there and made everyone feel like they had his full attention—the full attention of our Governor.

It is an honor to stand here today in the same institution from which he did so much great work for the State of Arkansas. Senator Bumpers was an Arkansas institution himself, and his legacy has outlived his tenure in office. We are grateful for his service and commitment to Arkansas. My thoughts and prayers are with the Bumpers family and with all Arkansans, whom he so faithfully served.

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

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

THEODORE ROOSEVELT NATIONAL PARK

Mr. HOEVEN. Madam President, western North Dakota is getting a lot of attention these days because of its vibrant energy economy. But people also need to know about the spectacular landscape and natural beauty that thrives side by side with energy development in my home State. So I want to speak today for a few minutes about a remarkable asset in my home State of North Dakota that was highlighted this past weekend in the New York Times.

The Times ranked Theodore Roosevelt National Park in western North Dakota as fifth on its list of 52 worldwide destinations to visit in 2016. Only Mexico City, Bordeaux in France, the Mediterranean island of Malta, and the Caribbean city of Coral Bay St. John in the U.S. Virgin Islands ranked ahead of Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

Tim Neville for the New York Times wrote of the park:

Few presidents have done as much for conservation as Teddy Roosevelt. Fly into Dickinson in western North Dakota to visit the park named after him, where rolling grasslands dotted with bison collapse into the spectacular red, white and gold badlands of tumbling mud coulees.

The more than 70,000-square-acre park consists of three parts: The south unit, which is the largest of the two units, the north unit, and the site of Roosevelt’s Elkhorn Ranch, which lies between the north and south units. The Little Missouri River meanders through all three sections of the park.

Roosevelt captured a colorful picture of life on the Elkhorn Ranch in his 1885 book called “Hunting Trips of a Ranchman.”

My home ranch-house stands on the river brink. From the low, longer veranda, shaded by leafy cotton-woods, one looks across sand bars and shallows to a strip of meadowland, behind which rises a line of sheer cliffs and grassy plateaus. This veranda is a pleasant place in the summer evenings when a cool breeze stirs along the river and blows in the faces of the tired men, who loll back in their rocking-chairs (what true American does not enjoy a rocking-chair?), book in hand—though they do not often read the books, but rock gently to and fro, gazing sleepily out at the weird-looking buttes opposite, until their sharp outlines grow indistinct and purple in the after-glow of the sunset.

Theodore Roosevelt National Park has preserved what Roosevelt saw more than a century ago. For that reason, it gets half a million visitors a year, but more should come to see it, and I believe more will as a result of the New York Times list. Speaking of New

York, the Times was the right venue to highlight Teddy Roosevelt’s National Park because Teddy Roosevelt was a native son of New York, born in the heart of Manhattan at the dawn of the age of concrete canyons and bustling growth.

More than 135 years ago, he fled the hectic pace of New York for the solitude of North Dakota’s western Badlands on a hunting trip. During that trip—his first to what was then called the Dakota Territory—he was so taken with the land that he bought a ranch before he left for home.

Within a year, back at home in New York, however, tragedy struck in a cruel way. Both Roosevelt’s wife and his mother died in the same House on the same day. He was crushed, but being a man of action, he sought to redirect his grief by throwing himself into a new adventure—cattle ranching in North Dakota. He went west and built the Elkhorn Ranch on a plot of land that is now part of the Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

Roosevelt long acknowledged his debt to North Dakota. He said: “I have always said I would not have been President had it not been for my experience in North Dakota. . . . It was here that the romance of my life began.”

That romance is still alive and well in western North Dakota. I invite travelers from around the world to visit us and see what the New York Times described as a “century of protecting America’s magnificence.”

CONGRATULATING THE NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY BISON FOOTBALL TEAM

Mr. HOEVEN. Madam President, while I have the floor, if I might, I wish to shift gears. I know the Presiding Officer is a sports fan and that in her State they have many wonderful sports teams—football, basketball, and certainly the University of Iowa had an outstanding year this year. I certainly wish to commend them, compliment them on their great team. As a matter of fact, the team I am going to talk about next is going to play that team. I think it is our first or second game of the year next year. I am looking forward to it. I know the Presiding Officer is looking forward to it very much as well, when the North Dakota State University Bison play the University of Iowa. I don’t know if the Presiding Officer is—I am sure she is a fan of the University of Iowa and Iowa State and Northern Iowa. They are all great sports programs. I don’t know which one is her favorite and may not want to say, but we played Iowa State a few years ago. We play Northern Iowa every year. We have a great rivalry with Northern Iowa. Northern Iowa has a wonderful program—football and basketball. We enjoy playing them every year. This year it looks like they have a very good basketball team and are to be commended on beating North Carolina, the Tar Heels. We will certainly

want to mention that to our colleagues. I am sure the Presiding Officer probably already has. North Dakota State plays Iowa every year and played Iowa State a few years back and we are very much looking forward to playing the University of Iowa.

I wish to take a minute to speak about a resolution I will submit. I am going to talk about it now. The resolution is on behalf of the North Dakota State University Bison, which won a historic fifth consecutive NCAA Division I FCS national football championship on Saturday. Led by coach Chris Klieman, quarterback Carson Wentz, and a solid defensive effort, the Bison clinched the title 37 to 10 over a very talented team from Jacksonville State. The Gamecocks were truly great opponents. They played a fine game, and we congratulate them on a tremendous season as well.

With Saturday's win, the Bison became the first football team in the modern era of college football to win five consecutive championships—five titles in a row. The championships aren't won in a single game but as a result of years of hard work. The Bison overcame injury and adversity to make it back to the title game, and we are tremendously proud of our team, our players, the program, and all of their accomplishments.

It was a thrill for my wife Mikey and me to join Bison Nation down in Frisco. The game was in Frisco, TX—a wonderful venue for the game. Having a dedicated fan base helped make their stadium feel a lot like one of our home games at the FARGODOME. It is an amazing experience.

The game started with a flyover of a B-52 bomber from the Minot North Dakota Air Force Base. In addition to the thousands of dedicated NDSU fans, Thundar, the Bison mascot, and Corso, an actual bison—an unofficial mascot of the team—made the 1,000-mile trek down to Texas. The Bison had a loyal crew cheering them on, and it helped make this “drive for five” season very memorable.

Five championships in a row is unprecedented. I want to congratulate the entire Bison community—NDSU's leaders, the coaches, the staff, and these tremendous student athletes, as well as Bison Nation, a wonderful loyal following wherever the Bison team goes.

In recognition, I will submit the following resolution in their honor:

Whereas the North Dakota State University (referred to in this preamble as “NDSU”) Bison won the 2015 National Collegiate Athletic Association (referred to in this preamble as the “NCAA”) Division I Football Championship Subdivision title game in Frisco, Texas, on January 9, 2016, in a decisive victory over the Jacksonville State Gamecocks by a score of 37 to 10;

Whereas NDSU has won 13 NCAA football championships;

Whereas NDSU has now won five consecutive NCAA Football Championships since 2011, an extraordinary and record-setting achievement in modern collegiate football history;

Whereas the NDSU Bison have displayed tremendous resilience and skill over the past 5 seasons, with 71 wins to only 5 losses, including a streak of 33 consecutive winning games;

Whereas thousands of Bison fans attended the championship game, reflecting the tremendous spirit and dedication of Bison Nation that has helped propel the success of the team; and

Whereas the 2015 NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision title was a victory not only for the NDSU football team, but also for the entire State of North Dakota:

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the North Dakota State University Bison football team as the 2015 champion of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Subdivision;

(2) commends the North Dakota State University players, coaches, and staff for their hard work and dedication on a historic season and for fostering a continuing tradition of athletic and academic excellence; and

(3) recognizes the students, alumni, and the loyal fans who supported the Bison in their quest to capture a fifth consecutive Division I national championship trophy for North Dakota State University.

With that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, I understand that later today the House of Representatives will vote to pass a reform of the Freedom of Information Act, which is often referred to by its acronym, FOIA. I wish to say a few words about that legislation.

I applaud the effort of the House. I have long believed that it is really important to make sure that the people who actually pay the bills and whom we serve know what government is doing on their behalf. Thus the name of the legislation signed by President Johnson many years ago is the Freedom of Information Act. Too often here in Washington, DC, the people in charge of the information seem to view it as proprietary, as if it were theirs. In a political culture where information is power, they don't want to share that information with the people who actually own it and are the ones who hold the elected officials accountable. An open government is really one of the first prerequisites to a free society, and that is because an open and accessible government is absolutely necessary for Americans to hold their elected officials accountable.

Our Founding Fathers, of course, recognized that a truly democratic system depends on an informed citizenry, but Americans cannot do that without the information and transparency that these laws provide.

Former Justice William Brandeis famously said that “sunlight is the best disinfectant.” I must say, as a person who is conservative, that I believe that rather than passing a bunch of new laws, one of the things we can do to change the behavior here in Washington is to shine a light on the actions of elected officials and the government. When elected officials know that the public is informed and watching, it changes the way people behave, and it usually changes it for the better. Congress has passed numerous pieces of legislation that promote this accountability and transparency of government since President Johnson signed the Freedom of Information Act into law so that good leadership and good governance can flourish.

During my time in the Senate and previously when I was the attorney general of Texas, I made government transparency a priority. I pressed for more openness in the Federal Government through commonsense legislation. During the process, I found a partner in those efforts in the Senate. He is somebody who is my ideological opposite, and that is Senator PAT LEAHY of Vermont.

Senator LEAHY and I both embrace the fact that most of the time elected officials and government officials want to trumpet their successes and they want to hide their failures. But the American people deserve to know the good, the bad, and the ugly, and to apply the correctives that are within their power, either in changing those officials or holding those officials accountable.

So the legislation that is going to pass the House later today is similar to what we have already passed here in the Senate Judiciary Committee by voice vote in February. It requires Federal agencies to operate under a presumption of openness when considering the release of government information under the Freedom of Information Act. Texas law, for example, presumes that public information held by government is presumptively open. If there is some reason why it should not be disclosed—let's say classified materials or whatever—then it is incumbent upon the agency to raise those concerns and then to have those concerns decided in the process of administering those laws. But the idea is also to reduce the overuse of exemptions to withhold information from the public. I hope this Chamber will soon join our colleagues in the House to consider this important legislation.

There may be some things we need to do to fine-tune it. I certainly understand that on national security, for example, or things involving proprietary information—trademark protections and property protections—there may be some areas where we have to make some slight changes. But, essentially, this presumption of openness is important to the functioning of our democratic form of government, and I look forward to our passing the law that

will be passed by the House Chamber later today.

GUN CONTROL AND MENTAL ILLNESS

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, the main reason I come to the floor today is to talk about the President's most recent Executive action, this time implementing gun control measures that won't actually solve any of the problems they purport to fix and that purposely go around Congress and ignore the will of the American people. To my mind, this is one of the most aggravating things about Washington, DC, and about how business is done here. People make symbolic acts claiming that we have to "do something" but don't actually focus on a solution that actually helps make the problem better.

None of the President's proposals actually would reduce any of the horrific incidents of gun violence we have seen, and that is a shame because there are bipartisan proposals that have been made that actually would help. But it is only when the President works with the Congress, as the Constitution requires, before a bill can become law. In his eagerness to go it alone, of course, the President has forsaken the constitutional process and bypassed the electorate in trying to make new policy.

He presumably is doing this as a hallmark of his tenure, and it will somehow be a legacy of his time as President. But the fact of the matter is Executive action signed by this President will not survive his own Presidency unless it is actually made into law, and then, of course, it would require another act of Congress to overcome it. That is something this President doesn't seem to recognize. When he gets frustrated with the pace at which Congress takes up legislation—for example, the immigration issue—he decides to unilaterally issue an Executive action—which does what? Well, he offers Executive actions as a solution to a problem. But, in fact, what it does is it buys a lawsuit and it gets caught up in litigation, which is going to take years to resolve and ultimately doesn't provide any relief to the very people the President claims to want to help.

So as a result of the President's impatience and his eagerness to go it alone, he is actually forsaking the constitutional process that builds consensus and actually creates durable policies that will survive this President's own administration.

This isn't just an isolated event, as I mentioned a moment ago. According to one media report, the Obama administration aims to push almost 4,000 new regulations during his last year as President. But with his announcement last week, President Obama made clear he has little interest in working with Congress. That is actually his job—to work with Congress, to work with us to try to find consensus and to build dura-

ble solutions to the problems that confront our Nation. It also demonstrates his lack of regard for fundamental constitutional rights as spelled out in the Constitution itself. Of course, I am talking about the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

I found his rhetoric particularly perplexing. First, he blamed the Congress for inaction. He said: "Congress still needs to act." Well, actually, if what he was doing was going to solve the problem, why would Congress still need to act? So to me it is an admission that he knows that this is mere symbolism and it doesn't actually solve the problem that he says exists.

So he said Congress still needs to act on gun control measures, and he claimed that this legislative body—the Congress—is simply not being responsive to the will of the American people. He even said that he feels compelled to act without consulting Congress because America doesn't "have a Congress that is in line with the majority of Americans."

In other words, the President said the people of this country are demanding more symbolic gun control laws, not less.

But that is not what the polling shows, the best indicator of what people are actually thinking—other than what the Presiding Officer hears from her constituents in Iowa and I hear from my constituents in Texas. Those are the best ways to know what people are thinking. In a poll done by the Wall Street Journal and NBC News this fall, more than half of the respondents said that the President's party's position on gun control was "outside the mainstream." Only 38 percent said that it was "within the mainstream."

It is also critical to point out that, as many media reports have indicated, the President's measures would not have stopped any of the mass violence incidents that have tragically struck American communities over the last few years.

So my response to the President is this: If he is actually serious about trying to solve problems rather than just issue symbolic proclamations, he needs to roll up his sleeves and he needs to work with us to move legislation forward that focuses on the commonsense thread found in many of these mass incidents, and that has to do with the mental health issue. This is the 800-pound gorilla in the room that the President doesn't want to talk about.

The chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Senator GRASSLEY, has made it quite clear that this is the one issue where we could actually find consensus and help provide assistance to families and communities to help people from becoming a danger to themselves as well as the communities in which they live.

We know from the facts of the cases that many times the mental health of the shooter has played a role in many of these tragedies, and it must be addressed. Many Americans, of course,

agree. I think, for example, of Adam Lanza, who was the shooter at Sandy Hook in Connecticut. He was so mentally ill that he was a recluse in his own home, and the only thing his mother found she could engage him in was going out to a shooting range. Yet he basically stole his mother's own weapons, killed her, and then tragically went to Sandy Hook Elementary School and killed a number of innocent children. If he and she had been able to get some additional help—gotten him to a doctor and gotten him on medications that could have helped him from this increasing mental illness—then perhaps things would have turned out differently. That is speculation on all our parts, but perhaps treating the mental illness will actually reduce the likelihood that people will succumb to an impulse to do harm to themselves and to their communities.

According to a poll released just last week, more than 70 percent of Americans said they believe that better access to mental health treatment and screening would reduce these incidents of violence. I am part of that 70 percent. I firmly believe that time and again we are confronted with mental illness crises that go untreated and turn into tragic headlines. We can't responsibly stand by any longer and watch this pattern repeat itself. That is why last year I introduced a piece of legislation that was my effort to try to begin this conversation and this discussion here in the Senate.

There are other ideas. The chairman of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, Senator ALEXANDER, and the ranking member, Senator MURRAY, are working on some mental health reform legislation. Congressman TIM MURPHY in the House has worked on a comprehensive bill, and in the Senate Dr. BILL CASSIDY is working on that legislation. My legislation, hopefully, will help contribute to the conversation and help us build that consensus that is so important.

The legislation I have introduced would improve treatment and preventive screenings and crisis response for individuals with mental illness. It would also strengthen the existing background check system, something the President says he wants to do. However, the fact of the matter is that many States, such as the State of Virginia in the case of the Virginia Tech shooter just a short time ago, don't even upload existing mental health adjudications into the background check system, which would have precluded the purchase of a firearm by somebody with that sort of record. So the National Instant Criminal Background Check System isn't even a comprehensive system when it comes to identifying people who under current law should not be able to purchase a firearm.

This legislation I have offered is a step forward that will help those with mental illness get the support they need while also equipping our Nation's

law enforcement officers to help keep our communities safe. It has been endorsed by a diverse group of organizations, including the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the National Association of Police Organizations, and the National Association of Social Workers.

I think the thing that has perhaps offended some of our Democratic colleagues is that we have actually been able to build a consensus, where none other has existed on this topic, by getting organizations such as the ones I mentioned, along with the National Rifle Association, to endorse the legislation I have introduced.

The fact of the matter is this legislation was aided by solutions borrowed from what is happening in Texas and particularly Bexar County and San Antonio, where I once served as a district judge.

I firmly believe that the best way we can legislate here is to learn what works at the local and State level and then to scale them up here at the national level, rather than to do what the President seems to prefer, which is a national experiment and a one-size-fits-all approach in a country that is simply too diverse on issues that are so complex that we can't really solve them with the wave of a magic wand or on a national basis. So let's look at what works locally and in our States and then bring those experiences here and scale them up for the benefit of the rest of the country.

The fact of the matter is that Bexar County's and San Antonio's mental health program is now touted as the national standard for how to think strategically about those suffering from mental illness in the criminal justice system. Sheriff Pamerleau of Bexar County told me that a substantial portion of the jail population in San Antonio is people suffering from mental illness. Many times they go untreated and, thus, they try to self-medicate with drugs or alcohol, just making their condition that much worse. But the underlying cause of their problem is never being treated, which is the underlying mental illness.

I have heard the same story in Houston and Austin and other places. I have asked our law enforcement professionals—we simply are seeing more and more people with mental illnesses showing up in emergency rooms or living homeless on the street or ending up in our jails without their problems adequately being addressed. My legislation does try to take a crack at that. It may not be perfect. I know other people will have other ideas, but at least it is a constructive suggestion and will hopefully begin a conversation that we need to have and the President says he wants to have but so far has neglected to engage in.

Congress has a role to play because we represent the American people and we represent the States where we are elected to serve. It is our responsibility to try to bring about successful re-

forms that we have seen work at the local and State levels. I am hopeful the Senate Judiciary Committee will hold a hearing soon. I understand we may well begin by the end of this month, and it is not a minute too soon.

We need a President who is willing to get to work and do his job and not just to make speeches or issue Executive orders and say: Well, look, I have done my part, and the rest is up to everybody else. We need a President who is willing to work with us and alongside of us to tackle these important issues and hopefully help protect the individuals who are suffering from mental illness, to give families more choices when dealing with a mentally ill loved one, and also hopefully to avoid these incidents of mass violence. What we don't need is purporting to govern by Executive edict, which is what the President seems to like and prefer.

I hope the President understands that Members on both sides of the aisle in both Chambers are ready, willing, and able in good faith to work to reform our mental health system and in doing so help prevent some of the tragedies that are occurring in our communities. What we don't need to do is to restrict the constitutional rights of law-abiding citizens, which will in no way make our communities safer but will infringe upon those constitutional rights in the Bill of Rights of the U.S. Constitution.

Many of the bills proposed, including mine, go much further than what the President announced last week in dealing with mental illness. There is a lot of work that needs to be done, and we need a President who will work with us. If he is willing to abandon this go-it-alone attitude and commit to working with the elected representatives of the American people, I think we have the opportunity to accomplish a lot for our country.

Madam President, I yield 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 roll.

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

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

TRIBUTE TO RICK CARTER

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, 8 months ago, as I delivered my maiden speech in the Senate, I discussed how honored I am to have succeeded Senator Carl Levin, a mentor to me and a man who defined what it meant to be a Senator from Michigan—a feeling that has only deepened during the past year that I have served in this body.

During his 36 years of service, Senator Levin personally met tens of thousands of Michiganders. He remains beloved by many, including those who might never have had the opportunity to shake his hand or sit down next to

him. This is due in no small part to his tireless commitment and accessibility in responding to questions and comments from his constituents, whether those issues arose in person, over the phone, in a letter, or—during the latter half of Senator Levin's tenure—email. Michiganders reaching out to his office knew that they would be heard and that they could expect a thoughtful, honest response about their Senator's positions.

These responses—hundreds of thousands a year and millions over the course of Senator Levin's career—were made possible by his correspondence manager, Rick Carter. Rick worked for Senator Levin for almost two decades, and I have had the privilege to have him on my team since early last year.

While I have known him for only a year, this has been more than enough time to learn that Rick is a model public servant and a role model for generations of congressional staffers. Rick is humble, thoughtful, and fiercely committed to working behind the scenes to help other staff succeed and to grow. He has been instrumental in establishing my Senate office, and I will be eternally grateful for this honorary Michigander's efforts.

Rick grew up in DC. Perhaps his future career was foreshadowed by growing up in the Michigan Park neighborhood. He was a standout student at DeMatha Catholic High School and earned a scholarship at George Washington University, where he studied sociology.

During his time at GW, he interned for Congressman JOHN CONYERS, a legend of the civil rights movement, current Dean of the House of Representatives, and a man I am honored to call my friend and a Michigan colleague.

Graduating from GW in 1995, Rick began what would be a 19-year career with Senator Levin. He worked his way up from the front office and mastered a number of different positions before deciding that managing the correspondence team best allowed him to balance engaging on matters of policy, serving the people of Michigan, and mentoring junior staffers.

While Rick has many skills and qualities you might expect from a seasoned staffer, including being an excellent writer, editor, and consummate professional, it is his extraordinary commitment to developing young minds that I wish to focus on for a moment.

Rick has helped dozens and perhaps hundreds of young graduates, former interns, and junior staffers find jobs in public service. Along with refining writing skills and polishing resumes, Rick has taught a generation of staffers things they did not learn in college: how to be a professional, how to show up on time, and how to simultaneously function independently as well as part of a team. His former interns are legislative directors, chiefs of staff, and chief counsels. The list of favors he is owed is extensive, but he never asks for anything in return.

He might ask you to run with him, though. As a charity marathon coach, he has helped raise money to fight AIDS. As a year-round positive influence—and not just during a New Year's resolution season—he is always looking for current and past colleagues to run with him. I will not even begin to speculate on the cumulative pounds lost due to his inspiration.

Rick has been a surrogate big brother and father figure for so many staffers. It is especially meaningful that Rick has started his own family with his wife Nakia. Their son Mason and new baby Ryan are lucky to have such a loving, dedicated dad. I wish their entire family the best as Rick starts his own small business to pursue real estate development in the DC area.

It is said that the only constant in life is change. While Rick Carter has been a constant in the Michigan delegation for more than two decades and I will miss having him in my office, I deeply appreciate his two decades of service and respect his desire to take on new challenges. Rick Carter will always be a part of both Team Levin and Team Peters.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

NOMINATION OF SAMUEL HEINS

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, I rise today to call on the Senate and all of my colleagues to allow us to move forward on the nomination of Sam Heins of Minnesota to be the U.S. Ambassador to Norway. The U.S. Ambassador for Sweden has also been held up. Coming from the State of Iowa, which I believe is over 10 percent Scandinavian—over 300,000 people—I think the Presiding Officer understands the importance of our country actually having Ambassadors to these incredibly important allies and nations.

It has now been 836 days since there was last a confirmed Ambassador to Norway, one of our most important European allies. Part of this situation was caused by a different nominee who has some issues with the committee and with other Senators. That person has now been replaced, and it has been 166 days since a new nominee went through the Foreign Relations Committee. Mr. Heins was approved by a voice vote, without any controversy, as was the Ambassador to Sweden. I thank Senators CORKER and CARDIN and Senators MCCONNELL and REID for their help in trying to get this through.

Unfortunately, these nominations are now being held up by Senator CRUZ. Based on my discussions with him, it is not because of the qualifications of these nominees; it is related to, I sup-

pose, other issues. Yet, I note for those Scandinavians out there, Senator CRUZ has allowed votes on Ambassadors to other countries. We have Ambassadors in France, in England, in nearly every European nation, but not these two Scandinavian countries.

Perhaps people don't understand the importance of these nations because they just think these people wear sweaters all the time. I don't know what they think of Norway and Sweden, but, in fact, Senator CRUZ should understand that they are two of our best allies. Norway is one of our country's strongest and most dependable allies. I will speak more about Sweden at another time.

I plan to take to the floor repeatedly in the next month to talk about the importance of these allies and to ask Senator CRUZ what he does not understand, that these are important allies.

Norway was a founding member of the NATO Alliance, and its military has participated in operations with the United States in the Balkans and Afghanistan. Norwegians work alongside Americans in standing up to Russia's provocations in Ukraine, in countering ISIS and the spread of violent extremism, and in strengthening regional cooperation in the Arctic. Norway has been especially strong on the issue of the Ukraine and on the issue with Russia. I know the Presiding Officer, with her background in the military, understands how important that is, and certainly my colleagues across the aisle understand how important it is to have allies that will stand up to Russia.

In addition, Norway is an important economic partner. In a letter sent this July by the American Chamber of Commerce in Norway, Norway "represented the 5th fastest growing source of foreign direct investment in the United States between 2009-2013 and is the 12th largest source of foreign direct investment in the United States overall." Right now, the United States of America for over 700 days has said to one of the top investors in our country, one of our best allies in security, "Sorry. You don't rate getting an ambassador."

There are also over 300 American companies with a presence in Norway, including 3M of Minnesota, Eli Lilly, General Electric, IBM, McDonald's, and so many others.

In October Norway reiterated its commitment to Lockheed Martin with the purchase of an additional 22 F-35s. These Lockheed Martin warplanes will be built at a facility in Fort Worth, TX. I have called this to Senator CRUZ's attention. In fact, this is an enormous purchase, the biggest purchase made in the history of the country of Norway.

These companies, however, are hindered without a strong ambassador to help facilitate and strengthen economic ties between our two countries.

Norway is also playing an important role in addressing the Syrian refugee crisis. Norway has a proud history of providing support to those fleeing con-

flict. It expects to take in as many as 25,000 refugees this year and has already provided millions of dollars to Greece to help that country respond to the influx of refugees seeking a way to enter Europe. Norway is basically on the frontline of the refugee crisis.

All of us on both sides of the aisle have talked about the importance of a strong Europe during this very difficult time. Yet, right now we have no Ambassadors in two of the countries on the frontline involved in these refugee crises, and those are Sweden and Norway.

Norway deserves a U.S. Ambassador who understands the country and is deeply committed to the relationship. I believe Mr. Heins is the right person for the job. No one has seriously questioned his qualifications for the job.

As a Senator from the State that is home to more people—more than 800,000—of Norwegian heritage than anywhere except Norway itself, I think it is only fitting that the nominee to be the U.S. Ambassador to Norway hail from Minnesota.

Of course, there is much more to Sam Heins than his Minnesota heritage. In addition to being an accomplished lawyer, he has demonstrated his devotion to and leadership in the cause of advancing human rights. He founded, organized, and served as the first board chair for the Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights, which monitors and responds to human rights abuses throughout the world. He also cofounded the Center for Victims of Torture, which provides services, research, and advocacy for victims of torture around the world, and continues to serve as a board member. This record of accomplishment is particularly appropriate for someone nominated to be our Ambassador to Norway. Norway has long been an international leader on human rights issues. Mr. Heins' extensive work on human rights and with nongovernmental organizations that support human rights will be extremely helpful in sustaining and building on the strong U.S.-Norwegian partnership in this area.

Last year, as we know, Congress was able to find common ground on so many issues. We passed a budget bill, we passed a transportation bill, a historic amount of funding, an increase in funding. We got the bill done on sex trafficking that Senator CORNYN and I worked on so hard. I can go through a list of the work we did together across the aisle.

When it comes to foreign relations, our country has always believed that a united front is most important on the world stage. We have a united front when it comes to the countries of Norway and Sweden. We understand they are our true allies. We have a united front on these two Ambassador nominees. They were noncontroversial. They went through the Foreign Relations Committee. Senator CORKER and Senator CARDIN have worked together to make sure they get to the floor, but

right now Senator CRUZ is holding up these nominees for reasons that are completely outside of the qualifications of the nominees. I can say this is not the way we should be conducting world business.

I am focusing today on Norway. I will focus on Sweden in the future as I continue to give these speeches. I don't think we can take these countries lightly just because it is cold there and darker in the winter. These are incredibly important allies and trading partners. They deserve to be treated like other European nations. They deserve to have an ambassador from the United States of America.

It is time to end this delay and do the work the Senate is supposed to do. Let's move ahead and work to confirm these qualified nominees to represent us abroad. One is a country in Europe that just bought 22 fighter planes from Lockheed Martin. If they had bought 22 fighter planes from the Presiding Officer's State, I believe the Presiding Officer would have looked at the fact that if it is a noncontroversial nominee to a country that invests in the United States of America, that is an ambassador we need to get confirmed, and we would get this done.

I ask my colleagues to work with Senator CRUZ. The hope is that given that we have seen no other opposition of any significance to these two nominees, we will be able to get this done. He has said to me personally that this is not about the qualifications of the nominees, it is simply other issues that I hope he can resolve within the Republican caucus and with us so we can move forward and so they are not held up any longer. Norway and Sweden deserve Ambassadors.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOZMAN). Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Luis Felipe Restrepo, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

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

The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. President, I rise to speak on the upcoming confirmation vote of Judge Luis Felipe Restrepo to serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

I wish to thank Chairman GRASSLEY and Ranking Member LEAHY for moving Judge Restrepo's nomination through their committee.

I also thank Leader MCCONNELL for scheduling this confirmation vote, which will take place in short order.

I also wish to thank my colleague Senator CASEY. Senator CASEY and I have been working very closely for 5 years now, since I joined the Senate, working to fill the vacancies that occur on the Federal bench across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that we represent. With Judge Restrepo's confirmation tonight, which I am hopeful and confident will occur, Senator CASEY and I will have been able to play a role in filling 16 vacancies on the Federal bench, including 14 district court vacancies that have occurred since the time I arrived in Senate and two Third Circuit court vacancies. There are only two States in the Union that have had more vacancies filled in the last 5 years, and those two States are California and New York. They are very large States, of course, and have a large number of vacancies.

Again, I thank Senator CASEY for the very constructive working relationship we have developed to make sure that the people of Pennsylvania are able to access justice in a sensible and efficient fashion. Because we have worked closely together, not only have we filled these vacancies, but we have filled courthouses—Federal courthouses meant to house Federal judges—that have been vacant for years. As a result, Reading, PA, now has a Federal judge serving in that courthouse. People in the surrounding area of Williamsport, PA, had to drive great distances to get to a Federal court, and now there is a judge serving in Williamsport. Easton, PA—likewise, the people in North Hampton County who had to drive all the way to Philadelphia to have a case dealt with can now do that in Easton. I think, and I hope, we are close to filling an empty courthouse in Erie, PA. Erie is kind of by itself out there in the northwest corner of our great State, and there ought to be Federal judge in the Erie courthouse. We are well in the process of making sure that there will be, and I am sure it will come to a close soon.

Back to Judge Restrepo. The fact is Judge Restrepo is very well qualified to serve on the Third Circuit. He has served as a Federal district court judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania since June of 2013. I was very pleased, along with Senator CASEY, to have recommended Judge Restrepo to the White House for that post and to have supported his confirmation to the district court.

In 2013, Judge Restrepo was confirmed unanimously on the Senate floor. I would love to see that occur again this evening with respect to his confirmation to the circuit court. Prior to his appointment as a district court judge, Judge Restrepo served for 7 years as a Federal magistrate judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and for 13 years prior to that, Judge Restrepo was a partner in the law firm of Krasner and Restrepo, handling criminal defense cases. Before that, he worked at the public defenders' office at the Federal and State levels.

In many ways, Judge Restrepo's life story is a classic American dream story. He was born in Medellin, Colombia, and became a U.S. citizen in 1993. He has devoted a great deal of his time and energy and considerable intellect to serving his community. He served on the board of the Make-a-Wish Foundation for Philadelphia and Susquehanna Valley. This is a foundation that grants wishes to children who have life-threatening illnesses. Judge Restrepo also gave his time to the Russell Byers Charter School in Philadelphia.

I am very confident that Judge Restrepo has the judicial experience, legal acumen, intellect, integrity, and dedication to public service to do the job that we expect him to do on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. The Senate Judiciary Committee apparently shares my confidence, having passed his nomination out of committee with a voice vote.

I am pleased to speak on behalf of this highly qualified nominee, and I urge all of my colleagues to support his confirmation.

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER JESSE HARTNETT

Mr. President, I wish to briefly address one other item this evening before I yield the floor. I want to speak about the appalling shooting that occurred in Philadelphia just last Thursday evening when a shooter attempted to assassinate a police officer in the name of ISIS on the streets of Philadelphia. The shooter wasn't counting on the amazing bravery of Philadelphia Police Officer Jesse Hartnett.

It was late, about 11:30 at night on Thursday, and apparently a man waved down Jesse Hartnett as he was driving along in his police cruiser. Officer Hartnett stopped the cruiser. The man walked over as if to ask for directions, and instead, out of the blue, he started firing shots at pointblank range into the driver's side window at Officer Hartnett. He kept walking up to the car. As he walked, he kept shooting. At one point he actually had his arm, with the gun, inside the window of the car and was still shooting. In total, the shooter fired 13 shots.

Cameras that happened to be in that area captured the incident. It is absolutely amazing that Officer Hartnett managed to survive. It is amazing. But he didn't just survive. He jumped out of his patrol car. He had been hit three times and was very seriously injured. His arm was bleeding profusely. He got out of his car and chased down the shooter. He shot and wounded the would-be killer, and because of his heroic action while literally under fire, the shooter was apprehended.

This is an amazing example of true grit, and the people of Pennsylvania couldn't be more proud of Officer Hartnett. Our prayers are certainly with Officer Hartnett and his family. He has a very difficult recovery ahead of him. He has already had one surgery. My understanding is that he has undergone a second surgery today, or is in the process of undergoing that surgery. The

doctors are trying to save his arm, which was badly injured.

I want to be clear about this. What happened that Thursday night was an act of terrorism. It was an act of terrorism inspired by violent Islamic extremism. The shooter reportedly declared that he had pledged his allegiance to the Islamic State. He said that he was targeting police officers because he believes that the police are defending and enforcing laws that are contrary to the Koran, and the shooter himself said that he acted in the name of Islam and the Islamic State.

We don't know for sure yet whether the shooter has direct personal ties to ISIS abroad, but the FBI has reported that the shooter traveled to Saudi Arabia in 2011 and then went to Egypt for several months in 2012. Regardless of what he was doing over there or what his purpose was, we should make no mistake; this was an act of terrorism just as the shootings at Fort Hood and San Bernardino were.

Let me be abundantly clear. I think everyone obviously knows that this cop killer—this would-be cop killer—doesn't represent all Muslims. No one would suggest that, but he does represent a terrible strain of violent Islamic extremism, a strain that has amassed millions of dollars, has followers all around the planet, and is, in fact, at war with America.

ISIS and the violent Islamic extremists that are followers of ISIS pose a very serious threat to America. We have seen this repeatedly now, including in my home State of Pennsylvania in the City of Philadelphia. We are very fortunate. We have incredibly courageous law enforcement officers, such as Officer Hartnett, protecting us, but we shouldn't in any way diminish the magnitude and gravity of this threat.

I commend Officer Jesse Hartnett for his bravery. To Officer Hartnett and his family, please know that the people of Pennsylvania are behind you, thinking of you, and praying for a full and speedy recovery.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak on the nomination.

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

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise to offer some remarks about the vote we are going to cast on Judge Restrepo, which Senator TOOMEY spoke to earlier, and I thank him for his work on this nomination.

We are finally at the point where we are voting, and we are grateful for that opportunity. Senator TOOMEY has noted and I know others are aware of Judge Restrepo's qualifications. I will highlight a few, some of it by way of reiteration.

I will start with the story itself. This is a great American story. An individual came to this country from Colombia and, through hard work and the

benefit of a great education, has risen to the point of being a member of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Upon a positive confirmation vote, he will be a member of the Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, the second highest Federal court in the land, just below the Supreme Court.

Judge Restrepo is a 1986 graduate of Tulane University Law School. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1981 with a degree in economics and international relations. As I said, he has served as a member of the U.S. district court in Philadelphia, which pretty much covers the eastern half of our State. We have a Middle District and a Western District. He is a judge in one of the three districts. He started there in June of 2013, so his nomination to the appeals court was a rapid rise in the Federal judiciary. Before being on the district court, he served as a U.S. magistrate judge from June of 2006 until his appointment to the U.S. district court.

I believe all of the other information is already in the RECORD, but I want to reiterate what I said before and what I know Senator TOOMEY has said. This nominee is qualified by way of experience, intellect, and education, but maybe the most important thing is by way of integrity. He is someone who has the character to serve on the appellate court after serving with distinction on the U.S. district court.

With that, I yield the floor.

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, today I wish to support the nomination of Judge Luis F. Restrepo, the President's nominee for appointment on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

Filling a vacancy on the third circuit is important to New Jerseyans. Because only a handful of cases each year reach the Supreme Court, circuit courts often have the final word in the vast majority of Federal cases. That means, for most of my constituents who bring cases in Federal courts, the buck stops with the third circuit.

The third circuit currently has two judicial vacancies. The vacant seat that President nominated Judge Restrepo to fill has been declared a judicial emergency. That means it has a very heavy caseload. In fact the third circuit has more than 900 weighted filings per judgeship. Filling a vacancy on that important Federal appellate court will lower the caseload burden and ensure access to justice for more Americans.

Judge Restrepo is a well-qualified individual. There is no question about that. He has over 10 years of experience on the Federal bench. In fact the Senate unanimously confirmed him to serve as a Federal district judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Prior to that, he served as a Federal magistrate judge. As a member of the Federal bench, he has presided over 56 trials that have gone to verdict or judgement.

He has a wealth of experience in both public service and private practice. He

was a founding member of a Philadelphia law firm, where he practiced both criminal defense and civil rights litigation. He served as an assistant Federal defender with the Community Federal Defender for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and an assistant defender for the Defender Association of Philadelphia. He has relevant experience in both criminal and civil law, which will serve him well as a Federal appellate judge.

Judge Restrepo has excellent legal credentials. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania and his law degree from Tulane University Law School.

The work of a Federal appellate judge can often be academic as the job requires a judge to address legal issues of first impression. Judge Restrepo has more than two decades of teaching experience at both the University of Pennsylvania Law School and Temple University James E. Beasley School of Law. He also taught with the National Institute for Trial Advocacy. In addition, he has written numerous articles appearing in a variety of national legal publications.

He has dedicated his time to public service and to bettering his community. He is the former president of the Hispanic Bar Association of Pennsylvania. He served on the board of directors for the Defender Association of Philadelphia and the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Philadelphia and Susquehanna Valley. As a Federal judge, he has also participated in a reentry program to assist people recently released from federal custody to reenter the community and become productive citizens.

I believe he has a wealth of relevant experience and a strong legal background. Other Senators share my confidence in Judge Restrepo. He has the bipartisan support from both Pennsylvania Senators and was voted out of the Judiciary Committee by a unanimous voice vote.

Judge Restrepo's confirmation is also historic. He will be the first Latino judge from Pennsylvania to serve on the third circuit and only the second Latino to sit on that court. He also has the strong endorsement of the Hispanic National Bar Association. According to that distinguished organization, Judge Restrepo's "integrity, knowledge of the law, breadth of professional experience, and intellectual capacity make him well suited to sit as a federal appellate judge." I could not agree more.

I urge my colleagues to confirm Judge Restrepo to the third circuit today.

Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I may be recognized as in morning business.

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

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I also ask unanimous consent that I be able

to display on the Senate floor these two vials of liquid nicotine to tell what just passed.

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

LIQUID NICOTINE

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, in the Senate last year we passed the childproofing of caps on liquid nicotine. That legislation just passed today in the House and will go to the President for signature. This is important because we found that these bottles of liquid nicotine for these e-cigarettes, or electronic cigarettes, have not been childproofed. Therefore, if a child gets one of these bottles and it does not have the cap that they can't get off, we now know the experience from several poison centers across the country in the last couple of years. If a drop of that liquid nicotine gets onto the child's skin or, as infants typically do, they put things in their mouth and they ingest that liquid nicotine, indeed it is fatal.

We have had a couple of fatalities in this country. Therefore, it was common sense for us to require—and thankfully, the liquid nicotine industry went along and did not object—to make these childproof. But that will now be in the law. Let me point out something. This is aside from the question of whether you should be inhaling this stuff in an e-cigarette. I think people are finding out that this is becoming quite dangerous as well. But aside from that issue, this was the issue of protecting children.

Look at this. It has pictures of fruit all over the label, and it is called "Juicy ejuice." It is something that is going to attract an infant's or a child's attention. It is the same thing over here. It has pictures of all kinds of happy things. I have seen others that have labels of juicy fruit. I have seen others that have multicolored labels that are very attractive. Common sense tells us if you are putting a product out that can kill children—just like some of the soaps that are put out for washing detergent in these little plastic bags that disintegrate when they get into water in your dishwasher or in your washing machine, and it smells so good, and they are grape scents—a child smells that and it feels so good and it is so soft. Where is it going to end up in an infant? They are going to put it in their mouth. We have had some deaths there. But that is another battle for another day. At least we have won one little battle.

I am happy to report to the Senate that what we passed in the Senate in a bipartisan manner last year now passed the House today and will go to the President to be signed into law.

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

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

TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I came from an informal hearing—not an official Senate hearing but a hearing downstairs called by Congressman LEVIN, who is the senior Democrat on the Ways and Means Committee. A number of other Members were there, including my colleague from Ohio, Representative KAPTUR, and a number of people the Presiding Officer served with in the House—Congressmen SARBANES, RANGEL, PASCRELL, DOGGETT, and SCHIFF. We discussed the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

I spoke earlier on this today. I know Senator MCCONNELL has said that he will not bring it up this year, I think in large part because of the opposition from the country. Senator Lott, the Republican leader, a decade or so ago said that you can't pass a trade agreement in an even-numbered year. He was a strong supporter of these trade agreements. I believe he and most in his party supported NAFTA and CAFTA. He wasn't here for CAFTA but he was for some of those other trade agreements. But he said that because he knows that politicians want to vote for these trade agreements in large part because of corporate lobbying. But the public doesn't want us to vote for these trade agreements.

My first year in Congress, I spent much of the year working in opposition to the North American Free Trade Agreement. I have seen a number of these: NAFTA, PNTR with China, CAFTA, the trade agreement with Korea, big promises about jobs, big claims about jobs, and exaggerated commitments about jobs. Every time we lose jobs from these trade agreements. Our trade deficit is up to a couple billion dollars a day now. But if you buy a billion dollars of products from another country rather than making them yourselves here, rather than American companies making them, we know that costs us jobs. When you think it is \$2 billion—almost \$2 billion every single day, well over a billion, but the numbers are not precise—in trade deficit, where we buy from other countries more than we export and sell to other countries, we know it is costing us jobs.

One of the other things that came out of this discussion with a number of Ways and Means Committee members, small business, a former trade negotiator, and a union representative there was how we have seen increasingly companies in Little Rock, in Dayton or in Toledo shut down production here and move it overseas and then sell those products back into the United States.

The auto industry has not done much of that. When the auto industry sets up in Asia and are manufacturing cars, they typically sell them in that part of the world. Unfortunately, GM just announced that they are going to be making an SUV plant in China and selling

those products back into the United States. That is a terrible trend.

The reason I stopped on the floor before the vote in a couple of minutes is to say this: The Trans-Pacific Partnership has set us up in way that will make that worse. Under NAFTA, Canada, the United States, and Mexico—I strongly oppose NAFTA. But under that trade agreement, products in automobiles—almost two-thirds of all of the components in an automobile—had to be made in one of these three countries in order to get the tariff benefits from NAFTA for those companies, those products. Now there are 12 countries in the Trans-Pacific Partnership and fewer than half the components have to be made in one of these 12 countries.

What does that mean? It means that more than half of an automobile can come from parts made in China but sold in the United States tariff-free under the Trans-Pacific Partnership. How can we possibly think that makes sense as a policy? That is fundamentally why the Trans-Pacific Partnership does not make sense for our country. It doesn't make sense for small businesses in Mansfield, OH, or in Springfield, OH, and it doesn't make sense for the up to 600,000 workers in my State—some 600,000 workers who are in the auto supply chain. We know a lot of them will lose jobs under the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

I yield the rest of my time to Senator LEAHY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished Senator from Ohio.

We are finally going to vote on the long overdue confirmation of Judge Luis Felipe Restrepo to fill a judicial emergency vacancy on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the third circuit in Pennsylvania. He was nominated way over a year ago—nearly 14 months ago—with strong bipartisan support from home State Senators. This is a case where, unfortunately, the Republican leadership has subjected Judge Restrepo to totally unnecessary delay as part of their wholesale obstruction of judicial nominees. Their actions hurt not only the people of Pennsylvania, but also Americans across the country as judicial vacancies have remained unfilled nationwide after Republicans took over the Senate majority last year.

I hope that today's vote and the agreement to vote on four district court nominees this work period signals a return to the Senate fulfilling its constitutional duty of providing advice and consent on the President's nominees. In all of 2015, Senate Republicans allowed votes on only 11 judicial nominations. This matched the record for confirming the fewest number of judicial nominees in more than half a century. I mention that because Democrats took the majority in the last 2 years of President Bush's term. We confirmed 40 judges during that year—

40. I was chairman. I remember that very well. I didn't want to repeat the things that we saw during the Clinton administration, where the Republicans came in and the then-Republican chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee killed over 60 nominees of the Clinton administration by not allowing them to have a vote in committee. I said: Let's move faster. I moved 40 through. Did the Republicans do the same? No, they allowed 11.

Republicans also left town at the end of last year with 19 judicial nominees still pending on the floor, including Judge Restrepo. Each of the nominees has the support of their home state Senators and their nominations were reported out of the Judiciary Committee by voice vote. These are the kind of noncontroversial judicial nominees that the Senate has traditionally confirmed at the end of a session. During the Obama administration, however, Republicans have rejected this practice.

Judge Restrepo exemplifies the kind of consensus nominee that should have been easily confirmed at the end of the session. He is nominated to fill an emergency vacancy on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals, which has two vacant judgeships in Pennsylvania. He has the strong bipartisan support of his home state Senators, Senator CASEY and Senator TOOMEY. In fact, Senator TOOMEY has said he personally recommended Judge Restrepo to the President for the nomination. In 2013, this body confirmed Judge Restrepo's nomination to the Federal district court by voice vote. I have heard no objection from any Senator to Judge Restrepo's nomination. I cannot believe this man who will be the first Hispanic judge from Pennsylvania for the third circuit was humiliated by having to wait 14 months. This highly qualified Hispanic judge was told to go to the back of the line and wait 14 months. It is wrong. It is absolutely wrong.

I will vote to confirm Judge Restrepo. Since 2013, he has served as a judge on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. For the seven years prior, he served as a Federal magistrate judge on the same court. Before joining the bench, Judge Restrepo was in private practice as a named partner at Krasner & Restrepo. He began his legal career serving as a public defender as an Assistant Defender for the Defender Association of Philadelphia before becoming an Assistant Federal Defender for the Federal Community Defender Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. He was voted out of the Judiciary Committee by unanimous voice vote on July 9, 2015. His nomination has the full support of the Hispanic National Bar Association. I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a copy of the Hispanic National Bar Association's letter in support of Judge Restrepo at the conclusion of my remarks.

Republicans' obstruction of highly qualified judicial nominees with strong support, like Judge Restrepo, has resulted in a sharp rise in judicial vacancies. When Senate Republicans took over the majority in January of last year, there were 43 judicial vacancies. After a year of Republicans neglecting judicial confirmations, vacancies have dramatically increased to 72—an increase of more than 60 percent. Furthermore, the number of judicial vacancies deemed to be “emergencies” by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts because caseloads in those courts are unmanageably high has nearly tripled under Republican Senate leadership—from 12 when Republicans took over last year to 33 today. In his annual year-end report, even Chief Justice Roberts drew our attention to the “crushing dockets” and heavy caseloads that strain the Federal judiciary and prevent Americans from obtaining timely justice in our courts.

The high number of vacancies is entirely of the Senate Republican leadership's making, and Senate action is required to resolve it. The first step is to confirm the rest of the 18 judicial nominees pending right now on the floor. Under a bipartisan agreement reached at the end of last year, the Majority Leader will schedule confirmation votes on four district court nominees between now and the President's Day recess. After we vote on those nominees, we will still have nominees from Tennessee, Maryland, New Jersey, Nebraska, New York, and California pending on the floor, nearly all of whom would fill emergency vacancies. Votes on these nominees must be scheduled without further delay.

Let's start facing up to fact that we have enormous problems with judiciary emergencies in States where both Republicans and Democrats have supported the nominees. Let them come forward. Let them be voted on. Let's stop making the Federal courts a political pawn. It is bad enough with all the political shenanigans going on in this country anyway in an election year. Don't do them with the Federal court system. We have the best, the most honest, the least partisan Federal court system anywhere in the world. But don't say: Oh, you are a highly qualified Hispanic nominee, but you just wait there for 14 months, be humiliated, and then we will finally allow a vote. I don't care whether someone is Hispanic or non-Hispanic; we have so many men and women who are highly qualified.

In addition to the nominees pending on the floor, there are also four Pennsylvania district court nominees that the Senate Judiciary Committee is poised to report out this month. I sincerely hope the junior Senator from Pennsylvania can convince the Republican Majority Leader not to submit these additional Pennsylvania nominees to the extensive confirmation delay that Judge Restrepo endured. The people of Pennsylvania have wait-

ed long enough. I also understand that the White House has been working for months with Senator TOOMEY and Senator CASEY on the second Pennsylvania vacancy on the third circuit. I look forward to the Judiciary Committee considering that nomination soon.

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

MARCH 31, 2015.

Re Hispanic National Bar Association Endorsement of Nomination of The Honorable Luis Felipe Restrepo to the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

Hon. CHUCK GRASSLEY,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

Hon. PATRICK LEAHY,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN GRASSLEY AND RANKING MEMBER LEAHY: On behalf of the Hispanic National Bar Association (“HNBA”), we write to recommend the confirmation of the Honorable Luis Felipe Restrepo to the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. As explained below, we believe that Judge Restrepo has all the requisite qualifications to serve in this role and will serve the Court and the parties that come before it with distinction and integrity.

The HNBA is a non-profit, non-partisan national membership association that represents the interests of Hispanic attorneys, judges, law professors, law students, and legal professionals in the United States and Puerto Rico. One of the HNBA's many institutional objectives is to advocate and work to ensure that the federal and state courts in our nation are diverse and reflect the citizenry that come before our courts daily.

Judge Restrepo sought the HNBA's endorsement shortly after President Obama nominated him to the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. The HNBA conducted a thorough due diligence process that included interviews of personal and professional references (including judges and attorneys), a review of his scholarly writings and legal opinions, and a thorough Internet search. We also have considered his background and qualifications in the context of the requirements of the position for which he was nominated, as well as the requirements of the HNBA's Policies and Procedures Governing Judicial Endorsements. After a careful review, it is clear that Judge Restrepo possesses the professional expertise, experience, personal integrity and judicial temperament to distinguish himself as a federal appellate judge. Accordingly, we urge you to confirm his nomination to the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

Prior to being sworn in as a District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in 2013 and his appointment as a Magistrate Judge in 2006, Judge Restrepo was a highly-regarded Philadelphia attorney and founding member of the firm of Krasner & Restrepo, concentrating on criminal defense and civil rights litigation. Before forming his law firm, he served as an assistant federal defender with the Community Federal Defender for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and an assistant defender for the Defender Association of Philadelphia. He is an adjunct professor at Temple University James E. Beasley School of Law, was an adjunct professor at the University of Pennsylvania Law School from 1997-2009 where he was appointed the Irving R. Segal Lecturer in advocacy, and has taught with the National Institute for Trial Advocacy in regional and national programs since 1991. He

has been a lecturer at seminars sponsored by a number of agencies and organizations and has written numerous articles appearing in a variety of national publications. Throughout his career, Judge Restrepo has stood out as an exceptional role model for community involvement and civic participation. He has devoted his time and expertise to a variety of boards and commissions as well as the Eastern District prisoner reentry program.

The HNBA's due diligence process has confirmed that Judge Restrepo's integrity, knowledge of the law, breadth of professional experience, and intellectual capacity make him well suited to sit as a federal appellate judge. Accordingly, it is with great pride that we have the privilege of endorsing the Honorable Luis Felipe Restrepo and recommending his confirmation to serve as a Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. Please do not hesitate to contact us at the HNBA National Office at (202) 223-4777, or you may contact Cynthia D. Mares directly at (720) 314-1295 or by e-mail at president@hnba.com, if we can be of any further assistance.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

CYNTHIA D. MARES,
HNBA National President.
ROBERT RABEN,

Chair, HNBA Judiciary Committee.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I know the time for the vote is upon us.

Have the yeas and nays been ordered?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. They have not.

Mr. LEAHY. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

Mr. LEAHY. I yield back all time, and I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, all time is yielded back.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Luis Felipe Restrepo, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit?

The yeas and nays have been ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. COATS), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 82, nays 6, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 1 Ex.]

YEAS—82

Alexander	Fischer	Murphy
Ayotte	Flake	Murray
Baldwin	Gardner	Nelson
Barrasso	Gillibrand	Paul
Bennet	Grassley	Perdue
Blumenthal	Hatch	Peters
Booker	Heinrich	Portman
Boozman	Heitkamp	Reed
Boxer	Heller	Reid
Brown	Hirono	Roberts
Burr	Hoeven	Rounds
Cantwell	Johnson	Sasse
Capito	Kaine	Schatz
Cardin	King	Schumer
Carper	Kirk	Shaheen
Casey	Klobuchar	Sullivan
Cochran	Lankford	Tester
Collins	Leahy	Thune
Coons	Manchin	Tillis
Corker	Markey	Toomey
Cornyn	McCain	Udall
Cotton	McCaskill	Warner
Daines	McConnell	Warren
Donnelly	Menendez	Whitehouse
Durbin	Merkley	Wicker
Enzi	Mikulski	Wyden
Ernst	Moran	
Feinstein	Murkowski	

NAYS—6

Blunt	Lee	Sessions
Inhofe	Risch	Shelby

NOT VOTING—12

Cassidy	Franken	Sanders
Coats	Graham	Scott
Crapo	Isakson	Stabenow
Cruz	Rubio	Vitter

The nomination was confirmed.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislative action.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Happy new year. Nothing says "Happy new year" like the "Time to Wake Up" speech, so I will kick off 2016 with my year-opener "Time to Wake Up" speech recapping some of last year's climate change milestones.

They say you only get one chance to make a first impression, and the first impression Senate Republicans chose to make in 2015 was to use their first 3 weeks of floor time—3 full weeks of precious floor time—to help a foreign oil company's tar sands pipeline. Even though it meant the government condemning American farms, even though the President was sure to veto it, that was their opener.

By the end of the year, things had changed. The Republican leader was burying the votes against the Clean Power Plan deep in the news of the terrible Paris massacres and collapsing votes together to minimize floor time on this issue. The Republican majority

opened 2015 with a big oil bang but crept out of the year with a whimper.

Things indeed changed in 2015. Of course, the scientific evidence continued to show that fossil fuel pollution was damaging our environment and our oceans and our economy. And 2015 was record-setting hot. This chart from November shows that 2015 is on track to being the hottest year globally since we began keeping records in 1880. We can see that the 2015 running monthly global temperature average is above the 6 next warmest years on record in every month for which data is available.

The Director of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies estimates the probability of 2015 being the hottest on record at better than 99 percent. He has labeled 2015 a "scorcher." But that won't be official until later this month. It is no fluke.

The World Meteorological Organization reports the recent 5-year period—2011 to 2015—as the warmest 5-year period on record, and 2015 was the first year where monthly global average carbon dioxide concentrations exceeded 400 parts per million, and it did so for more than 3 months. Bear in mind that for as long as human beings have been on this planet Earth, we have existed safely in a range of 170 to 300 parts per million. We are outside of that by almost the entire range, and we know this from ice cores which contain tiny bubbles of ancient atmospheres. I saw those ice cores last October at Ohio State University. World-renowned atmospheric scientists, the husband-and-wife team Dr. Ellen Mosley Thompson and Dr. Lonnie Thompson, worked for years to retrieve cores from around the world and to test the ancient air captured inside. The lesson of these cores is that humans have fundamentally altered the chemistry of the Earth's air and that our greenhouse gas emissions are rapidly altering our climate. Scientists now say that we have so altered the Earth as to consider ourselves in a new geologic epoch, the Anthropocene.

In 2015, the oceans kept shouting at us to wake up. Throughout 2015, evidence continued to document our oceans warming, rising, and acidifying. And 2015 brought the first nationwide study assessing the vulnerability of America's \$1 billion shellfish industry to ocean acidification, documenting the risk to 15 coastal States, such as Louisiana, Texas, Maine, and Rhode Island.

The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in October reported on climate change's threats to fish integral to human diets, predicting a dramatic collapse in the world's largest ecosystem, our oceans. The great corrupt denial machine the fossil fuel industry supports never talks about oceans. The machine doesn't care about evidence; it is just an obstacle to their fossil fuel PR campaign. They just want to create phony doubt. But since there is not much room for doubt

in measurements of warming, rising, and acidifying seas, they won't go there. Nevertheless, 2015 was another bad year for oceans.

Mr. President, 2015 was also the year journalists, academics, and investigators took a hard look at that big, phony climate denial apparatus. The year 2015 brought reports that Exxon knew climate change was real but funded the climate denial apparatus anyway, reports of how fossil fuel money influenced the front groups' language, and reports about hidden money and networks of influence and fossil fuel money controlling politics. Report after report showed fossil fuel money pouring into dozens of front groups, creating phony doubt and controversy, then propagated through media outlets also in the tank to the fossil fuel industry, such as FOX News and the Wall Street Journal editorial page.

If you doubt that climate change is real, you have been had. It is really that simple. It is a racket. And 2015 was the year when many voices began asking for a racketeering investigation into a fraud of historic proportions.

Mr. President, 2015 was a year of growing public recognition across America of the need to act. A 2015 Stanford poll found that 83 percent of Americans, including 6 in 10 Republicans, want action to reduce carbon emissions. For the first time, a majority of self-identified Republicans now believe there is solid evidence of global warming. And if you take out the loopy Tea Party cohort, among sensible Republicans, the number goes even higher. Among young Republican voters—Republican voters under age 35—most said they would describe a climate denier as “ignorant,” “out of touch,” or “crazy.”

In 2015, the EPA launched the Clean Power Plan, our Nation's most ambitious effort yet. It is the first-ever plan to reduce carbon pollution from the largest source of U.S. carbon emissions: powerplants. The Clean Power Plan is projected to both cut carbon emissions and save Americans money on their annual energy bills.

In 2015, the Obama administration at last rejected the Keystone XL Pipeline—a great victory for the environmental movement after the 400,000-person climate march in New York City. In 2015, Pope Francis—the world leader of the Catholic Church—added his holy voice to the call.

“Humanity,” Pope Francis said, “is called . . . to combat this warming or at least the human causes which produce or aggravate it.” Specifically, the Pope said, “[T]echnology based on the use of highly polluting fossil fuels, needs to be progressively replaced without delay.”

Pope Francis's encyclical said something to Congress:

To take up these responsibilities, and the costs they entail, politicians will inevitably clash with the mindset of short-term gain and results which dominates present-day economics and politics. But if they are coura-

geous, they will attest to their God-given dignity and leave behind a testimony of selfless responsibility.

And 2015 showed some signs of political courage, dignity, and responsibility. Republican Congressman Bob Inglis took a beating at the hands of the fossil fuel industry, but he did not give up the fight. Our colleague LINDSEY GRAHAM ran for the Republican nomination on a sensible climate change platform. He and other Senate colleagues have started a little Senate Republican study group. Twelve House Republicans, led by Congressman CHRIS GIBSON of New York, broke with their party's Orthodoxy and sponsored a resolution committing to address climate change by promoting ingenuity, innovation, and exceptionalism. It is not much yet, but it is a start. It is a turn.

Perhaps the biggest milestone of 2015 was the Paris agreement reached in December, with 190 countries agreeing to a global deal to address climate change. One key element was that more than 150 major U.S. companies signed on to the American Business Act on Climate Pledge, calling for strong outcomes in the Paris climate negotiations. These companies' operations together span all 50 States, they employ nearly 11 million people, they represent more than \$4.2 trillion in annual revenue, and they have a combined market capitalization of over \$7 trillion. These are blue-chip American icons such as AT&T of Texas, Coca-Cola and UPS of Georgia, Procter & Gamble of Ohio, and Walmart of Arkansas. How long can Republicans ignore them?

You know the phrase about lipstick on a pig? Well, 2015 brought so much change that even the big fossil fuel pigs felt they had to try on a little lipstick. Typical of them, it was bogus—just enough happy talk about climate change and carbon fees to get the CEOs through a Davos cocktail party without being shunned, while here in Congress, their whole brutal political apparatus, up to and including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce—which these days should probably be called the U.S. Chamber of Carbon—kept relentlessly hammering against any prospect of meaningful climate legislation. Real or not, it is noteworthy that the big oil tycoons at least felt the need for some lipstick.

Speaking of piggy, 2015 was also the year the International Monetary Fund calculated the effective public subsidy of the fossil fuel industry at \$700 billion per year just in the United States alone. Remember when the costs of carbon pollution are not factored into the price, those costs become a public subsidy—a market failure. This subsidy climbs into the trillions of dollars worldwide. If that is not piggy, nothing is.

My biggest prayer for 2016 is the American business coalition from Paris helping Republican colleagues acknowledge publicly what many have concluded privately; that it is time for

Congress to address climate change. If Republicans can get some relief from the brutal political pressure of the fossil fuel industry, there are conservative-friendly solutions at hand. Every Republican who has thought this problem through to a solution comes to the same place, every one. Former Treasury Secretary and Secretary of State George Shultz, President Reagan's economic adviser Art Laffer, President George W. Bush's Treasury Secretary Hank Paulson, and his Council of Economic Advisers Chair Greg Mankiw, and many others, all advocated last year that a carbon fee is the efficient way to correct the market failure that lets the fossil fuel industry pollute for free. Four former Republican EPA Administrators, Bill Ruckelshaus, Christine Todd Whitman, Lee Thomas, and Bill Reilly, wrote: “A market-based approach, like a carbon tax, would be the best path to reducing greenhouse-gas emissions.”

Even a columnist at the Wall Street Journal, whose editorial page is notoriously fossil fuel friendly, wrote: “There's no dispute among economists on the most cost-effective way to [reduce emissions]: a carbon tax.”

Well, we have one. In 2015, the conservative American Enterprise Institute hosted the announcement of my legislation with Senator SCHATZ, creating a revenue-neutral carbon fee, with none—zero—of the revenues kept by the Federal Government but instead being used to provide massive corporate tax reductions and personal tax rebates. We have gone to exactly where Republicans are pointing. So please, colleagues, take yes for an answer. Join us, and let's get to work.

Mr. President, 2015 was a year the tide turned in Congress, from that opening Keystone Pipeline political fanfare to the buried, quiet, end-of-the-year votes on the President's Clean Power Plan, with three Republicans even voting to support President Obama on those votes. It was a turning year and a new year now begins. We still need to wake up. We still need to get to work. We still have a duty before us, and it is a duty we should not shirk. I pray that 2016 will be the year, and I promise to do everything in my power to make it the year.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. 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.

BUDGET SCOREKEEPING REPORT

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I wish to submit to the Senate the budget scorekeeping report for January 2016. The report compares current law levels

of spending and revenues with the amounts provided in the conference report to accompany S. Con. Res. 11, the budget resolution for fiscal year 2016. This information is necessary to determine whether budget points of order lie against pending legislation. It has been prepared by the Republican staff of the Senate Budget Committee and the Congressional Budget Office, CBO, pursuant to section 308(b) of the Congressional Budget Act, CBA.

This is the first scorekeeping report for this calendar year but the fifth report I have made since adoption of the fiscal year 2016 budget resolution on May 5, 2015. My last filing can be found in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on December 2, 2015. The information contained in this report is current through January 5, 2016.

Table 1 gives the amount by which each Senate authorizing committee is below or exceeds its allocation under the budget resolution. This information is used for enforcing committee allocations pursuant to section 302 of the CBA. Over the fiscal year 2016–2025 period, which is the entire period covered by S. Con. Res. 11, Senate authorizing committees have spent \$148 billion more than the budget resolution calls for.

Table 2 gives the amount by which the Senate Committee on Appropriations is below or exceeds the statutory spending limits. This information is used to determine points of order related to the spending caps found in section 312 and section 314 of the CBA. On December 18, 2015, the President signed H.R. 2029, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, P.L. 114–113, into law. This bill provided regular appropriations equal to the levels set in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015, P.L. 114–74, specifically \$548.1 billion in budget authority for defense accounts, revised security category, and \$518.5 billion in budget authority for nondefense accounts, revised nonsecurity category.

Table 3 gives the amount by which the Senate Committee on Appropriations is below or exceeds its allocation for overseas contingency operations/global war on terrorism, OCO/GWOT, spending. This separate allocation for OCO/GWOT was established in section 3102 of S. Con. Res. 11 and is enforced using section 302 of the CBA. The consolidated appropriations bill included \$73.7 billion in budget authority and \$32.1 billion in outlays for OCO/GWOT in fiscal year 2016. This level is equal to the revised OCO/GWOT levels that I filed in the RECORD on December 18, 2015.

The budget resolution established two new points of order limiting the use of changes in mandatory programs in appropriations bills, CHIMPS. Tables 4 and 5 show compliance with fiscal year 2016 limits for overall CHIMPS and the crime victims fund CHIMP, respectively. This information is used for determining points of order under section 3103 and section 3104, respectively. Enacted CHIMPS are under both the

broader CHIMPS limit, \$1.3 billion less, and the crime victims fund limit, \$1.8 billion less.

In addition to the tables provided by the Senate Budget Committee Republican staff, I am submitting additional tables from CBO that I will use for enforcement of budget levels agreed to by the Congress.

For fiscal year 2016, CBO estimates that current law levels are \$138.9 billion and \$103.6 billion above the budget resolution levels for budget authority and outlays, respectively. Revenues are \$155.2 billion below the level assumed in the budget resolution. Finally, Social Security outlays are at the levels assumed in the budget resolution for fiscal year 2016, while Social Security revenues are \$23 million below assumed levels for the budget year.

CBO's report also provides information needed to enforce the Senate's pay-as-you-go rule. The Senate's pay-as-you-go scorecard currently shows deficit reduction of \$20.5 billion over the fiscal year 2015–2020 period and \$95.6 billion over the fiscal year 2015–2025 period. Over the initial 6-year period, Congress has enacted legislation that would increase revenues by \$17 billion and decrease outlays by \$3.5 billion. Over the 11-year period, Congress has enacted legislation that would increase revenues by \$36.7 billion and decrease outlays by \$58.9 billion. The Senate's pay-as-you-go rule is enforced by section 201 of S. Con. Res. 21, the fiscal year 2008 budget resolution.

All years in the accompanying tables are fiscal years.

I ask unanimous consent that the accompanying tables be printed in the RECORD.

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

TABLE 1.—SENATE AUTHORIZING COMMITTEES—ENACTED DIRECT SPENDING ABOVE (+) OR BELOW (–) BUDGET RESOLUTIONS

(In millions of dollars)			
	2016	2016–2020	2016–2025
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Armed Services			
Budget Authority	–66	–518	–1,117
Outlays	–50	–476	–1,099
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Commerce, Science, and Transportation			
Budget Authority	130	650	1,300
Outlays	0	0	0
Energy and Natural Resources			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Environment and Public Works			
Budget Authority	2,880	19,432	9,459
Outlays	252	1,147	–8,801
Finance			
Budget Authority	345	41,005	152,913
Outlays	345	41,005	152,913
Foreign Relations			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Homeland Security and Government Affairs			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	–1	0
Judiciary			
Budget Authority	–3,358	5,962	4,833
Outlays	1,713	5,862	4,082
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions			
Budget Authority	0	208	278

TABLE 1.—SENATE AUTHORIZING COMMITTEES—ENACTED DIRECT SPENDING ABOVE (+) OR BELOW (–) BUDGET RESOLUTIONS—Continued

(In millions of dollars)			
	2016	2016–2020	2016–2025
Outlays	0	208	278
Rules and Administration			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Intelligence			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Veterans' Affairs			
Budget Authority	–2	–1	–1
Outlays	388	644	644
Indian Affairs			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Small Business			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	1	2	2
Total			
Budget Authority	–71	66,738	167,665
Outlays	2,649	48,391	148,019

TABLE 2.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED REGULAR DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS¹

(Budget authority, in millions of dollars)		
	2016	
	Security ²	Nonsecurity ²
Statutory Discretionary Limits	548,091	518,491
Amount Provided by Senate Appropriations Subcommittee		
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies	0	21,750
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies	5,101	50,621
Defense	514,000	136
Energy and Water Development	18,860	18,325
Financial Services and General Government	44	23,191
Homeland Security	1,705	39,250
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies	0	32,159
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies	0	162,127
Legislative Branch	0	4,363
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies	8,171	71,698
State Foreign Operations, and Related Programs	0	37,780
Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies	210	57,091
Current Level Total	548,091	518,491
Total Enacted Above (+) or Below (–) Statutory Limits	0	0

¹ This table excludes spending pursuant to adjustments to the discretionary spending limits. These adjustments are allowed for certain purposes in section 251(b)(2) of BBEDCA.

² Security spending is defined as spending in the National Defense budget function (050) and nonsecurity spending is defined as all other spending.

TABLE 3.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS/GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS

(In millions of dollars)		
	2016	
	BA	OT
OCO/GWOT Allocation ¹	73,693	32,079
Amount Provided by Senate Appropriations Subcommittee		
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies	0	0
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies	0	0
Defense	58,638	27,354
Energy and Water Development	0	0
Financial Services and General Government	0	0
Homeland Security	160	128
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies	0	0
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies	0	0
Legislative Branch	0	0
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies	0	0
State Foreign Operations, and Related Programs	14,895	4,597
Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies	0	0
Current Level Total	73,693	32,079
Total OCO/GWOT Spending vs. Budget Resolution	0	0

BA = Budget Authority; OT = Outlays

¹ This allocation may be adjusted by the Chairman of the Budget Committee to account for new information, pursuant to section 3102 of S. Con. Res. 11, the Concurrent Resolution of the Budget for Fiscal Year 2016.

TABLE 4.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED CHANGES IN MANDATORY SPENDING PROGRAMS (CHIMPS)

(Budget authority, millions of dollars)	
	2016
CHIMPS Limit for Fiscal Year 2016	19,100
Senate Appropriations Subcommittees	
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies	600
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies	9,458
Defense	0
Energy and Water Development	0
Financial Services and General Government	725
Homeland Security	176
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies	28
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies	6,799
Legislative Branch	0
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies	0
State Foreign Operations, and Related Programs	0
Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies	0
Current Level Total	17,786
Total CHIMPS Above (+) or Below (–) Budget Resolution	–1,314

TABLE 5.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED CHANGES IN MANDATORY SPENDING PROGRAM (CHIMP) TO THE CRIME VICTIMS FUND

(Budget authority, millions of dollars)	
	2016
Crime Victims Fund (CVF) CHIMP Limit for Fiscal Year 2016	10,800
Senate Appropriations Subcommittees	
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies	0
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies	9,000
Defense	0
Energy and Water Development	0
Financial Services and General Government	0

TABLE 2.—SUPPORTING DETAIL FOR THE SENATE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT FOR ON-BUDGET SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016, AS OF JANUARY 5, 2016

(In millions of dollars)			
	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Previously Enacted ^a			
Revenues	n.a.	n.a.	2,676,733
Permanents and other spending legislation	1,968,496	1,902,345	n.a.
Appropriation legislation	0	500,825	n.a.
Offsetting receipts	–784,820	–784,879	n.a.
Total, Previously Enacted	1,183,676	1,618,291	2,676,733
Enacted Legislation:			
An act to extend the authorization to carry out the replacement of the existing medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Denver, Colorado, to authorize transfers of amounts to carry out the replacement of such medical center, and for other purposes (P.L. 114–25)	0	20	0
Defending Public Safety Employees' Retirement Act & Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–26)	0	0	5
Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–27)	445	175	–766
Steve Gleason Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–40)	5	5	0
Surface Transportation and Veterans Health Care Choice Improvement Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–41) ^b	0	0	99
Continuing Appropriations Act, 2016 (P.L. 114–53)	700	775	0
Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–55)	130	0	0
Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–58)	–2	368	0
Protecting Affordable Coverage for Employees Act (P.L. 114–60)	0	0	40
Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–74)	3,424	4,870	269
Recovery Improvements for Small Entities After Disaster Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–88)	0	1	0
National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (P.L. 114–92)	–66	–50	0
Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (P.L. 114–94)	2,880	252	471
Federal Perkins Loan Program Extension Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–105)	269	269	0
Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (P.L. 114–113) ^b	2,008,016	1,563,177	–156,107
Patient Access and Medicare Protection Act (P.L. 114–115)	32	32	0
Total, Enacted Legislation	2,015,833	1,569,894	–155,989
Entitlements and Mandatories:			
Budget resolution estimates of appropriated entitlements and other mandatory programs	9,170	6,674	0
Total Current Level ^c	3,208,679	3,194,859	2,520,744
Total Senate Resolution ^d	3,069,829	3,091,246	2,675,967
Current Level Over Senate Resolution	138,850	103,613	n.a.
Current Level Under Senate Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	155,223
Memorandum:			
Revenues, 2016–2025:			
Senate Current Level	n.a.	n.a.	31,755,032
Senate Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	32,233,099
Current Level Over Senate Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Current Level Under Senate Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	478,067

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

Notes: n.a. = not applicable; P.L. = Public Law.

^a Includes the following acts that affect budget authority, outlays, or revenues, and were cleared by the Congress during this session, but before the adoption of S. Con. Res. 11, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2016: the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2014 (P.L. 114–1); the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2015 (P.L. 114–4), and the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–10).

^b Emergency funding that was not designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 shall not count for certain budgetary enforcement purposes. These amounts, which are not included in the current level totals, are as follows:

Surface Transportation and Veterans Health Care Choice Improvement Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–41)	0	917	0
Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (P.L. 114–113)	–2	0	0

TABLE 5.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED CHANGES IN MANDATORY SPENDING PROGRAM (CHIMP) TO THE CRIME VICTIMS FUND—Continued

(Budget authority, millions of dollars)	
	2016
Homeland Security	0
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies	0
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies	0
Legislative Branch	0
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies	0
State Foreign Operations, and Related Programs	0
Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies	0
Current Level Total	9,000
Total CVF CHIMP Above (+) or Below (–) Budget Resolution	–1,800

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
U.S. CONGRESS,
Washington, DC, January 11, 2016.

Hon. MIKE ENZI,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The enclosed report shows the effects of Congressional action on the fiscal year 2016 budget and is current through January 5, 2016. This report is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the technical and economic assumptions of S. Con. Res. 11, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2016.

Since our last letter dated December 2, 2015, the Congress has cleared and the Presi-

dent has signed the following acts that affect budget authority, outlays, or revenues for fiscal year 2016:

Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (Public Law 114–94);
Federal Perkins Loan Program Extension Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–105);
Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114–113); and
Patient Access and Medicare Protection Act (Public Law 114–115).

Sincerely,

KEITH HALL,
Director.

Enclosure.

TABLE 1.—SENATE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT FOR SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016, AS OF JANUARY 5, 2016

(In billions of dollars)			
	Budget Resolution	Current Level ^a	Current Level Over/Under (–) Resolution
On-Budget			
Budget Authority	3,069.8	3,208.7	138.9
Outlays	3,091.2	3,194.9	103.6
Revenues	2,676.0	2,520.7	–155.2
Off-Budget			
Social Security Outlays ^b	777.1	777.1	0.0
Social Security Revenues	794.0	794.0	0.0

SOURCE: Congressional Budget Office.

^a Excludes emergency funding that was not designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

^b Excludes administrative expenses paid from the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund of the Social Security Administration, which are off-budget, but are appropriated annually.

Total	— 2	917	0
^c For purposes of enforcing section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act in the Senate, the resolution, as approved by the Senate, does not include budget authority, outlays, or revenues for off-budget amounts. As a result, current level does not include these items.			
^d Periodically, the Senate Committee on the Budget revises the budgetary levels in S. Con. Res. 11, pursuant to various provisions of the resolution. The Initial Senate Resolution total below excludes \$6,872 million in budget authority and \$344 million in outlays assumed in S. Con. Res. 11 for disaster-related spending. The Revised Senate Resolution total below includes amounts for disaster-related spending:			
Initial Senate Resolution	3,032,343	3,091,098	2,676,733
Revisions:			
Pursuant to section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and section 4311 of S. Con. Res. 11	445	175	— 766
Pursuant to section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and S. Con. Res. 11	700	700	0
Pursuant to section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and S. Con. Res. 11	0	1	0
Pursuant to section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and section 4313 of S. Con. Res. 11	269	269	0
Pursuant to section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and section 3404 of S. Con. Res. 11	36,072	— 997	0
Revised Senate Resolution	3,069,829	3,091,246	2,675,967

TABLE 3.—SUMMARY OF THE SENATE PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARD FOR THE 114TH CONGRESS, AS OF JANUARY 5, 2016
(In millions of dollars)

	2015–2020	2015–2025
Beginning Balance ^a	0	0
Enacted Legislation. ^{b c d}		
Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–17) ^e	n.e.	n.e.
Construction Authorization and Choice Improvement Act (P.L. 114–19)	20	20
Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–22)	1	2
Uniting and Strengthening America by Fulfilling Rights and Ensuring Effective Discipline Over Monitoring Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–23)	*	*
An act to extend the authorization to carry out the replacement of the existing medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Denver, Colorado (P.L. 114–25)	150	150
Defending Public Safety Employees' Retirement Act & Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–26)	— 1	— 5
Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–27)	— 640	— 52
Boys Town Centennial Commemorative Coin Act (P.L. 114–30) ^f	0	0
Steve Gleason Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–40)	13	28
Surface Transportation and Veterans Health Care Choice Improvement Act of 2015 (Pl. 114–41)	— 1,552	— 6,924
Agriculture Reauthorizations Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–54)	*	*
Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–58)	624	624
Protecting Affordable Coverage for Employees Act (P.L. 114–60)	— 32	— 2
Gold Star Fathers Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–62)	*	*
Ensuring Access to Clinical Trials Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–63)	*	*
Adoptive Family Relief Act (P.L. 114–70)	*	*
Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–73)	*	*
Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–74)	— 15,050	— 71,315
Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–81)	*	*
Recovery Improvements for Small Entities After Disaster Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–88)	2	2
Improving Regulatory Transparency for New Medical Therapies Act (P.L. 114–89)	*	*
National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (P.L. 114–92)	— 194	— 10
Equity in Government Compensation Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–93)	*	*
Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (P.L. 114–94) ^g	— 3,845	— 18,144
Improving Access to Emergency Psychiatric Care Act (P.L. 114–97)	*	*
Breast Cancer Research Stamp Reauthorization Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–99)	— 1	0
Hizballah International Financing Prevention Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–102)	*	*
Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–104)	*	*
Federal Perkins Loan Program Extension Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–105)	— 14	— 13
Securing Fairness in Regulatory Timing Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–106)	*	*
National Guard and Reservist Debt Relief Extension Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–107)	*	*
Federal Improper Payments Coordination Act of 2015 (Pt. 114–109)	*	*
Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (P.L. 114–113) ^h	2	4
Patient Access and Medicare Protection Act (P.L. 114–115)	36	— 1
Current Balance	— 20,481	— 95,626
Memorandum:		
Changes to Revenues	2015–2020	2015–2025
Changes to Outlays	17,030	36,732
	— 3,451	— 58,894

Source: Congressional Budget Office.
Notes: n.e. = not able to estimate; P.L. = Public Law. * = between — \$500,000 and \$500,000.
a. Pursuant to S. Con. Res. 11, the Senate Pay-As-You-Go Scorecard was reset to zero.
b. The amounts shown represent the estimated impact of the public laws on the deficit. Negative numbers indicate an increase in the deficit; positive numbers indicate a decrease in the deficit.
c. Excludes off-budget amounts.
d. Excludes amounts designated as emergency requirements.
e. P.L. 114–17 could affect direct spending and revenues, but such impacts would depend on future actions of the President that CBO cannot predict. (<http://www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/cbofiles/attachments/s615.pdf>)
f. P.L. 114–30 will cause a decrease in spending of \$5 million in 2017 and an increase in spending of \$5 million in 2019 for a net impact of zero over the six-year and eleven-year periods.
g. The budgetary effects associated with the Federal Reserve Surplus Funds are excluded from the PAYGO Scorecard in P.L. 114–94 pursuant to section 232(b) of H.C. Res. 290, the Concurrent Budget Resolution for Fiscal Year 2001 (106th Congress).
h. The budgetary effects of divisions M through Q are not reflected in the PAYGO Scorecard pursuant to section 1001(b) of Title X of Division O of P.L. 114–113.

HONORING TECHNICAL SERGEANT
JOSEPH G. LEMM

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I would like to pay tribute today to the life of TSgt Joseph G. Lemm who was killed while serving his country in Afghanistan. It was his third tour of duty in Afghanistan. Joe was born in Dubuque, IA, and lived in the nearby town of Bernard as a young child. He was a police officer in New York City and served in the New York Air National Guard. Clearly, his was a life of public service, defending his fellow Americans both at home and abroad. His willingness to repeatedly put himself in harm's way speaks volumes about his courage and character. I am told that he was often called Superman, and like Superman, Joe spent

his life defending “Truth, Justice, and the American Way.” He will be remembered for his extraordinary love of country and family. My prayers go out to his wife, Christine; his daughter, Brooke; his son, Ryan; as well as his mother, Shirley, and his father, Charles. Their premature loss will leave an enormous hole in their lives, but they can be very proud of the life Joe lived.

TRIBUTE TO REAR ADMIRAL JOAN HUNTER

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the efforts of RADM Joan Hunter during her tenure as the Assistant Joint Surgeon at the National Guard Bureau, Joint Surgeon

General's Office, Psychological Health, NGB, JSG-PH. In this capacity, RADM Hunter has served as principal staff and adviser to the Chief of the National Guard Bureau. As a member of the Joint Surgeon's Office, RADM Hunter partnered with the J1, Manpower and Personnel Directorate, and the J32, the Counterdrug Division, to direct services to address the psychological health needs of Guard members and their families. Her most significant contribution was building the National Guard's psychological health program, which meant placing a director of psychological health in every State, wing, and territory based on the Department

of Defense's Mental Health Task Force Report recommendations. As a commissioned officer in the U.S. Public Health Service, RADM Hunter is a shining example of how the whole government can come together to address mental health issues in our military.

I have had the honor and pleasure of working closely with RADM Hunter during her time at NGB, and I am grateful for her leadership, energy, and innovation. Mental health is a critical readiness issue for all our servicemembers, and the Department of Defense has made important progress in improving the mental health and resilience of our force. Unfortunately, in the past, the unique needs and challenges faced by our Guard members and Reservists were often neglected by programs designed to serve the Active component. Under RADM Hunter's direction, that is changing. She has made a real, tangible impact on the lives of Guard members, and in doing so, she has done a tremendous service to our Nation and our communities.

RADM Hunter is a champion in the fight to combat military suicide, improve mental health and resiliency among our servicemembers, and field the strongest fighting force the world has ever known. She has been an especially valued partner in this undertaking, and while she will be sorely missed at NGB, I know she will continue to do great things for our country. I wish RADM Hunter the best of luck in her new assignment and thank her for her dedicated service to our men and women in the National Guard.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH PENNSYLVANIA FARM SHOW

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. President, I wish to commemorate the 100th Pennsylvania Farm Show, which is being held this week in Harrisburg, PA.

Established in 1917, the Pennsylvania Farm Show is held every January and showcases the Commonwealth's vibrant farming traditions and finest foods. With 24 acres of exhibition space, it is the Nation's largest indoor agricultural event. This year's show will display more than 13,000 exhibits and is anticipated to draw half a million visitors from across the Nation.

The farm show always provides free admission and allows everyone the chance to learn more about Pennsylvania agriculture. It hosts a wide variety of events and displays including livestock exhibits, art displays, and educational workshops.

In addition to its hands-on exhibits, the farm show allows visitors to sample products that are grown and produced in Pennsylvania. Farmers display their fruits and vegetables while vendors sell local favorites, including pretzels, apple butter, and shoofly pie. As the occupant of the Senate candy desk, I would be remiss not to recognize the small, family-owned candy companies that also sell their products at the farm show.

With a nod toward education, the Pennsylvania Farm Show sponsors the scholarship foundation for students pursuing their post-secondary education in the agriculture field. Since its creation, the foundation has donated over \$1 million in scholarships to youth involved in 4-H, Future Farmers of America, and other agriculture organizations. It is encouraging to see such a strong commitment to agriculture's continued success in Pennsylvania for the foreseeable future.

This weekend, my family and I will attend the 2016 Pennsylvania Farm Show. Farming is a vital component to Pennsylvania's economy, and I am proud of our State's dairy, livestock, and agriculture products. I look forward to the farm show every year, and I encourage all Pennsylvanians to attend this event to experience firsthand our State's rich agriculture history.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF LEE, NH

• Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Lee, NH, a town in Strafford County that is celebrating the 250th anniversary of its founding. I am proud to join citizens across New Hampshire in recognizing this special milestone.

Lee was originally settled in 1657 and was officially incorporated in 1766 by colonial Governor Benning Wentworth. In the century leading up to its incorporation, Lee was part of Durham and the Oyster River Plantation. Lee was also one of the last towns to be incorporated by Governor Wentworth.

Wadleigh Falls, located in Lee, is a historic landmark and one of the oldest areas in New Hampshire to be inhabited by humans. Abenaki and Penacook tribes would come to the falls for hunting, fishing, and farming as far back as 8,000 years ago. Upon settlement, the Europeans would follow in the Native Americans' footsteps and use the falls to their economic advantage. The settlers started using this site in 1657, and the first mill was built in 1665. Mills in Lee processed timber, grain, leather, wooden buckets, and herbal medicines. Generous clay deposits and the town's lumber mill system allowed Lee to become a valued location for industry in the early history of the United States. The town's agricultural tradition has also been very important to Lee and its many farms that are still operating today.

In addition to its agricultural advantages, Lee is also known for its unique landscape features including scenic plains, meadows, winding streams, brooks, and Wheelwright Pond, named after Reverend John Wheelwright.

Today Lee's students and families enjoy an exceptional education system, thanks in large part to a tradition of learning and knowledge that has long been ingrained in the community. The

Oyster River Cooperative School District is consistently regarded as one of the top school districts in the State of New Hampshire.

The town's population has grown from 1,029 residents in 1790 to over 4,300 in 2013. The people of Lee have a strong commitment to the spirit of community and volunteerism as evidenced by the hard work and dedication of residents involved with the planning of many events to celebrate the town's 250th anniversary.

Lee and its residents have greatly contributed to the life and growth of New Hampshire. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending congratulations to the people of Lee as they celebrate the town's 250th anniversary.●

CONGRATULATING MIKE SULLIVAN

• Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I wish to honor my friend, former Wyoming Governor Mike Sullivan, who is being recognized as the 2016 National Western Stock Show's Citizen of the West. It is fitting that Mike was chosen for this special award. He joins a long line of honorees known for their values, ingenuity, and hard work. Mike, a cowboy in every sense of the word, carries these traits and many more in his heart and soul.

Mike grew up in the prairie lands of Douglas, WY. His formative years were spent riding horses, shooting coffee cans, and enjoying the vast opportunities for recreation around the area. This appreciation led to a lifelong love of the State and her people.

He was enamored with one Wyoming native in particular. Mike met Jane Metzler, who was born in Riverton and raised in Powell, during their studies at the University of Wyoming. Both of them were involved in social clubs and organizations. They even served together in the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming Student Senate. In 1961, the sweethearts were married. As they put down roots in Casper, they never lost sight of the important values that guide the people of our great State.

Wyoming is the first State to adopt an official code of ethics, which we proudly call our Cowboy Ethics. This list of 10 principles serves as a guide for the modern cowboy and represents the distinct values that the American West is famous for.

One of the tenets, "Take pride in your work," brings to mind Mike and his incredible work ethic. With a petroleum engineering degree and a law degree, both earned at the University of Wyoming, Mike set his sights on practicing law. Well-loved and respected by many in the State, he ran—and was elected—to be Wyoming's 29th Governor in 1986. During his two terms, he governed the way he practiced law, with common sense and general decency.

His leadership was crucial as at that time the State was experiencing one of

its most economically trying periods. Falling oil and gas prices provided an opportunity for him to reach across the aisle and work with Democrats and Republicans alike to develop solutions to benefit the State and her residents. He is well known for his bipartisanship, which has brought lasting change and has resulted in a better quality of life for everyone living in the West.

His political career did not end after serving as Governor. In 1999, President Bill Clinton appointed him to serve as the U.S. Ambassador to Ireland. He graciously accepted the position, and he and Jane moved to Dublin. His service as Ambassador surpassed all expectations of success. Mike was instrumental in the implementation of the Good Friday Agreement in the United Kingdom. With his special brand of warmth, humility, and integrity, Mike dutifully served both the United States and the world in this important role.

Another of the principles listed in the Cowboy Ethics code is "Ride for the brand." Upon meeting him, it is immediately apparent that Mike lives and breathes the spirit of the West. He has an intimate knowledge of the issues facing western States today, including the challenges of balancing energy development with natural resource preservation.

He is a natural leader, and his passion for the State has served him well in many other important roles. During his tenure as Governor, he was the chairman of the Western Governors' Association, as well as the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, which focuses on the responsible, environmentally sound development of America's oil and gas resources. He has won numerous awards in honor of his service and commitment to giving back, including a Distinguished Service Medal from the Wyoming National Guard, an award of merit from the Wyoming Heritage Society, and the President's Award from the Wyoming State Bar. Despite these grand honors, Mike remains humble, choosing to spend time with his wife and family while enhancing his community and State. He certainly does ride for the brand.

Mike's accomplishments are numerous, and for every one of them, his beloved wife, Jane Metzler Sullivan, has been by his side. As a third generation Wyoming native, Jane possesses an incredible value system reflective of the State's moral compass. Every bit a presence as her husband, Jane prides herself on making contributions to her community and State. She once said, "Communities give us the opportunity to make our lives meaningful." The couple has been married for 54 years. Today, they enjoy the company of their three children and their spouses: Michelle Sullivan and Bryan Kuehl, Patrick and Ming Sullivan, and Theresa and JR Twiford. They adore their seven grandchildren: Patrick, Maggie, Caitie, Caitlyn, Michael, Jack, and Julia. I am confident that both Mike and Jane delight in sharing the best

parts of their souls with their loving family.

Mike has been gifted with bright ideas and a subtle sense of humor. He is jovial and kind and remains deeply active in the community of Casper. Folks who know him love him. He is a seasoned diplomat, a generous patron, and a passionate advocate for Wyoming. He champions Wyoming's cowboy spirit, and his mission to preserve and share the legacy of the American West with others is truly outstanding.

I invite my colleagues to join me in celebrating this incredible man as he is named the 2016 Citizen of the West. We simply could not ask for a better leader, role model, or friend.●

REMEMBERING OZELL SUTTON

● Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the life and legacy of civil rights activist Ozell Sutton. A native of Gould, AR, Sutton paved the way for desegregation in the Natural State and throughout the South alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and other civil rights leaders.

After graduating from Dubar High School in Little Rock, Sutton studied at Philander Smith College where he earned a degree in political science.

He broke barriers as the Arkansas Democrat's first Black journalist. In 2012, he shared the story of his hiring, saying that he didn't know anything about journalism but was hired because the Democrat "wanted to reach the black community."

He worked at the newspaper for 7 years where he made a difference in how the newspaper covered the African-American community. He challenged the status quo, inspiring change in the news stories to refer to Black men and women as "Mr." and "Mrs.," just as it did with the White population.

Sutton was an activist serving as a decoy at Central High School in 1957 when the Little Rock Nine integrated the school. He recalled being beaten after the mob figured out he was a decoy.

He led integration efforts in Arkansas while serving as assistant director of the Arkansas Council on Human Relations from 1961 to 1966 and joined civil rights leaders to pave the way for equality across the country. He joined the historic march on Washington and marched for voting rights in Selma.

Following the death of Dr. King, he served Governor Winthrop Rockefeller as the director of the Governor's Council on Human Resources from 1968-1970 and continued his public service with the U.S. Department of Justice Community Relations Services. In 1972 he was appointed the director in the southeast region. He held that position until his retirement in 2003.

As a member of Alpha Phi Alpha, Sutton served as regional vice president of the southwest region and southern region before going on to serve as the 26th general president.

In 2012, Sutton was presented a Congressional Gold Medal as one of the first African Americans to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Ozell Sutton dedicated his life to bettering the lives of future generations. He was a true American hero whose leadership helped fight desegregation and lay the foundation for equality. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family during this difficult time.●

HONOR FLIGHT NORTHERN COLORADO

● Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, I ask to have printed in the RECORD a copy of my remarks to honor the veterans of Honor Flight Northern Colorado.

The material follows:

HONOR FLIGHT NORTHERN COLORADO

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the veterans of Honor Flight Northern Colorado and the organization's 15th trip to Washington, DC. This group includes veterans from various wars and generations, but all are linked by their service to our country.

Ten years ago, the Honor Flight was created to fly veterans that had served in World War II to Washington, DC so they could visit the World War II memorial. Now, the Honor Flight welcomes veterans from across the country to fly to Washington, DC, free of charge, to visit the memorials of the wars these heroic veterans fought. Currently, there are more than 21.8 million veterans living in the United States, and this growing population is continuously deserving of recognition. No matter the conflict, these veterans made exceptional sacrifices in order to serve and defend our country.

Of the 123 veterans on the most recent Honor Flight, 13 served in World War II, 43 served in Korea, and 67 served in Vietnam.

Please join me in honoring Paul Bechthold, Floyd Cooper, Raymond Ernest, Charles Hoelscher, Joseph Isley, Carl Johnson, Frederick Kaehler, Rex McFadden, Allan Meenen, William Ramsey, Donald Stephens, John Ulvang, Ceylon Weller, Robert Ault, Adolfo Benavides, Henry Bjorklund, Edwin Bowker, Albert Cain, Kenneth Creamer, Robert Crouch, Gerald Donnelly, Robert Eckhardt, Gary Eyre, William Ferguson, Elmer Fortin, Glen Geilenkirchen, James Gribben, Kent Grimsley, Walter Harris, Warren Hawkins, Carl Heufel, Eugene Hitchman, Neil Hoffman, Frank Hummel, Harold Jochum, Eldon Johnson, Roy Johnson, Michael Kennedy, Jimmie Kramer, Burman Lorenson, Robert McCauley, Gerald Meis, Robert Plick, Donald Reininger, Earl Reynolds, William Richardson, Royal Ryser, Merle Sapp, Raymond Schmitz, Ralph Sherman, Ned Steel, Vernon Sterkel, Richard Vandewalker, Richard Weinmeister, Donald Wiseman, Paul Zimmerman, Walter Amack, Ernest Anderson, Bruce Avery, Allen Brink, Wayne Burris, Gary Cain, James Christopher, Richard Cobb, Harold Colaizzi, Harold Collins, William Deivert, Russell Emmons, Michael Ferrell, Osia Fox, Robert Goodwin, Jerald Gossel, Josef Gruenwald, David Hallahan, Charles Ham, Calvin Hamilton Jr., Arnold Hart, Leland Haskell, Charles Hixon, Michael Jacomet, Dale Jenkins, Doyle Jenkins, Jimmie Johnston, Patrick Kistler, Edward Lobb, Danny Lynn, Thomas Marlo, Manuel Martinez, John McCarthy, Edward Meikel, Marilyn Miyaima, Royce Modisette, Stephen Mulvihill, Charles Munroe, Rueben Olivas Jr., Edward Olson, Ralph Otte, Stephen

Pangrac, Jerry Park, Linda Plick, Thomas Pusel, Phillip Rangel, William Rhodes, John Robley, Rodney Rodriguez, Christopher Romero, Reuben Sanchez, Kenneth Sheppard, Wayne Shortridge, Walter Silva, Dennis Sindelir, James Spears, Thomas Steinbach, Robert Stolz, David Stout, Raymond Stroot, Floyd Taladay, Dennis Teter, Larry Uhlenkott, Robert Wheeler, Everett Winkler, William Vick, Merle Wood.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, 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 and withdrawals which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES

REPORT OF THE VETO OF S.J. RES. 23, PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF A RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO "STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE FOR GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FROM NEW, MODIFIED, AND RECONSTRUCTED STATIONARY SOURCES: ELECTRIC UTILITY GENERATING UNITS", RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE ON DECEMBER 18, 2015—PM 34

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States which was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, spread in full upon the Journal, and held at the desk:

MEMORANDUM OF DISAPPROVAL

S.J. Res. 23 is a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5 of the United States Code of a rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) relating to "Standards of Performance for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from New, Modified, and Reconstructed Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units." This resolution would nullify EPA's carbon pollution standards for new, modified, and reconstructed power plants. Accordingly, I am withholding my approval of this resolution. (The Pocket Veto Case, 279 U.S. 655 (1929)).

Climate change poses a profound threat to our future and future genera-

tions. Atmospheric levels of carbon dioxide, a primary greenhouse gas, are higher than they have been in at least 800,000 years. In 2009, EPA determined that greenhouse gas pollution endangers Americans' health and welfare by causing long-lasting changes in the climate that can have, and are already having, a range of negative effects on human health, the climate, and the environment. We are already seeing the impacts of climate change, and established science confirms that we will experience stronger storms, deeper droughts, longer wildfire seasons, and other intensified impacts as the planet warms. The Pentagon has determined that climate change poses immediate risks to our national security.

Power plants are the largest source of greenhouse gas pollution in our country. Although we have limits on other dangerous pollutants from power plants, the carbon pollution standards and the Clean Power Plan ensure that we will finally have national standards to reduce the amount of carbon pollution that our power plants can emit.

The carbon pollution standards will ensure that, when we make major investments in power generation infrastructure, we also deploy available technologies to make that infrastructure as low-emitting as possible. By blocking these standards from taking effect, S.J. Res. 23 would delay our transition to cleaner electricity generating technologies by enabling continued build-out of outdated, high-polluting infrastructure. Because it would overturn carbon pollution standards that are critical to protecting against climate change and ensuring the health and well-being of our Nation, I cannot support the resolution.

To leave no doubt that the resolution is being vetoed, in addition to withholding my signature, I am returning S.J. Res. 23 to the Secretary of the Senate, along with this Memorandum of Disapproval.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, December 18, 2015.

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AT THE FIRST SESSION

Began and held at the City of Washington on Tuesday, the sixth day of January, two thousand and fifteen

JOINT RESOLUTION

Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of a rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Standards of Performance for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from New, Modified, and Reconstructed Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units".

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Standards of Performance for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from New, Modified, and Reconstructed Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units" (published

at 80 Fed. Reg. 64510 (October 23, 2015)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

PAUL D. RYAN,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

ORRIN HATCH,

President of the Senate pro tempore.

REPORT OF THE VETO OF S.J. RES. 24, PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO "CARBON POLLUTION EMISSION GUIDELINES FOR EXISTING STATIONARY SOURCES: ELECTRIC UTILITY GENERATING UNITS", RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE ON DECEMBER 18, 2015—PM 35

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States which was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, spread in full upon the Journal, and held at the desk:

MEMORANDUM OF DISAPPROVAL

S.J. Res. 24 is a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5 of the United States Code of a rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) relating to "Carbon Pollution Emission Guidelines for Existing Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units." This resolution would nullify the Clean Power Plan, the first national standards to address climate-destabilizing greenhouse gas pollution from existing power plants. Accordingly, I am withholding my approval of this resolution. (The Pocket Veto Case, 279 U.S. 655 (1929)).

Climate change poses a profound threat to our future and future generations. Atmospheric levels of carbon dioxide, a primary greenhouse gas, are higher than they have been in at least 800,000 years. In 2009, EPA determined that greenhouse gas pollution endangers Americans' health and welfare by causing long-lasting changes in the climate that can have, and are already having, a range of negative effects on human health, the climate, and the environment. We are already seeing the impacts of climate change, and established science confirms that we will experience stronger storms, deeper droughts, longer wildfire seasons, and other intensified impacts as the planet warms. The Pentagon has determined that climate change poses immediate risks to our national security.

The Clean Power Plan is a tremendously important step in the fight against global climate change. It is projected to reduce carbon pollution from power plants by 32 percent from 2005 levels by 2030. It builds on progress States and the power sector are already making to move toward cleaner

energy production, and gives States the time and flexibility they need to develop tailored, cost-effective plans to reduce their emissions. By nullifying the Clean Power Plan, S.J. Res. 24 not only threatens ongoing progress toward cleaner energy, but would also eliminate public health and other benefits of up to \$54 billion per year by 2030, including thousands fewer premature deaths from air pollution and thousands fewer childhood asthma attacks each year.

The Clean Power Plan is essential in addressing the largest source of greenhouse gas pollution in our country. It is past time to act to mitigate climate impacts on American communities. Because the resolution would overturn the Clean Power Plan, which is critical to protecting against climate change and ensuring the health and well-being of our Nation, I cannot support it.

To leave no doubt that the resolution is being vetoed, in addition to withholding my signature, I am returning S.J. Res. 24 to the Secretary of the Senate, along with this Memorandum of Disapproval.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, December 18, 2015.

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AT THE FIRST SESSION

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Tuesday, the sixth day of January, two thousand and fifteen

JOINT RESOLUTION

Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of a rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Carbon Pollution Emission Guidelines for Existing Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units".

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Carbon Pollution Emission Guidelines for Existing Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units" (published at 80 Fed. Reg. 64662 (October 23, 2015)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

PAUL D. RYAN,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

ORRIN HATCH,

President of the Senate pro tempore.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE SUBSEQUENT TO SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the order of the Senate of January 6, 2015, the Secretary of the Senate, on December 22, 2015, subsequent to the sine die adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. UPTON) has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 2425. An act to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to improve payments for complex rehabilitation technology and certain radiation therapy serv-

ices, to ensure flexibility in applying the hardship exception for meaningful use for the 2015 EHR reporting period for 2017 payment adjustments, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1321. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to prohibit the manufacture and introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce of rinseoff cosmetics containing intentionally-added plastic microbeads.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 2015, the enrolled bills were signed on December 22, 2015, subsequent to the sine die adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the order of the Senate of January 6, 2015, the Secretary of the Senate, on January 7, 2016, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House agreed to H. Res. 577, resolving that the Clerk of the House inform the Senate that a quorum of the House is present and that the House is ready to proceed with business.

The message also announced that the House agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3762) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 2002 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2016.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The message further announced that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 3762. An act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 2002 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2016.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of December 18, 2015, the enrolled bill was signed on January 7, 2016, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. COTTON).

The message also announced that pursuant to section 1238(b)(3) of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2001 (22 U.S.C. 7002), amended by the division P of the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 (22 U.S.C. 6901), the Minority Leader re-appointed the following members to the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission: Ms. Carolyn Bartholomew of Washington D.C. and Mr. Jefferey L. Fiedler of Great Falls, Virginia.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:05 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 712. An act to impose certain limitations on consent decrees and settlement agreements by agencies that require the agencies to take regulatory action in accordance with the terms thereof, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1155. An act to provide for the establishment of a process for the review of rules and sets of rules, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1927. An act to amend title 28, United States Code, to improve fairness in class action litigation.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 712. An act to impose certain limitations on consent decrees and settlement agreements by agencies that require the agencies to take regulatory action in accordance with the terms thereof, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 1155. An act to provide for the establishment of a process for the review of rules and sets of rules, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 1927. An act to amend title 28, United States Code, to improve fairness in class action litigation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2434. A bill to provide that any executive action that infringes on the powers and duties of Congress under section 8 of article I of the Constitution of the United States or on the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States has no force or effect, and to prohibit the use of funds for certain purposes.

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-3952. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries" (RIN0648-XE335) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 16, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3953. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; 2015 Commercial Accountability Measure and Closure for South Atlantic Golden Tilefish Hook-and-Line Component" (RIN0648-XE215) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 16, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3954. A communication from the Acting 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; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648-XE342) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 16, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3955. A communication from the Acting 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; Sablefish in the West Yakutat District of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XE296) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 16, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3956. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; 2015-2016 Accountability Measure and Closure for King Mackerel in the Florida West Coast Northern Subzone” (RIN0648-XE326) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 16, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3957. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Spinosad; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 9933-41-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 17, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3958. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Pesticides; Revisions to Minimum Risk Exemption” (FRL No. 9934-44-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 17, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3959. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Ammonium Acetate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance” (FRL No. 9939-39-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 17, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3960. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “2-propenoic Acid Homopolymer, Reaction Products with poly(oxy-1,2-ethanediyl), a-(tris(1-phenylethyl)phenyl)-w-hydroxy, tris(2-hydroxyethyl)amine salt; Tolerance Exemption” (FRL No. 9939-71-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 17, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3961. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Propiconazole; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 9939-83-OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 30, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3962. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Review Group, Commodity Credit Corporation, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Payment Limitation and Payment Eligibility; Actively Engaged in Farming” (RIN0560-AI31) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 30, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3963. A communication from the Regulatory Specialist of the Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Margin and

Capital Requirements for Covered Swap Entities; Final Rule” (RIN1557-AD43) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 17, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3964. A communication from the Regulatory Specialist of the Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Margin and Capital Requirements for Covered Swap Entities; Interim Final Rule” (RIN1557-AD00) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 17, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3965. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of admiral in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777a, for a period not to exceed 14 days before assuming the duties of the position for which the higher grade is authorized; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3966. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3967. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Home Mortgage Disclosure (Regulation C) Adjustment to Asset-Size Exemption Threshold” (12 CFR Part 1003) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 31, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3968. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendments to the Capital Plan and Stress Test Rules” (RIN7100-AE33) (12 CFR Parts 225 and 252) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 30, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3969. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Treatment of Financial Assets Transferred in Connection With a Securitization or Participation” (RIN3064-AE32) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 30, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3970. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process that was declared in Executive Order 12947 of January 23, 1995; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3971. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the Western Balkans that was declared in Executive Order 13219 of June 26, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3972. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to

North Korea that was declared in Executive Order 13466 of June 26, 2008; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3973. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Suspended Counterparty Program” (RIN2590-AA60) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 17, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3974. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13405 of June 16, 2006, with respect to Belarus; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3975. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security Annual Report for fiscal year 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3976. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report relative to the continuation of the national emergency with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction that was originally declared in Executive Order 12938 of November 14, 1994; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3977. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Technical Amendments: FHFA Address and Zip Code Change.” (RIN2590-AA79) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 17, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3978. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Truth in Lending Act (Regulation Z) Adjustment to Asset-Size Exemption Threshold” (12 CFR Part 1026) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 31, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3979. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Determination of Attainment; Texas; Houston-Galveston-Bradford 1997 Ozone Non-attainment Area; Determination of Attainment of the 1997 Ozone Standard” (FRL No. 9940-63-Region 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 30, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3980. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Washington; Removal of Obsolete Regulations” (FRL No. 9940-93-Region 10) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 30, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3981. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; SD; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference” (FRL No. 9939-87-Region 8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 17,

2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3982. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, Bureau of the Fiscal Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Offset of Tax Refund Payments to Collect Past-Due Support" ((RIN1510-AA10) (31 CFR Part 285)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 30, 2015; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3983. A communication from the Deputy Director, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program; Prior Authorization Process for Certain Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies" ((RIN0938-AR85) (CMS-6050-F)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 30, 2015; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3984. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Inflation-Adjusted Items for 2015 for Certain Civil Penalties Under the Internal Revenue Code" (Rev. Proc. 2016-11) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 4, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3985. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Applicable Federal Rates—January 2016" (Rev. Rul. 2016-1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 4, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3986. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Mileage Rate" (Notice 2016-1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 4, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3987. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Tax Treatment of Identity Protection Services" (Announcement 2016-02) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 4, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3988. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Hepatitis C Virus 'Lookback' Requirements Based on Review of Historical Testing Records; Technical Amendment" ((RIN0910-AB76) (Docket No. FDA-1999-N-0114, formerly 1999N-2337)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 30, 2015; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3989. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards Technical Amendments" (RIN1205-AB71) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 30, 2015;

to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3990. A communication from the Chairman, Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Training and Development for the Senior Executive Service: A Necessary Investment"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3991. A communication from the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Housing and Urban Development 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-3992. A communication from the Acting Commissioner of the Social Security 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-3993. A communication from the Executive Director of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report for the period of April 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3994. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Sole Source Contracts for Women-Owned Small Businesses" ((RIN9000-AN13) (FAC 2005-86)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 30, 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3995. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; New Designated Countries—Montenegro and New Zealand" ((RIN9000-AN15) (FAC 2005-86)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 30, 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3996. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Fiscal Year 2014 Annual Report on Advisory Neighborhood Commissions"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3997. A communication from the Acting Commissioner of Social Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3998. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the Department of State's Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3999. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Advisory Neighborhood Commission Security Fund Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2015"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4000. A communication from the Chair, Federal Election Commission, transmitting proposed legislation; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-4001. A communication from the Director of Regulation Policy and Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Payment of Emergency Medication by VA" (RIN2900-AP34) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 30, 2015; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-4002. A communication from the Director of Regulation Policy and Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removal of Requirement to File Direct-Pay Fee Agreements with the Office of the General Counsel" (RIN2900-AP28) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 30, 2015; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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 Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mrs. ERNST):

S. 2437. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the burial of the cremated remains of persons who served as Women's Air Forces Service Pilots in Arlington National Cemetery, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. REID, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BARR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COATS, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. ERNST, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. HELLER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Mr. KIRK, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEE, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. PETERS, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. REED, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SASSE, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. UDALL, Mr. VITTER, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 343. A resolution relative to the death of Dale Bumpers, former United States

Senator for the State of Arkansas; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 224

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 224, a bill to ensure the United States promotes women's meaningful inclusion and participation in mediation and negotiation processes undertaken in order to prevent, mitigate, and resolve violent conflict and implements the United States National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security.

S. 290

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 290, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the accountability of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 553

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 553, a bill to marshal resources to undertake a concerted, transformative effort that seeks to bring an end to modern slavery, and for other purposes.

S. 711

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 711, a bill to amend section 520J of the Public Service Health Act to authorize grants for mental health first aid training programs.

S. 901

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 901, a bill to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs a national center for research on the diagnosis and treatment of health conditions of the descendants of veterans exposed to toxic substances during service in the Armed Forces that are related to that exposure, to establish an advisory board on such health conditions, and for other purposes.

S. 1315

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1315, a bill to protect the right of law-abiding citizens to transport knives interstate, notwithstanding a patchwork of local and State prohibitions.

S. 1473

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1473, a bill to authorize the appro-

priation of funds to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for conducting or supporting research on firearms safety or gun violence prevention.

S. 1651

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1651, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 1697

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1697, a bill to provide an exception from certain group health plan requirements to allow small businesses to use pre-tax dollars to assist employees in the purchase of policies in the individual health insurance market, and for other purposes.

S. 1709

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1709, a bill to reduce risks to the financial system by limiting banks' ability to engage in certain risky activities and limiting conflicts of interest, to reinstate certain Glass-Steagall Act protections that were repealed by the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1747

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1747, a bill to improve the enforcement of sanctions against the Government of North Korea, and for other purposes.

S. 1890

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1890, a bill to amend chapter 90 of title 18, United States Code, to provide Federal jurisdiction for the theft of trade secrets, and for other purposes.

S. 2034

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2034, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide additional aggravating factors for the imposition of the death penalty based on the status of the victim.

S. 2067

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2067, a bill to establish EUREKA Prize Competitions to accelerate discovery and development of disease-modifying, preventive, or curative treatments for Alzheimer's disease and related dementia, to encourage efforts to enhance detection and diagnosis of such diseases, or to enhance the quality and efficiency of care of individuals with such diseases.

S. 2144

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the names of the Senator from Arkansas

(Mr. COTTON) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. 2144, a bill to improve the enforcement of sanctions against the Government of North Korea, and for other purposes.

S. 2200

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) 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. 2232

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) were added as cosponsors of S. 2232, a bill to require a full audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks by the Comptroller General of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2235

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2235, a bill to repeal debt collection amendments made by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015.

S. 2291

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2291, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish procedures within the Department of Veterans Affairs for the processing of whistleblower complaints, and for other purposes.

S. 2407

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2407, a bill to posthumously award the Congressional Gold Medal to each of J. Christopher Stevens, Glen Doherty, Tyrone Woods, and Sean Smith in recognition of their contributions to the Nation.

S. 2426

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors of S. 2426, a bill to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan in the International Criminal Police Organization, and for other purposes.

S. 2427

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2427, a bill to prohibit discrimination against individuals with disabilities who need long-term services and supports, and for other purposes.

S. 2434

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2434, a bill to provide that any executive action that infringes on the powers and duties of Congress under section 8 of article I of the Constitution of

the United States or on the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States has no force or effect, and to prohibit the use of funds for certain purposes.

S. 2436

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2436, a bill to provide for certain assistance and reforms relating to the territories, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 25

At the request of Mr. FLAKE, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 25, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the final rule of the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone".

S. RES. 143

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 143, a resolution supporting efforts to ensure that students have access to debt-free higher education.

S. RES. 337

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 337, a resolution expressing support for the designation of February 12, 2016, as "Darwin Day" and recognizing the importance of science in the betterment of humanity.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 343—RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF DALE BUMPERS, FORMER UNITED STATES SENATOR FOR THE STATE OF ARKANSAS

Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. REID of Nevada, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BURR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COATS, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. ERNST, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. HELLER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Mr. KIRK, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEE, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PERDUE, Mr.

PETERS, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. REED of Rhode Island, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SASSE, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. UDALL, Mr. VITTER, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 343

Whereas Dale Bumpers was born in Franklin County, Arkansas, attended the public schools of Arkansas, and the University of Arkansas;

Whereas Dale Bumpers was admitted to the Arkansas bar in 1952 and commenced practice in Charleston, Arkansas, where he was born, and where he proudly proclaimed he was the best lawyer in a one-lawyer town;

Whereas Dale Bumpers served in the United States Marine Corps during World War II;

Whereas Dale Bumpers served his beloved State of Arkansas as Special Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court in 1968, and the Governor of Arkansas from 1970 to 1974;

Whereas Dale Bumpers was first elected to the United States Senate in 1974 and served four terms as a Senator from the State of Arkansas with honor and distinction;

Whereas Dale Bumpers served the Senate as Chairman of the Committee on Small Business in the One Hundredth through One Hundred Third Congresses;

Whereas Dale Bumpers is remembered fondly in the Senate for his story-telling style of oratory and his use of the full length of his extended microphone cord, which allowed him to walk up and down the aisles of the Senate chamber as he spoke: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Dale Bumpers, former member of the United States Senate.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the Senate adjourns today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Dale Bumpers.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 11, 2016, at 5 p.m., to conduct a classified briefing entitled "Assessing the Recent North Korea Nuclear Event."

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

AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF ESCORT COMMITTEE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Presiding Officer of the Senate be authorized to appoint a committee on the part of the Senate to join with a like

committee on the part of the House of Representatives to escort the President of the United States into the House Chamber for the joint session to be held at 9 p.m. on Tuesday, January 12, 2016.

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

RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF DALE BUMPERS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 343, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 343) relative to the death of Dale Bumpers, former United States Senator for the State of Arkansas.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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. 343) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2016

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, January 12; 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, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each until 12:30 p.m., with the first hour equally divided and with the majority controlling the first half and the Democrats controlling the final half; further, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings; finally, that at 2:15 p.m., the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 2232, with the time until 2:30 p.m. equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

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

provisions of S. Res. 343 as a further mark of respect to the late Dale Bumpers, former United States Senator from Arkansas.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:46 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, January 12, 2016, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGISTERED AGENTS AND BROKERS

RAYMOND G. FARMER, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGISTERED AGENTS AND BROKERS FOR A TERM OF ONE YEAR. (NEW POSITION)

THOMAS MCLEARY, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGISTERED AGENTS AND BROKERS FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS. (NEW POSITION)

MICHAEL J. ROTHMAN, OF MINNESOTA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGISTERED AGENTS AND BROKERS FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS. (NEW POSITION)

HEATHER ANN STEINMILLER, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGISTERED AGENTS AND BROKERS FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS. (NEW POSITION)

OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

NELSON REYNERY, OF WASHINGTON, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 17, 2018, VICE MATTHEW MAXWELL TAYLOR KENNEDY, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TODD A. WEILER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE JESSICA LYNN WRIGHT, RESIGNED.

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

JOHN MARK MCWATERS, OF TEXAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 20, 2019, VICE SEAN ROBERT MULVANEY, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

KELLY KEIDERLING-FRANZ, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY.

STEPHEN MICHAEL SCHWARTZ, OF MARYLAND, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA.

IN THE AIR FORCE

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

To be brigadier general

COL. MARK A. BAIRD

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

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. JAMES R. BARKLEY
BRIG. GEN. KIMBERLY A. CRIDER
BRIG. GEN. DAVID B. O'BRIEN
BRIG. GEN. ERIC S. OVERTURF
BRIG. GEN. WALTER J. SAMS
BRIG. GEN. JOHN P. STOKES
BRIG. GEN. CURTIS L. WILLIAMS
BRIG. GEN. EDWARD P. YARISH

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. PAIGE P. HUNTER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. ROBERT S. WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. THOMAS J. OWENS II

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. THOMAS F. SPENCER

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

To be brigadier general

COL. ROBERT G. MICHNOWICZ

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

To be brigadier general

COL. JEFFREY C. COGGIN

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

To be brigadier general

COL. KEVIN C. WULFHORST

IN THE AIR FORCE

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 colonel

ERIC R. BAUGH, JR.
ROBERT W. BECK
DORON BRESLER
CASEY M. CAMPBELL
STEPHEN H. CHARTIER
FREDERICK A. CONNER
JONATHAN D. EVANS
DANIEL B. GABRIEL
MARCO V. GALVEZ
CECILIA I. GARIN
DAVID E. HALL
DENNIS M. HOLT
DAVID M. JONES
MIKELLE L. KERNIG
JAMES DALE KISER, JR.
KELLI C. MACK
KARYN E. MCKINNEY
BARRY F. MORRIS
JEANLUC G. C. NIEL

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

BRIAN J. ALENT
ELIZABETH A. BOWMAN
JEFFREY R. BURROUGHS
JAN R. CARLSON
BENJAMIN T. CLARK
DAVID M. DENNISON
JENNIFER M. DEPEW
RYAN M. DIEPENBROCK
MATTHEW J. EDWARDS
BENJAMIN J. GANTT
JOHN M. GILLIS
HANLING H. JOSWICK
NEIL C. KESSEL
JONGSUNG KIM
AARON T. KRANCE
LOUIS JOSEPH MARCONYAK, JR.
AMY G. MASON
SHAWN P. MCMAHON
TAMARA A. MURRAY
KRISTEN B. NICHOLS
JELENA C. SEIBOLD
PAUL A. SMITH
DRAGOS STEFANDOGAR
RACHEL A. WEBER
BRYAN A. WILLIAMS

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 colonel

BRETT C. ANDERSON
MARK R. ANDERSON
DAVID E. ANDRUS
MARIA M. ANGRUS
STACEY L. BRANCH
FRANCIS R. CARANDANG
DAVID H. CARNAHAN
MICHAEL T. CHALTON
PETER G. CRAWLEY
MICHAEL R. DAVIS
JAMISON V. ELDER
MICHELLE S. FLORES
JAY T. FLOTTMANN
THERESA B. GOODMAN
WADE T. GORDON
YVETTE GUZMAN
KYLE B. HUDSON
TODD P. HUHN
JON R. JACOBSON
DAVID S. JONES
MICHELE L. KNIERIM
JEFFREY D. LEWIS
KEEGAN M. LYONS
MICHAEL A. MADRID

DANIEL S. MADSEN
CHARLES G. MAHAKIAN
PHILLIP E. MASON
CHRISTOPHER J. MATHEWS
EDWARD L. MAZUCHOWSKI II
ALYSSA C. MCANAMON
QUINTESSA MILLER
ANTHONY L. MITCHELL
DANIEL H. MURRAY
BRETT R. NISHIKAWA
PATRICK M. OSBORN
WESLEY D. PALMER
GILBERTO PATINO
SALVATORE PELLIGRA
TIMOTHY M. PHILLIPS
ROBERT R. PORCHIA
TONYA S. RANS
MARK G. RIEKER
ERIC M. RITTER
RECHELL G. RODRIGUEZ
JIFFY C. SETO
ROBERT M. SHIDLER
JOHN H. W. A. SLADKY
CHRISTINE E. STAHL
THOMAS W. STAMP
KEVIN E. STEEL
DEENA E. SUTTER
MATTHEW R. TALARCYZYK
JOSEPH D. VILLACIS
KIRSTEN R. VITRIKAS
DANIEL R. WALKER
MAUREEN N. WILLIAMS
SHAHID A. ZAIDI

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 major

STEPHEN C. ARNASON
TONYA N. BARRY
STEPHEN C. BERG
RUSSELL D. BIENIAS
DAMIAN L. BLACK
BRYAN R. BLAZER
LUKE A. CANTAMESSA
ANTHONY M. CARBONELLA IV
NICOLE M. CATARINO
MATTHEW B. CHECKETTS
THOMAS M. CHRISTY
TYSON CHUNG
TODD D. CHURCH
CHRISTIANE M. COLOMBERO
ANDREW W. COMERCI
ANGELA K. COOK
ANGELA M. COOMES
SHAWN C. COUNTRYMAN
DARRELL M. CURTIS
BRENT N. DELONG
GINA M. DOMM
HANNAH C. DREW
BARRINGTON W. DYKES
MATTHEW T. EGGENBERGER
WHITTEY L. EICHOLZ
ARAGON R. ELLWANGER
MICHAEL C. ENGLISH
JON C. FEDERSPIEL
ERIN BIEBL FINK
CARMEN N. GALEA
CHRISTOPHER J. GILLETTE
CHRIS A. GIROUARD
JONATHAN P. HARMON
ASHLEY N. HARRIS
THOMAS J. HEIDENREICH
PETER L. HOLDEN
ADAM R. HURST
JESSICA H. JAWOROWICZ
LESLIE N. JONES
BRANDON W. KEYSER
AMANDA D. KLAYUM
JEFFERY A. KOHLER, JR.
JAMES W. KOLL
EUNLIM LEE
SPENCER M. LEE
MARK P. LEWIS
EVAN YUTAKA K. MASUNAGA
JASON R. MAY
ELIZABETH ANNE ROSADO MCCOURT
AMBER A. MILLER
MATTHEW S. MILLER
TERRELL M. MITCHELL
JAMES P. NALL
DUY Q. NGUYEN
MATTHEW J. NIELSEN
MATTHEW F. PASTEWAIT
MICHELLE M. PRATHER
EVAN E. ROBERTS
JASON D. SCHOENER
MATTHEW G. SETLIFF
RYAN R. SHERIDAN
JENNIFER O. SIMMONS
HECTOR C. SIORDIA
CASEY M. SLADKY
JACOB D. SLADKY
CHRISTOPHER J. SMITH
JAMIE L. SMITH
BENJAMIN W. SONG
GORDON D. STABLEY
MICHELLE K. TARTAGLIA
JESSAMY J. THORNTON
ANDREW D. THORSEN
RICHARD W. WADDELL
MARTIN W. WALSH
CHRISTINA A. WENGLER
DAVID J. WEYH
JON R. WILLISON
JOHN C. WILSON

JOHN R. YANCEY

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

ERIC E. ABBOTT
ERIK L. ABRAMES
VAN W. ADAMSON
CHRISTOPHER L. ALLAM
MICHAEL A. AROCHO
MICAH J. BAHR
KEVIN J. BALDOVICH
JAMES R. BALES
ROBERT T. BARIL
CHRISTOPHER W. BATES
GAIL C. BATES
TIMOTHY S. BAUMGARTNER
ELIZABETH A. BEAL
SCOTT J. BENTLEY
DAVID K. BIGELOW
BRANDON J. BINGHAM
LEAH G. BRAB
PAMELA J. BRODERICK
MICHAEL B. BROUGH
AMY N. BROWN
BRUCE A. BURKETT
SUSAN J. CARBOGNIN
NICOLE CHAPPELL
WILLIAM Y. CHU
NATHAN F. CLEMENT
TIMOTHY J. COKER
JAMON A. COMPTON
TARA L. CONNER
DUOJIA MICHELLE COONEY
JAMES R. COONEY
SUSANNAH C. COOPER
CHRISTINA L. CRISTALDI
SPENCER J. CURTIS
ELIZABETH A. DAVID
AMY M. DAVIS
RICHARD P. DAVIS
JONATHAN A. DAY
WILFRED P. DELACRUZ
NGA T. DO
MARK B. DUDLEY
SCOTT A. EISENHUTH
STEPHEN T. ELLIOTT
JONATHAN E. ELLIS
JOEL B. ELTERMAN
DAVID D. FARNSWORTH
MELINDA G. FIERROS
AUSTIN D. FINDLEY
STACY F. FLETCHER
ADAM C. FLOOD
FREDERICK L. FLYNT, JR.
RYAN D. FREELAND
SHAWN K. FRENCH
SCOTT H. FRYE
JOHN G. GANCAYCO
GUY N. GIBSON
SHAUN M. GIFFORD
JASON C. GOODWIN
JOSE B. GOROSPE
MARIA E. GOROSPE
FREDERICK P. GROIS III
MATTHEW C. GUMMERSON
TRISTAN E. HANDLER
JEFFREY N. HARRIS
MICHELLE M. HARRIS
NOAL I. HART
WILLIAM N. HAYES II
KEVIN F. HEACOCK
JASON A. HIGEY
SEAN J. HISLOP
DIANE C. HOMEYER
WILLIAM R. HOWARTH
JUSTIN C. HUANG
RHOME L. HUGHES
ISAAC P. HUMPHREY
KYLE F. JARNAGIN
KEVIN N. JENSEN
SCOTT T. JENSEN
ASHLEY B. JOHNSON
FRANCES J. JONES
KEVIN KALWERISKY
ALEXANDER P. KELLER IV
JARED C. KELSTROM
KEIRON T. KENNEDY
SARA S. KERLEY
JEREMY P. KILBURN
DAVID A. KLEIN
SHANNON F. KLUMP
JOSHUA H. KNOWLES
JAMES B. KOCH
THOMAS J. KRYZAK
MICHAEL S. LAIDLAW
BRIAN D. LARSON
ZHI V. LAU
BRIAN DAVID LAYTON
APRIL LIGATO
NANCY W. LO
WILLIAM N. LUTHIN
DUSTIN O. LYBECK
THOMAS W. MAHONEY
ANDREW S. MALIN
JAMIE A. MASSIE
JASON A. MASSIGNAN
RENEE I. MATOS
JEFFREY C. MCCLEAN
TORREE M. MCGOWAN
PEICHUN MCGREGOR
RYAN S. MCHUGH
MARCENE R. MCVAY
ALEXANDER J. MENZE
WAYNE J. MERBACK

LISA R. MICHELS
CHARLES B. MILLER
DEANA L. MITCHELL
JEREMY D. MOLL
CHRISTOPHER S. MONNIKENDAM
TYLAN A. MUNCY
JOSEPH D. NOVAK
VALERIE C. OBRIEN
JUSTIN P. OLSEN
ROBERT M. ORE
BRUCE M. PALMER
BENJAMIN J. PARK
JASON D. PASLEY
JOSHUA B. PEAD
CANDACE S. PERCIVAL
SERAFIM PERDIKIS
KRISTINE K. PIERCE
BRANDON W. PROPPER
CLAYTON J. RABENS
ANDREW G. REES
STEVEN REGWAN
TIGHE C. RICHARDSON
PAUL C. ROBINSON
JUSTIN P. ROWBERRY
DERICK A. SAGER
KARA S. SCHULTZ
TRISTAN L. SEVDY
JONATHAN B. SHAPIRO
MEHDI C. SHELHAMER
MARK E. SHEPHERD
TRIMBLE L. SPITZER
GREGORY A. STANCEL
TRAVIS A. STEPHENSEN
HEATHER L. STEWART
KRISTEN MITCHELL STILLE
NORMAN E. STONE III
SARAH J. STRINGER
JAMIE M. SWARTZ
ROGER S. THOMAS
KATHERINE S. TILLE
PAUL A. TILTON
JAMES R. TOWNLEY
DOUGLAS R. VILLARD
TERENCE E. WADE
DENNIS D. WALKER
ANDREW L. WALLS
LARISSA F. WEIR
DALIA J. WENCKUS
BRAD E. WHEELER
CALEN N. WHERRY
AUDREA D. WILLIAMS
PHILIP A. WIXOM

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 major

JANE A. ALSTON
JOSHUA C. ANCHAN
DAVID M. ANDERSON
BRACKEN A. ARMSTRONG
RACHAEL L. ARMSTRONG
CHRIS J. ATKINSON
SARAH E. AVILA
BRADY A. BAHR
JAMES A. BAILEY
ERIC M. BALL
AARON E. BARRROW
HARITHA BASKAR
JACQUELINE D. BATTISTELLI
COREY M. BAXTER
LAUREN MANSFIELD BEASLEY
ALEXIS ANTHON BEAUVAIS
ADRIAN R. BERSABE
REBECCA K. BICKFORD
STEPHEN C. BIRD
MICHAEL C. BLANCANEAU
FELIX S. BOECKER
ADAM BRADEN
DAVID F. BRANDT
RAMON A. BROWN
MERIMA BUCAJ
ALEXANDRA M. BUFORD
LYSA R. CHASTANT
EVA RODRIGUEZ CHATMAN
DAVID H. CHEN
CONNIE Y. CHUNG
LEE T. CHURCH
RYAN A. COLLINS
MATTHEW P. CONNOR
ERICA L. CONRAD
ANDREW M. COUTERMARSH
LYNSEY R. COX
BLAIR K. CURTIS
ELEANOR E. CURTIS
LISA DANG
GINA M. DATTOLI
RUSSELL G. DAY
COLIN W. DEFORD
AVRAM H. DERROW
ROSALY M. DIAZ TORRUELLAS
VINCENT A. DIAZ
DANIEL M. DIERFELDT
SARAH SCOTT BRETT DIETZ
LISA M. DODOBARA GRIFFITH
ELIZABETH G. DOUGLAS
ROBERT J. DOXEY
KIM R. DUFFTMIER
DANIELLE A. DUFRESNE
JOEL D. DUNN
ALAN ALDERSON DUPRE
ASHLEY ELIZABETH DURAY
BENJAMIN H. BOVALDI
DAVID J. FAITH
ADAM S. FAIZI
SETH A. FARNSWORTH

JOEL FERNANDEZ
KRISTOPHER J. FILAK
MARY EMILY FLEMING
STEVEN T. FOSMIRE
STEPHANIE M. FOX
RYAN T. FRANK
DIANNE N. FRANKEL
ASHLEY N. FRANZ
JOSHUA E. FRIEND
JAYSUN G. FRISCH
GRANT G. GALLIMORE
CURTIS R. GAPINSKI
MARGARET J. GARNER
CAYL L. GARRETT
MORGAN C. GETTLE
BENJAMIN S. GOINS
HAROLD JONATHAN GOLDSTEIN
MATTHEW M. GRAHAM
EVA M. GRANT
RUSSELL A. GRAY
JEFFREY P. GUINA
MICHAEL G. GUINDON
LISA J. GUPTA
AARON C. HAGER
THOMAS A. HEAFNER
AARON T. HENDERSON
KRISTY R. HICKS
CLAIRE L. HILES
PAUL D. HILES
NATHAN J. HOLLOWAY
BRIAN H. HUGGINS
KRISTIN D. HUMMEL
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JOHN HYMAN
KYLE J. IVERSON
BRIAN N. JULICH
TRAVIS J. JUNG
KRISTEN SAENGER KANN
TERATA A. KANU
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MICHELLE E. KIGER
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JEFFREY L. KINARD
JOSEPH KYLE KLUSNER
DEBRA A. KOENIGSBERGER
JUSTIN LITCHEFIELD LAMB
KYLE P. LAMMLELD
ELIZABETH A. LANDMAN
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RICHARD J. LEVITRE
DAVID A. LINDHOLM
CARL EUGENE LOBATO
ROBERT STEVEN LOCKE
KEYAN H. LONG
MARK A. LUSSIER
LUCKY R. C. LUSTERIO
DAVID T. LYNCH
JEREMY M. MACKO
SAMUEL L. MADSON
CHRISTI MARIE MAKAS
REBECCA N. MATZ
LAUREN A. MAY
SARA ELIZABETH MCALPIN
CHERYL D. MCCALLA
CAMERON W. MCCLAUGHLIN
CHRISTOPHER M. MCCLAUGHLIN
DIANA S. MEDA
JAMES M. MEDEIROS
MICHELLE LEAH MEDINTZ
JUN C. MENDOZA
ADAM S. MONTAYA
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DAMIEN C. MORGAN
MARK D. MULDER
BRIAN P. MURRAY
FAITH ROSE MURRAY
BRETT A. NANCE
BRIDGET SHANNON NESTOR ARJUN
TIMOTHY A. NETTERS
DANE M. NEWELL
HENRY HAO V. NGUYEN
KY V. NGUYEN
KRISTINE TIU NORRIS
MICHAEL R. ODOM
DANIEL C. OPRIS
MEGHAN COLLEEN H. OZCAN
ALICIA C. PALLETT
ALLISON A. PALUMBO
MICHAEL F. PAPACOSTAS
NICHOLAS C. PAPACOSTAS
MATTHEW M. PARKER
MELONIE A. PARMLEY
ANDREW O. PAULUS
MARY T. PAWLAK
BRYAN K. PAYNE
DANIEL J. PEARSON
JOHN M. PEPPER
ASHLEY N. PEREZ
SON PHUONG PHAM
PIOTR W. PODLESNY
JACOB R. POWELL
JESSICA A. PREEDY
CHRISTINA I. RAMIREZ
SASHA RAMIREZ
SHELLEY M. RASKA
BRIAN T. RAUCH
MATTHEW D. READ
KATHERINE M. REEVE
ALEXANDER L. REYNOLDS

CARISSA N. RITTBERG
JAMIE L. ROPER
SCOTT DANIEL RUBENSTEIN
NICHOLAS J. RUPPEL
MARIA D. J. SALINAS
GEORGE SALLOUM
DOROTHY L. SAUNE
ASHLEY L. SAWTELLE
NICHOLAS J. SCALZITTI
KAYLA L. SCHEUER
EDWARD M. SCHMITT
MARK A. SCHNEIDER
MEREDITH MONTGOMERY SCHULD
ELIZABETH V. SCHULZ
RODNEY C. SCLATER
ERIN A. SENOZAN
CAITLIN M. SEYKORA
JACOB J. SHEFF
DREW C. SHINER
TIFFANY A. SIGAL
DUSTIN L. SIMPSON
TRAVIS M. SLOAN
DAVID M. SMITH
TREVOR S. SMITH
WILLIAM B. SMITH
BRIAN D. SNOW
ZACHARY S. SONNIER
CHARLES G. STAHLMANN
ELIZABETH ASHLEY SHERRON STEVENS
SCOTT EDWARD STEWART
JAMES A. STOBER
DANIEL R. STYPULA
LUKE T. SURRY
AYLIN TANYERI
ASHLEY Q. THORBURN
LIEN Q. TRAN
MATTHEW H. TUREK
KATHARYN E. TURNER
BENJAMIN A. VON SCHWEINITZ
RYAN P. VOTH
LAURA I. WALPOLE
JUSTIN R. WARIX
BRENT M. WEBER
JEREMY M. WHITTING
LAURA A. WHITTINGTON
ROBERT B. WIECK
LEWIS M. WIGGINS
DAVID W. WILLIAMS
JARED MICHAEL WILSON
JESSICA L. WILSON
ZACHARY W. WILSON
MATTHEW S. WIMMER
DWIGHT YEPING XUAN
JACQUELINE L. YURGIL
RICHARD CHASE ZANETTI, JR.
TIMOTHY J. ZIELICKE

IN THE ARMY

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

MARK L. COBLE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

CRAIG A. HOLAN
JONA M. HUGHES
MICHELLE A. KILUK
MARSHALL T. KOHR
PETER J. PARENTE
JOHN P. PLUNKETT
MICHAEL D. SMITH
ANDREW W. THAYNE
NELSON J. VANECK, JR.
ERIC E. ZIMMERMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT 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

RICARDO O. MORALES

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

STEVEN R. BERGER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be major

RICHARD M. HAWKINS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AS A CHAPLAIN UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be lieutenant colonel

MARTIN S. KENDRICK

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

GREGORY L. BOYLAN

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant commander

DENISE M. VEYVODA
ROBERT G. WEST

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 716:

To be lieutenant commander

JAMES A. TROTTER

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 major

JEREMY D. ADAMS
STEVEN G. ADCOCK
MARK A. ADOLPHSEN, JR.
TRAVIS A. AIELLO
NICKOLAS H. AIONAAGA
ERIC D. ALBRIGHT
DAN E. ALCANTARA
JACOB C. ALDEAN
CARLTON D. ALLEN
MATTHEW S. ALLEN
JEFFREY P. ANDREWS
NICHOLAS J. ARMENDARIZ
JAMES R. ARMSTRONG
JAMES R. ARNOLD
MATTHEW R. ASHTON
JARED R. ATKINSON
JESSE T. ATTIG
ADAM J. AYRISS
MARCO S. AZUA
CHARLIE S. BAHK
ISAAC S. BAKER
MICHAEL R. BAKER
SCOTT W. BALLARD
KEVIN W. BALTIMBERGER
JON C. BANKS
KENNETH L. BARBER, JR.
BLAINE N. BARBY
JASON A. BARNES
WILLIAM M. BARRETT
KATHERYNN A. BASSO
ANGELA J. BASTITINI
MATTHEW E. BAXLEY
ANDREW M. BAXTER
ALEXANDER J. BEACHY
MARTIN R. BEBELL
STEVEN R. BECHTEL
ALBERT D. BELLAMY
RYAN E. BENES
GLENN W. BERDELA, JR.
THOMAS I. BEREKNEYI
DANIEL A. BERG
JOSEPH D. BERG
DAVID M. BERGER
CHRISTOPHER W. BERGMAN
ROBERT L. BESKE
RONALD E. BESS, JR.
JOSEPH R. BEST
CHRISTOPHER M. BIBEAU
STEVEN W. BICKHAM
JOHN M. BILLIRIS
MARK G. BLACKBOROW
SHANE A. BLADEN
MARY C. BLAIR
WALLY A. BLAIR
NATHAN D. BLODGETT
MICHAEL D. BLUMENSCHNEIN
GABRIEL D. BOENECKE
REBECCA A. BOLZ
CHAD E. BONECUTTER
DAVID A. BORDEN, JR.
COURTNEY J. BOSTON
JOHNATHAN M. BOUCEK
DAVID L. BOUGHARD
RALIA R. BOUSKA
JASON P. BOWERS
KEVIN P. BOWLER
MATTHEW J. BOWMAN
DANIEL E. BOWRING
TRAVIS S. BOWSER
HARRY L. BOYD
JOHN F. BOYER
COLIN P. BOYNTON
EVAN F. BRADLEY
JAMES M. BRAUDT
CHRISTOPHER J. BRIDGER
JAMES M. BROPHY
DANIEL L. BROWN
MICHAEL R. BROWN
PHILLIPPE C. BRULE
AARON P. BRUNER
BRADLEY N. BUICK
CHRISTOPHER C. BUMGARDNER
TIMOTHY L. BURK
DAVID C. BURTON
BRADY J. BUSTIN
ANDREW T. BUTLER
JASON D. BUTLER
JEFFREY V. BUTLER
SETH D. BYRUM
CHRISTOPHER K. CALDWELL
CLIFF M. CAMPBELL
CHRISTOPHER N. CAPASSO
SERENA N. CARDONA

AARON R. CARLSON
HARLYE S. CARLTON
JUSTIN R. CARRELL
CHESTER T. CARTER
MATTHEW G. CARTER
BRIAN M. CARTHON
CORY A. CARVER
CHARLES S. CASEY
CHAD D. CASSADY
JASON R. CASTER
MARTIN A. CAWDERY
BLAIR T. CELLON
CHRISTOPHER R. CEREN
ANTHONY J. CESARO
JASON W. CHAN
MICHAEL K. CHAND, JR.
RHETT W. CHRISTENSEN
KYLE A. CHRISTMAN
MICHAEL J. CHRISTY
ADAM M. CHU
JASON C. CIARCIA
BRYAN J. CLAUSEN
JACOB A. CLAYTON
ROBERT B. CLEMENTS
KYE P. COLBY
MATTHEW A. COLLIER
BRETT C. COLLINS
GREGORY L. COLLINS
MICHAEL D. COLLINS
PETER C. COMBE II
JOSEPH COMMON
HECTOR L. CONTRERAS
PETER J. COOMBE, JR.
JUSTIN M. COONS
PAUL C. CORDES
CHRISTOPHER M. COTTON
GRANT R. COVEY
ERIC D. CRAMER
RONNIE L. CREECH
ROBERT P. CROBIN
LAURA E. CROWE
JOHN A. CRUTCHFIELD
MIGUEL A. CRUZ
GLENN A. CRUZCANCEL
SARAH R. CULBERTSON
SCOTT R. CULBERTSON
COLIN J. CULKIN
GEORGE D. CUMMINGS IV
JEFFREY A. CUMMINGS
THOMAS P. CUNNINGHAM
GREGG F. CUNLEY
TIMOTHY A. CURLING
PATRICK J. DALY
JOSEPH P. DAVIOSKI
DANIEL J. DAVIS
JEFFREY C. DAVIS
NOLAN G. DEAN
ROBERT C. DEBENEADTO
LUKE D. DELANEY
ALLEN C. DELEON
MELISSA A. DEPRIEST
SARAH J. DERRYBERRY
CHRISTOPHER S. DESTAFNEY
DANIEL P. DEVITO
ANTHONY J. DEVUONO
HONEY DHALIWAL
NATHAN R. DILON
PETER A. DINARDO
JOSEPH N. DINIEGA
JAMES E. DITRI, JR.
JAY P. DODGE
STEVEN B. DODSON
KOLIN B. DEZEMA
PETER J. DORN
CHARLES W. DOTERRER
CHRISTOPHER M. DOTY
ALEXEI A. DOUDAREV
JOHN M. DOVE
ANTON D. DRAGANOV
CHRISTOPHER D. DRISCOLL
PETER A. DRISCOLL II
THOMAS M. DRISKELL
ERIC A. DUCHENE
ROBERT M. DUGAN
ROBERT E. DUSH
RONALD O. DUTIL II
ERIC S. DWYER
CALEB D. EAMES
JOSEPH W. EASTERLING
JUSTIN M. EASTMAN
JONATHAN T. EDMONDSON
PAUL J. EICKHOFF III
KARL J. EISENMANN
JASON G. ELLIS
ZACHARY N. EMBERS
DANIEL J. EMUNSON
GEOFFREY S. ENGLUND
JEFFREY M. ERP
HECTOR N. ESPADA
MICHAEL R. EUBANKS
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DANIEL L. EVANS
DAVINA C. EVANS
JAMES A. EVENSEN
CHRISTIE R. EVERETT
ZACHARY K. EVERHART
GARRETT J. EXNER
ADEMOLA D. FARAYO
KEVIN F. FALLON
MICHAEL A. FARLEY
WENDELL C. FARMER
ADAM G. FAUL
CHRISTINA R. FELKINS
GEORGE P. FENTON II
CHRISTOPHER M. FERGUSON
MICHAEL P. FISHER
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RUSSELL L. FLUKER
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ROBIN J. FONSECA
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JACK E. FREE
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ANTHONY T. FUHRER
CHRISTOPHER J. FULLER
AARON F. GAJEWSKI
GERRID M. GALL
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FREDERICK S. GALLUP IV
REBECCA L. GANSCA
WAYNE A. GANTZ
DAVID M. GARCIA
BRADLEY A. GATES
JOSHUA H. GATO
REDMOND B. GAUTIER IV
SHERLEY K. GENNA
TRISTAN M. GERRITSEN
GEORGE E. GETTMAN, JR.
DANIEL A. GIBBON
PATRICK J. GIBSON
JOSEPH L. GILL II
MICHAEL E. GINN
RAY N. GOMEZ
EDWARD B. GONZALES
JAVIER GONZALEZ
JOSEPH E. GOODRICH
STEVEN J. GORALSKI
CHAD R. GOWING
ARTHUR L. GRAHAM III
COLIN A. GRAHAM
SCOTT C. GRAHAM
SETH M. GRANT
WILLIAM T. GRAVES, JR.
BRIAN D. GREEN
MICHAEL B. GREEN
MICHAEL W. GREEN
NATHAN J. GREEN
MARK A. GREENLIEF
DARREN T. GRETCHKO
JUSTIN L. GRIECO
TYSON L. GRIFFITH
NATHANIEL D. GRIGGS
KHALIL C. GUEST
JASON E. GWINN
STEVEN R. HAACK
THOMAS J. HAAKENSEN
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GABLE F. HACKMAN
DAVID R. HAINES
CLINTON K. HALL
HENOK S. HALL
MATTHEW S. HALL
JOSEPH B. HAMILTON
CHAD A. HAMLIN
MATTHEW D. HAMMOND
BENJAMIN J. HAND
DAVID J. HANES
KRISTOPHER B. HANSEN
SEAN B. HANSON
ANDREW S. HARKINS
LESLIE A. HARKNESS
KEVIN E. HARRIS
SAMUEL A. HART
STEVEN D. HARVEY
AARON J. HATFIELD
COREY S. HEALEY
ANTHONY T. HEARREAN
CLAIRE E. HENRY
GAVIN HENRY
PETER J. HERSEY
GEORGE A. HIERRO
ANDREW C. HIETPAS
KEVIN L. HOFFMAN
SCOTT A. HOLBERT
BRYAN G. HOLEY
PATRICK C. HOLLAND
ROGER A. HOLLENBECK
JACK W. HOLLOWAY
ANDREW L. HOLMES
JAMES D. HOLT
ADAM S. HOOPER
ANDREW P. HORNFECK
JOSHUA M. HOTVET
JAKE J. HUBBARD
SCOTT A. HUMR
KRISTOPHER L. HURTLEY
THOMAS B. HUTSON
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MCLEAN IRVAN
RICHARD J. JACOBS
CHAD O. JAMES
RODNEY M. JAMES
JONATHAN P. JANDORF
NICOLE A. JANSSENHINNENKAMP
BRIAN A. JAQUITH
SALVADOR JAUREGUI III
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MICHAEL A. JEVONS
CORY J. JOBST
BENJAMIN W. JOHANNINGSMEIER
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DEREK K. JOHNSON
JESSE D. JOHNSON
RICHARD W. JOHNSON, JR.
TALISHA D. JOHNSON
BRIAN A. JORDAN
JONATHAN S. JOSEPH
ERIC JUAREZ
IGNACIO A. JUAREZ

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BRIAN J. KANE
SEAN E. KASPERBAUERMCCOOL
CHRISTOPHER J. KEARNEY
STEPHEN P. KELLY
JOSEPH M. KENNEDY
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ERIC E. KIM
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KRISTOPHER J. KNOBEL
RANDON L. KNOLL
MATTHEW A. KNOPP
DANIEL F. KNUDSON III
JOHN J. KOEPEKE
MICHAEL W. KOHLER
ANDREW C. KOLB
EDWARD P. KOTULSKI, JR.
ZUBAH Z. KOWEH
PAUL B. KOZICK
SHANE F. KRAFT
TIMOTHY R. KRONJAEGGER
MARK P. KUGLER, JR.
MICHAEL A. KUIPER
SAMUEL E. KUNST
ANDREW J. KURTZ
KYLE A. KURTZ
DOUGLAS R. KURZ
DANIEL J. LACHASSE
KYLE J. LADWIG
DANIELZAIN A. LAKHANI
MATTHEW A. LAMB
CAMILLE C. LAMPERT
MATTHEW H. LAMPERT
KARLO R. LANDRAU
SHANNON L. LANE
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ANDRE G. LATASTE
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DAVID L. LEE, JR.
BROCK A. LENNON
MARY E. LEVALLEY
ADAM R. LINDBERG
JOSEPH M. LIPIEC
ERICH W. LLOYD
RAY LONGORIA, JR.
NATHAN J. LOOMIS
ZACHARY D. LOTT
ARTHUR K. LOTZ IV
TIMOTHY W. LOVE
MARK P. LUBKE
CHRISTOPHER E. LYON
CHRISTOPHER A. MACAK
CHRISTOPHER J. MACHI
ABDUL E. MACAK
KEITH D. MACLAREN
JOSEPH K. MACDUX
MOISES MAGDALENO
RYAN P. MAHAFFEY
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NICHOLAS C. MANNWEILER
ROBERT H. MANUEL
PETER J. MARBACH
ANDREW D. MARKOFF
AMANDA B. MARTIN
JOSEPH B. MARTIN
GIOVANNI M. MARTINEZ
RICHARD Q. MARTINEZ
COLIN D. MARTY
KYLE A. MASCHNER
MICHAEL F. MASTERS, JR.
RYAN L. MATHEWS
BUCKSHOT N. MATTSON
CHAD R. MATZELLE
GRANT T. MAURITZSON
SHANNON R. MAWSON
AARON J. MAXWELL
LEWIS M. MAXWELL III
JAMES W. MCBRIDE
MICHAEL N. MCDOWELL
ADAM L. MCKILLOP
LUKE J. MCLEAREN
ROBERT B. MCMANUS
ROLANDO A. MEDINA
AARON S. MEKOLIK
CHRISTOPHER F. MELLING
FEDERICO W. MENDIZABAL
JEFFREY M. MENNE
MICHAEL A. MICHAUD
STEPHEN MIGGINS
BRIAN E. MILLER
JENNIFER E. MILLER
DEREK A. MILLS
ANDREW D. MIN
MICAH J. MINER
AMANDA L. MINIKUS
JASON E. MISNER
TROY E. MITCHELL
ERIC T. MOFFITT
JASMIN MOGHBELI
LILLIANA MOLINA
MORGAN T. MONAGHAN
TREVOR J. MONFETTE
ROBERT J. MONROE
ALEXANDER M. MONTE
MATTHEW M. MORAIN
LUIS F. MORALES
RYAN F. MORCAN
DAVID C. MORRIS
THOMAS W. MORROW
CHRISTOPHER A. MORTON
KENDRA N. MOTZ
MELISSA C. MUELLER
GARRETT D. MULDER

JOHN P. MULLEN
JEFFREY M. MULLINS
VALERIE R. MUNOZ
STEVEN P. MURELLO
CALEB A. MURPHY
DANIEL P. MURPHY
JUSTIN P. MURPHY
SARAH L. MURPHY
THOMAS W. NANCE
KHADIJAH M. NASHAGH
ANDREA K. NEAGLE
BRENDAN R. NEAGLE
KRISTOPHER L. NEKVINDA
CASEY D. NELSON
HENRY R. NESBITT
MATTHEW M. NEWMAN
WESLEY C. NEWMAN
KEVIN P. NEWPORT
BENJAMIN C. NICKELL
LEONARD J. NIEDOSIK
ROBERT J. NOXON
NICHOLAS A. NOYES
BRANDON C. OBERKAMP
REGINALD C. ODJIMER
CHRISTOPHER J. OMELIA
BRYAN J. ONEIL
TRAVIS C. ONISCHUK
RYAN D. OROURKE
BENJAMIN D. ORTIZ
EVAN L. OSBORN
DEVLIN R. OSHEA
TIMOTHY D. OTTEN
WILLIAM O. OVER
PRESTON S. PACK
STEPHEN G. PAGE
DAVID J. PALKA
THOMAS A. PALMER
JOHN D. PARK IV
SUNG C. PARK
JEFFREY D. PARKER, JR.
MICHAEL J. PASSE
CHRISTOPHER M. PATTERSON
TARA E. PATTON
EUGENE J. PAUL
PHILLIP J. PEACOCK
CURTIS W. PECK II
FILIPPE A. PEERALLY
JESSE M. PEPPERS
FREDDIE PEREZ
LUIS R. PEREZ
BRIAN D. PERKINS
PHILIPJASO S. PEROUNE
JEFFREY B. PERSONS, JR.
MARK J. PETERS
FREDERICK H. PETERSON IV
GREGORY C. PETERSON
DANIEL R. PETRONZIO
BENJAMIN W. PHILLIPS III
ERIC B. PHILLIPS
MICHAEL A. PHILLIPS
JOHN G. PICO
JUSTIN L. PITCOCK
CELIDON H. PITT
JAMES M. PLOSKI
IAN J. PLUMMER
JAMES W. POLLARD
BRANDON S. POPE
TRAVIS D. POSEY
BEN W. POTTER
ANDREW F. PRICE
BENJAMIN A. PRICE
CHRISTOPHER L. PRIDGEN
JOHN W. PROSS
ALEXANDER C. PURATY
MATTHEW R. QUEEN
DANIEL QUESADA
JASON M. QUINN
AARON J. QUINTANAR
SEAN F. RAFFERTY
WALTER M. RAINES
VINEET RAJAN
KARIN R. RAMIREZ
CLIFTON N. RAWTEKE
GEORGE A. REAGAN
ROBERT D. REAGLES
STEPHEN A. REAMLY
WILLIAM D. RECALDE
CALEB M. REED
MICHAEL L. REID
CHARLES H. REITER
STEPHEN A. REYNA
ANTHONY F. REYNOLDS
CHARLES H. RICHARDSON IV
JUDSON P. RIORDON
JONATHAN H. RITCHEY
CHRISTOPHER G. ROBINSON
CHRISTOPHER M. ROBINSON
JARROD M. ROBINSON
TYLER B. ROBINSON
ERIC P. ROBY
DANIAL M. ROCK
LUKE A. RODINA
CHRISTOPHER A. RODNEY
MATTHEW L. ROHLFING
JAVIER ROMAN
NICHOLAS C. ROSE
NATHANIEL L. ROSS
ALEX J. RUNYAN
GLEN O. RYBERG
DANIE N. SAAIMAN
KIRT R. SAMSON
DANIEL SANCHEZ, JR.
GREGORY R. SANDERS
TYLER B. SANDERS
SRIVATSAN N. SANTHANAM
DANIEL A. SARACENI
BENJAMIN G. SCHMIDT

MICHAEL C. SCHMIDT
 CRAIG M. SCHNAPPINGER
 JOHN J. SCHRANZ
 MARK R. SCHROTH, JR.
 JORDAN T. SCHULTZ
 VALERIE M. SCHWINDT
 JACOB D. SCHWINGHAMMER
 MICHAEL J. SEDRICK
 CHRISTOPHER R. SEEMAYER
 DANIEL C. SEIDERS V
 KEVIN B. SEMLER
 OSMAN N. SESAY
 TIMOTHY N. SHEA
 JOHN SHIM
 ADAM D. SHIRLEY
 EVAN L. SHOCKLEY
 JOSHUA W. SHOWALTER
 RYAN SHROUT
 KEVIN A. SHULER
 CRAIG D. SHURGOT
 MOUHAMADOU SIDIBE
 ADAM E. SIMON
 JESSE R. SIMONEAU
 CHRISTOPHER W. SIMPSON
 JUSTIN K. SING
 MATTHEW A. SISNEROS
 PATRICK J. SKEHAN
 KRISTOFER A. SKIDMORE
 JAMES M. SLOCUM
 JAMES R. SMITH
 STEPHANIE N. SOKOL
 ADRIAN L. SOLIS
 BRANDON S. SOUTHWORTH
 LEO P. SPAEDER III
 JEFFREY P. SPARROW
 MITCHELL R. SPIDEL
 BRIAN T. SPILLANE
 ERIC W. SPITZNOGLE
 ROBERT A. SPODAREK
 CHAPMAN D. SPRING
 BRADLEY C. STADELMEIER
 SCOTT M. STAFFORD
 TYSON S. STAHL
 NICHOLAS B. STAITON
 NATHAN I. STEFFES
 GEORGE H. STEINFELS
 ROBERT L. STEINHAUSER III
 KERRISSA A. STERNS
 BRIAN R. STEVENS
 HAYDEN T. STEVENS
 MICHAEL F. STEWART, JR.
 PATRICK E. STEWART
 SCOTT A. STEWART
 MATTHEW R. STOLZENBERG
 TRAVIS J. STREAN
 LEE J. STUCKEY
 PAIGE D. STULL
 STEVEN T. SUTOS
 WILLIAM P. SUMPTION
 JARED K. SWAN
 JASON A. SYLVESTER
 KENNETH A. TARR
 BENJAMIN O. TATE

GARON G. TAYLORTREE
 NICHOLAS A. TEACH
 BRIAN J. TEDESCO
 JOSEPH E. TENNISON
 TINA D. TERRY
 RAPHAEL J. THALAKOTTUR
 MICHAEL T. THESING
 MATTHEW J. THOMAS
 CLINTON T. THOMPSON
 CRAIG A. THOMPSON
 JONATHAN M. THOMPSON
 MATTHEW A. THOMPSON
 BRENT M. TIMMER
 CHRISTOPHER P. TINOCO
 PAUL A. TRUOG
 CARL D. TUCKER
 CHRISTOPHER C. TUCKER
 TRAVIS G. TUFTE
 JAMES O. TURNER
 CHRISTOPHER V. TYSON
 RICHARD K. ULSH
 CHRISTOPHER D. UPTON
 SUSAN E. UPWARD
 THOMAS J. VALLELY IV
 GERARD W. VANDERWAAL
 TROY J. VANZUMMEREN
 BENJAMIN J. VANZYTVELD
 JUSTIN E. VAUGHAN
 FRANCISCO J. VEGA
 TRYSTEN L. VILLARREAL
 KIMBERLY L. WADE
 JONATHAN A. WAGNER
 PHILLIP A. WAGNER
 FRANK E. WALKER
 ERIC A. WALRAVEN
 ARAN T. WALSH
 JONAH B. WARREN
 CHARLES J. WATT
 GREGORY P. WATTEN
 LUTHER T. WATTS
 ROBERT E. WEVERS
 MATTHEW S. WEANT
 SHELDON WEBB
 JONATHAN T. WEEKS
 JOSHUA H. WEILAND
 JOHN P. WEITZEL
 DANIEL J. WENDOLOWSKI
 MATTHEW J. WESENBERG
 BRET A. WHITE
 TODD R. WHITE
 JAMES D. WHITLOW
 DANIEL H. WHITT
 PHILLIP A. WIKTOR
 RONNIE WILBURN, JR.
 JACOB H. WILDE
 CHRISTOPHER D. WILLIS
 ERIC B. WILLIS
 LONNIE C. WILSON
 MATTHEW E. WINDHOL
 GARY J. WINDT
 THOMAS J. WISSLER
 ROBERT H. WITHERS, JR.
 PAUL G. WITHERSPOON

JASON P. WOOD
 MILLARD B. WOODARD
 LARRY N. WORLEY
 ANDREW M. WRZOSEK
 MICHAEL C. YEO
 MICHAEL B. YOUNG
 CHRISTOPHER M. ZAJAC
 JONATHAN S. ZASADNY
 TRAVIS Q. ZIMMERMAN
 STANLEY R. ZIVANOVICH III
 PATRICK J. ZUBER
 ANGELA S. ZUNIC

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant colonel

GEORGE L. ROBERTS

To be major

NEAL C. CARTER
 TEAUGE C. DELAPLAINE
 SCOTT A. MARTIN
 JAMEL L. NEVILLE
 STEPHEN A. RITCHIE

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate January 11, 2016:

THE JUDICIARY

LUIS FELIPE RESTREPO, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT.

WITHDRAWALS

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on January 11, 2016 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nominations:

PATRICIA M. LOUI-SCHMICKER, OF HAWAII, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 20, 2019, (REAPPOINTMENT), WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON MARCH 16, 2015.

PHILLIP H. CULLOM, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE SHARON E. BURKE, RESIGNED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON NOVEMBER 19, 2015.