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Senate

The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the Honorable JOHN BOOZMAN, a Senator from the State of Arkansas.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

O God of our salvation, in spite of the challenges of today and tomorrow, we continue to look to You, our help in ages past and our hope for the seasons to come. Deliver us from the pitfalls of political brinksmanship. May our lawmakers continually remember how You have led this Nation in the past, finding inspiration and faith that You will also guide this land in the days to come. Give our Senators strength, power, and wisdom for these grand and exacting times. Use them to defend our liberties and to unify our Nation for the good of humanity.

We pray in Your mighty name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, December 22, 2018.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable JOHN BOOZMAN, a Senator from the State of Arkansas, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ORRIN G. HATCH,
President pro tempore.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have on a red sweater this morning in the hopes that Christmas is not too far away for all of us, including the Members of Congress. With that in mind, let me give everyone an update on where we are.

Yesterday, the Democratic leader and I reached a procedural agreement to create space for ongoing negotiations over government funding. To provide flexibility as the White House and Senate Democrats continue their discussions, the Senate already officially proceeded to the House-passed funding legislation—so that is pending—but we did so with an understanding that no further votes will occur until the President and Senate Democrats have reached an agreement to resolve this.

Let me say that again. We pushed the pause button until the President, from whom we will need a signature, and Senate Democrats, from whom we will need votes, reach an agreement—no procedural votes, no test votes, just a meaningful vote on a bipartisan agreement whenever that is reached, and it is my hope that it is reached sooner rather than later.

It is no mystery why securing our Nation's borders is such a major priority for Republicans here in the Senate and Republicans over in the House

and for President Trump. Any look at the plain facts leads to one simple conclusion: The crisis of security at our southern border is real.

Over the past year, Customs and Border Protection's records of apprehensions and interdictions at our southern border are literally staggering—800 known gang members, a 50-percent increase over last year, nearly 7,000 individuals with criminal histories, including weapons trafficking and violent offenses, more than double the levels of fentanyl, along with other illicit substances.

So the report card is quite clear. America's borders are in crisis. These facts I have stated are not partisan facts. They aren't ideological. They are just facts—just facts. They don't describe the Republican Party's version of events or the President's version of events. They describe reality.

So one would think that securing our homeland, controlling our borders, and protecting the American people would be bipartisan priorities—uncontroversial, commonsense, bipartisan priorities—a core duty of any nation's government.

And here is the interesting thing. Until very, very recently, that seemed to be the case. Back in 2006, Democrats were perfectly happy to support hundreds—hundreds—of miles of physical barriers along the border. Twenty-six Democrats voted for the bill, including then-Senator Obama and then-Senator Clinton and my good friend the current Democratic leader from New York, but what about more recently? Earlier this very year—this year, Mr. President—the Democratic leader offered \$25 billion for physical barriers in his negotiations with the President, which is five times as much as the White House is reasonably requesting right now. That was just earlier this year.

Republicans in the House and in the Senate believe the House's provision for \$5 billion in border funding plus additional disaster funding were completely reasonable. I was glad to vote

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



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to advance that legislation yesterday. My colleagues and I are proud to stand with the American people on this subject for the safety of American families and the health and security of our communities, but this time—this time—Democrats have rejected that reasonable request. They have refused to meet President Trump half way and provide even one-fifth of the resources for the border they were willing to provide just a few months ago.

There is no bright line of principle that separates hundreds of miles of physical barriers in 2006 from new physical barriers in 2018. There is no major philosophical shift that made \$25 billion for border security worthwhile just a few months ago but makes a far more modest investment of \$5 billion immoral and unacceptable today.

No, Democrats haven't rejected the President's request and invited this partial government shutdown because of some principled objections they just discovered in the last few weeks. It is not some principled discovery they just made in the last few weeks. They brought this about because they are under a lot of pressure—we all know this—from their far left and feel compelled to disagree with the President on almost anything and certainly this.

So that is where we are, but we don't need to be here for long. In order to get us out of this mess, a negotiated solution will need to check these boxes. It is really very simple. It will need the support of 60 Senators, which will obviously include a number of Democrats. It will need to pass the House. And it will need a Presidential signature. That is how we make a law in this situation. Sixty 60 votes in the Senate, a majority of the House, and President Trump's signature are what is needed. That is what will end this regrettable episode, reopen the lapsed portions of the Federal Government, and produce the investment in border security that our Nation really needs.

So I am glad that productive discussions are continuing at this hour between my friend the Democratic leader, the Democratic leader in the House, and the White House. When those negotiations produce a solution that is acceptable to all of those parties, it will receive a vote here on the Senate floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CHILD PROTECTION IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2017—Continued

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

House Message to accompany H.R. 695, a bill to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a voluntary national

criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.

Pending:

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

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The minority leader is recognized.

Mr. SCHUMER. Merry Christmas, happy holidays to you, sir, and to the legislative staff.

I ask unanimous consent that the quorum call be dispensed with.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, at midnight last night, roughly 25 percent of the government shut down because of one person and one person alone: President Trump. We arrived at this moment because President Trump has been on a destructive 2-week temper tantrum, demanding the American taxpayer pony up for an expensive and ineffective border wall that the President promised Mexico would pay for.

Make no mistake. The Trump shutdown is not about border security. All of the proposals we have made contain over \$1 billion in new border security money, the same amount allocated last year by both parties and even the President agreed to. The Trump administration has barely even spent any of the border security money from last year. So the Trump shutdown isn't over border security; it is because President Trump is demanding billions of dollars for an expensive, ineffective wall the majority of Americans don't support.

Let me remind you, the President called for a shutdown no less than 25 times. He has wanted one for months. In our meeting in the Oval Office, President Trump said he would be "proud" to shut the government down. Imagine saying he would be proud to shut the government down.

Even Rush Limbaugh, one of the biggest supporters of the President, said it was a Trump shutdown; that he caused it. He said—this is Limbaugh speaking: "The President wants you to know it's money [for the wall] or nothing, and if it's nothing, he shuts it down."

Just 2 days ago, the Senate unanimously agreed to a proposal by Leader MCCONNELL to keep the government open through February. It wasn't exactly what Democrats wanted—we thought it should be longer—but we agreed because we wanted to keep the

government open, and all indications were that the President would sign the bill, but President Trump—beholden to the far, far right, unwilling to shoulder even the slightest critique from Rush Limbaugh or Laura Ingraham—changed his mind on the bipartisan Senate bill, passed unanimously by all Republicans and all Democrats in this Chamber, and he sent his House allies off to tilt at windmills.

Everyone knew yesterday, long before the House vote, that the President's wall lacked 60 votes in the Senate. It has proven to lack even 50 votes. It will never pass the Senate—not today, not next week, not next year.

So President Trump, if you want to open the government, you must abandon the wall, plain and simple. The Senate is not interested in swindling American taxpayers for an unnecessary, ineffective, and wasteful policy. What we do support, Democrats and Republicans, is real, effective border security—but not a wall. The wall is President Trump's bone to the hard-right people. It is no way to spend \$5 billion, for a political bone.

I have heard the President and his allies in the media say Democrats don't support border security. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Democrats have always been for smart and effective ways to secure our border. We are pushing for technology, like drones and sensors and inspection equipment. Every single proposal we made to the President included \$1.3 billion for border security. The Trump shutdown provides zero dollars for border security, but I have never supported a border wall, and I challenge anyone on the hard right to find a time that I—or any expert—has supported a wall like what the President has proposed.

So where do we go from here? Well, three proposals are on the table, two by Democrats—Leader PELOSI and I—one by Leader MCCONNELL, each of which would reopen the government and provide \$1.3 billion in border security. We are also open to discussing any proposals with the President as long as they don't include funding for the wall, but in order for an agreement to be reached, all four congressional leaders must sign off and the President must endorse it and say he will sign it. Leader MCCONNELL must agree. Speaker RYAN must agree. They cannot duck responsibility. Leader MCCONNELL still controls this Chamber. Speaker RYAN controls what reaches the floor of the House. They are essential to this process. Leader MCCONNELL can't duck out of it. He knows that. Of course, Leader PELOSI and I must agree. Most importantly, the President must publicly support and say he will sign an agreement before it gets a vote in either Chamber. We don't want to go through what we went through a few days ago.

Both Leader MCCONNELL and I have agreed on that qualification for a specific reason. Repeatedly, the President

has privately agreed to a deal with congressional leaders, only to reverse himself when criticized by the far right. We can't have another situation when the President signals support at first but then reverses himself, which is precisely what caused this shutdown in the first place.

If Leader MCCONNELL, Speaker RYAN, Leader PELOSI, and I agree on a solution, and the President says he will sign it, we can end the Trump shutdown immediately.

Discussions continue among the members of our staffs. The Republican Leader and I will update the Senate on the status of those talks once progress has been made.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PERDUE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. Today, 9 of our 15 Federal Departments and several dozen Agencies have shuttered their doors. By doing that, they denied vital services to millions of American citizens.

Since midnight last night, just a few days before Christmas, more than 800,000 dedicated public servants and their families have been told not to expect their next paycheck for the foreseeable future.

There is one reason and one reason only that our Federal Government has shut down today and countless Americans are living with uncertainty. That reason is President Donald J. Trump. The President is holding the Federal Government hostage for \$5 billion of from the American taxpayer for his unnecessary, ineffective, and expensive wall on the southern border—a wall he repeatedly promised—gave his word to the American taxpayers—that Mexico would pay for. Now he wants American taxpayers to dig in their pockets and pay for it.

The President's irresponsible behavior is astounding. His job, like ours, is to keep the Federal Government operating for the hundreds of millions of Americans who depend on government services every day, from our national parks, to housing services for the elderly, the disabled, our veterans, and for assistance for our Nation's farmers. In fact, 2 days ago, the President signed the farm bill into law and praised his efforts. Today, he precipitated a shutdown that shuttered the doors to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's field offices—the same offices farmers rely on to understand this new law.

But the worst part of all is that this was completely avoidable. We provided the President with several options to avoid this result. It is a case where he cannot take yes for an answer. We offered to pass six full-year appropri-

tions bills and a continuing resolution for Homeland or a continuing resolution for all the remaining bills. Either of these options would have kept the government open. They would have provided more than \$1 billion for border security—the very thing the President says he needs and cares most about. Plus, signing them instead of having a needless shutdown would save taxpayers millions of dollars.

After both of these offers were rejected, the Senate passed by voice vote a 7-week continuing resolution. This would have given us more time to negotiate and avert this catastrophe. Democrats and Republicans came together to pass it. The President had agreed to sign it. We finally had a path forward. Then FOX News and the right-wing media started criticizing it. The President's ego won out over his duties to the country. His ego was so bruised, he reversed course and went back on what he had agreed to.

Here we are exactly where the President wanted us to be—in the middle of a Trump shutdown. For anyone doubting where responsibility lies, let's recall that the President has publicly called for a government shutdown no fewer than 25 times over the past year. Just last week, he declared he would be proud to shut down the government unless we capitulated to his demand. Proud? I have been here with every President, Republican and Democratic, since President Gerald Ford. It is one of the most reckless statements I have ever heard uttered by a President of the United States. And now he has made good on his threat. His pride has won out, and the Trump shutdown has begun. How long is it going to last? Who knows? Yesterday, the President promised it would last a long time, and then he promised us it would be a short shutdown. Even in this, his behavior is erratic.

How did we get here? Is there a legitimate crisis precipitating this shutdown? Is the President playing games with the lives and livelihoods of American citizens to solve some immediate problem that threatens our Nation? No. Of course not. In caving to the most extreme sliver of his base, President Trump is throwing what many of us have described as a childish tantrum because he wants money to fulfill a cynical promise he made repeatedly on the campaign trail—more of a symbolic prize than any sensible policy solution.

This wasteful wall—a wall he promised Mexico would pay for, not the American taxpayers—this wasteful wall that he now wants to bill to the American taxpayers would do more to preserve the President's ego than it would to protect the American people. But I believe it is the natural result of the President's years-long demonization and vilification of immigrants, years during which the President rallied his base with falsehoods and fantasies where vulnerable women and children are portrayed as hordes of gang members and terrorists invading

our country. The sad reality, as Republicans and Democrats know, is that many of these people coming to our country are fleeing desperate situations in their home countries, and they are looking for sanctuary. They are not coming here to perpetuate violence; they are running from it.

Let me be clear. There is no crisis that requires us to build a 30-foot wall between us and our neighbors to the south. The President's hateful rhetoric about a crisis on our southern border does not reflect reality.

At the end of 2017, arrests of people attempting to enter the United States illegally dropped to historic lows. Between 2000 and 2018, border apprehensions fell sharply from 1.6 million in fiscal year 2000 to approximately 400,000 in fiscal year 2018. That is a 75-percent drop. Not only do the facts on the ground not warrant spending billions of American taxpayer dollars on a "big beautiful wall," as the President likes to call it, that is not who we are as a nation. We are a country founded by immigrants, just as my maternal grandparents came to Vermont from Italy, my paternal great-grandparents came to Vermont from Ireland, and my wife's parents came to Vermont from the Province of Quebec in Canada. We need to look at the immigrant founding of our country. Then, if we want to wall ourselves off from our neighbors, it will not only be an expensive waste of Americans' taxpayer dollars, but it will be immoral, ineffective, and an affront to everything this country is supposed to stand for.

To build a wall, the President wants to seize land from ranchers and farmers in Texas and in other border States—seize lands that have been in their families for generations. He would need to construct walls through wildlife refuges and nature preserves, basically destroying them. Ironically, we would end up walling ourselves off from the Rio Grande in the process, essentially ceding the river to Mexico.

After all of that and after billions of wasted taxpayer dollars, what would it accomplish? Would it stop people from fleeing violence in their home countries and seeking sanctuary? No. Would it stop drug smugglers and human traffickers from engaging in illegal activity? Definitely no. As so many have said, show me a 30-foot wall, and I will show you a 31-foot ladder or a tunnel.

To address these complex issues, we need real solutions, not bumper sticker slogans, not angry tweets. Everyone agrees we need to keep our borders safe and secure, but it has to be with smart border security, with border security that works, with new technologies that have proven to have worked on the border and at our ports of entry, technologies with new air and marine assets and additional personnel who are needed.

A 30-foot wall is symbolic and unneeded. Even if we needed to build it, what is the rush? Over the past 2 years, Congress has provided nearly \$1.7 billion to build or to replace fencing on

the southern border. Yet the administration has hardly spent any of that money, and the projects it has undertaken have been handled in such a way that they have ballooned in cost. We have given the administration \$1.7 billion, and it is now demanding more. How much of the \$1.7 billion did it spend? It spent 6 percent. Six percent of these funds have been spent. We have recently learned that one project in the Rio Grande Valley that was supposed to cost \$445 million will now cost American taxpayers nearly \$787 million. That is a 77-percent cost overrun with a pricetag of \$31.5 million for each and every mile.

We have seen that you cannot trust the administration to be responsible with the money we have already provided, let alone trust it to spend responsibly the additional money the President is demanding. Once and for all, let's put an end to this nonsense, and we have an easy way to do it.

We could finish six of the seven appropriations bills right now while we continue to debate these other issues. These bills are the product of bipartisan compromise as the Republicans and Democrats have come together. They provide billions of dollars in new resources to address critical needs for the American people. They protect U.S. national security. These six bills that we have already agreed on—Republicans and Democrats—would provide much needed funding to help combat our Nation's opioid epidemic and critical investments in infrastructure. They would help us to rebuild our Nation's crumbling roads, bridges, and highways. They would provide resources to protect the environment and help ensure that the water we drink and the air we breathe is safe and clean for this generation, for our children, and for the following generation. They would also support key allies and national security programs to enable the United States to be a global leader—a role that is being increasingly challenged by China and Russia.

So I have to ask; is the President really going to hold the American people hostage over a wall that he, time and again, has promised Mexico will pay for? Is he really going to force hundreds of thousands of Federal employees, including the very Agency he depends upon to carry out his immigration enforcement policy, to work without pay over the Christmas holiday? Is he really going to tell millions of Americans, including his most ardent supporters, that he could care less whether they are cut off from critical government services purely in the service of his own vanity?

The President has, apparently, decided that fighting a symbolic fight for a shiny object is more important than keeping our government running for the American people. It is the height of irresponsibility.

As negotiations with Chairman SHELBY and Leader MCCONNELL continue in good faith, I am here this

weekend to continue to talk with Members of both parties, but we are all coming to the same conclusion. We can agree easily, Republicans and Democrats, but we can only succeed if the President decides to do what we have done, which is to put the country first. The President of the United States owes that to the American people. He owes reality, not rhetoric.

I don't see another Member seeking recognition.

I ask unanimous consent that the editorial in yesterday's New York Times about Secretary Mattis be placed in the RECORD.

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

[From the New York Times, Dec. 20, 2018]

JIM MATTIS WAS RIGHT—WHO WILL PROTECT AMERICA NOW?

(By the Editorial Board)

The editorial board represents the opinions of the board, its editor and the publisher. It is separate from the newsroom and the Op-Ed section.

Jim Mattis is stepping down as defense secretary, a day after President Trump overruled him and other top national security advisers by ordering the rapid withdrawal of all 2,000 American ground troops from Syria. Mr. Mattis, a retired four-star general, said in his letter of resignation that his views on a number of foreign policy and defense matters were fundamentally at odds with those of the president.

Mr. Mattis did not specifically mention the president's seemingly impulsive decision on Syria, but he and other top aides were clearly caught by surprise. With Mr. Mattis's departure, the last of the original group of grounded professionals who have, with at least partial success, restrained Mr. Trump on foreign and defense policy are now gone.

It was less than three months ago that John Bolton, the national security adviser, spelled out a broader mission for the American troops in Syria.

At the time, it sounded like an authoritative statement of official policy. Only, as is so often the case with Donald Trump's chaotic presidency, it apparently wasn't.

On Wednesday, Mr. Trump summarily overruled Mr. Bolton and the rest of his national security team with his abrupt and dangerous troop withdrawal decision. The move, detached from any broader strategic context or any public rationale, sowed new uncertainty about America's commitment to the Middle East, its willingness to be a global leader and Mr. Trump's role as commander in chief.

It appears to have been the final straw for Mr. Mattis, who has walked a tightrope for the past two years between his training and his conscience, and the whims of his president. He kept his concerns mainly to himself, while slow-walking a number of Mr. Trump's demands, like banning transgender troops and seeking a full-dress military parade down Pennsylvania Avenue.

Senator Mark Warner of Virginia, the top Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee, said in a tweet that Mr. Mattis's departure was "scary." He called him "an island of stability amidst the chaos of the Trump administration."

Soldiers have a duty to follow their leader and carry out lawful orders. But success depends on trusting that the leader knows what he's doing and where he's going.

Sending conflicting orders to soldiers on the battlefield, as Mr. Trump and his admin-

istration are doing, not only hampers morale and undermines allied forces like the Syrian Kurds, it could also risk getting American soldiers killed or wounded for objectives their commanders had already abandoned.

Even some of Mr. Trump's most ardent supporters were alarmed. "It is a major blunder," a Republican senator, Marco Rubio of Florida, wrote on Twitter. "If it isn't reversed it will haunt this administration & America for years to come."

Senator Lindsey Graham, Republican of South Carolina, who generally supports Mr. Trump, said he and others in the national security establishment were "blindsided" by the announcement. He called for congressional hearings on the decision.

This isn't the first time the president and his administration have sent mixed messages. During the 2016 campaign, Mr. Trump promised to withdraw troops from Syria and has been looking for a way to do it ever since. In April, he gave the Pentagon more time to complete the mission, which since the Obama era has been strictly focused on finishing off the Islamic State. Then Mr. Bolton arrived on the job and declared that "we're not going to leave as long as Iranian troops are outside Iranian borders, and that includes Iranian proxies and militias."

As late as Monday, James Jeffrey, the State Department's Syria envoy, told the Atlantic Council that the United States would stay in Syria until ISIS was defeated, Iranian influence was curbed and there was a political solution to the Syrian civil war.

But on Wednesday, Mr. Trump undercut his advisers, and American interests, by reversing course and declaring in a tweet, "We have defeated ISIS in Syria, my only reason for being there during the Trump Presidency."

There was no attempt to use the leverage of an American withdrawal to achieve any specific political or military goal.

Mr. Trump's assertion that the Islamic State is defeated is absurd. "We have won against ISIS," he boasted in a video. The ability of the terrorists to strike has been significantly degraded and much of the territory they claimed for their so-called caliphate has been liberated. But the group still retains a pocket of land on the Syria-Iraq border and has roughly 20,000 to 30,000 fighters, according to military researchers. As Mr. Jeffrey said Monday, "The job is not yet done."

No one wants American troops deployed in a war zone longer than necessary. But there is no indication that Mr. Trump has thought through the consequences of a precipitous withdrawal, including allowing ISIS forces to regroup and create another crisis that would draw the United States back into the region.

An American withdrawal would also be a gift to Vladimir Putin, the Russian leader, who has been working hard to supplant American influence in the region and who, on Thursday, enthusiastically welcomed the decision, saying, "Donald's right." Another beneficiary is Iran, which has also expanded its regional footprint. It would certainly make it harder for the Trump administration to implement its policy of ratcheting up what it calls "maximum pressure" on Iran.

Among the biggest losers are likely to be the Kurdish troops that the United States has equipped and relied on to fight the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria. Turkey's president, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, considers many of the Kurds to be terrorists bent on destroying his country. In recent days he has vowed to launch a new offensive against them in the Syrian border region. Mr. Trump discussed his withdrawal decision in a telephone call with Mr. Erdogan on Friday.

The American withdrawal worries Israel, anxious about Iran's robust military presence in Syria, and Jordan, which bears a considerable burden from Syrian refugees who fled the fighting across the border. While Israel withheld criticism of Mr. Trump's decision, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said his government would escalate the fight against Iranian-aligned forces in Syria once the Americans leave.

Decisions of such consequence normally are thoroughly vetted by a president's national security advisers. But congressional lawmakers said there were no signs that any process was followed, and a senior White House official, refusing to discuss internal deliberations, said Wednesday, "The issue here is the president made a decision."

Judging from the timing and tone of Mr. Mattis' letter of resignation, the president made that decision alone.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES MATTIS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, like so many Republicans and Democrats, I was stunned to hear that Secretary Mattis was going to be leaving.

I understand his reasons. He has said he always felt a duty to uphold the interests and security of the United States and to uphold our agreements with other countries for the security of democracy. The President has disagreed with him on that. He feels otherwise. So Secretary Mattis feels the President should be entitled to have somebody who takes differing views.

Unfortunately, General Mattis's views are those that are the result of decades of service to this country as a marine in combat, as a marine commander, as a four-star general, and as one who has the strong respect of Republicans and Democrats alike. Certainly, he has the strong respect of those who have served in the military and who know what it means to actually stand up for this country, not just in rhetoric but by putting their lives on the line on the battlefield.

I will always admire General Mattis. I applaud his service to the United States of America, and I know he is a man who can leave with his head held high.

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

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

FLATSIDE WILDERNESS ENHANCEMENT ACT

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Agriculture Committee be discharged and the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 5636.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5636) to designate additions to the Flatside Wilderness on the Ouachita National Forest, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. BOOZMAN. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

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

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 5636) was passed.

Mr. BOOZMAN. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

REAUTHORIZING THE NEW JERSEY COASTAL HERITAGE TRAIL ROUTE

Mr. BOOZMAN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 6602.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6602) to reauthorize the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail Route, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. BOOZMAN. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

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

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. BOOZMAN. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 6602) was passed.

Mr. BOOZMAN. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

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

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

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

Mr. PERDUE. Mr. President, here we are at approximately 2:30 on a Saturday afternoon trying to do the people's business in a situation that nobody wanted. Yet because, I believe, of political self-interest, we are in a situation right now where we are in what I would call a crisis mode of operation.

We need to get a deal done. But I want to address a couple of topics today that are at issue here as we debate the funding issue, which is at the crux of why we are here today and this weekend.

Our country was built on immigration; there is just no question that we are all direct derivatives, in one way or the other. But I would like to be very clear that most of the people who have come to this country over the last two centuries came in legally. Today, we bring in 1.1 million people a year—legally. We bring in about 70,000 people who have a job-related way to get into our system. There are about 70,000 direct family members; that is, a spouse and immediate children. There are another 300,000 refugees and asylum seekers. There is a rational reason we should do that, and we have been doing that.

Today, every day, asylum seekers and refugees are permitted into our country, but there are another 800,000 who come in legally every year, and the only reason they come in is that they have an indirect family link, through generations, to the 70,000 that come in. Given that environment, we also have a temporary work permit system here that, again, has over 1 million people in it—every year.

Our country is the most welcoming, philanthropic country in the history of the world. To think that just protecting our borders as a national security issue is somehow hard-hearted and radical—no country in the history of the world has ever demonstrated that it was a radical thought to maintain and protect the sovereignty of their own country and their own borders.

Indeed, there are only 6 reasons why 13 colonies came together in the first place in the late 18th century and formed the United States of America. The No. 1 reason articulated is to provide for the common defense of our country.

President Trump is leading right now in his first responsibility, and that is to protect every citizen of the United States of America. He is fighting for the American people. Actually, that is how he got elected. He got elected because he complained about the dysfunction in Washington, about politicians, bureaucrats, and the media. So did I, in 2014—2 years before President Trump did. I believe people are fed up with this dysfunction in Washington.

I want to reemphasize that what is at issue here is the protection of our sovereignty as a country—not to change the immigration laws; that is not what is at debate today.

I want to remind everybody that just in this body this year, 43 of my colleagues across the aisle, in an immigration bill proposed by SUSAN COLLINS on this side, 43 Democrats voted for a \$25 billion border security package—43. I think President Trump has demonstrated tremendous negotiating willingness over and over, over this past year, on this issue.

Let's be clear what is going on. The flow of drugs and human trafficking on our border are completely unacceptable. Everybody in this body agrees with that, demonstrated by the fact that 43 Democrats actually voted for a \$25 billion border security package earlier this year. There is no way you can avoid admitting that. This has to stop.

The undampened flow of illegal drugs has created a crisis in our country. The fact that we sit here and are more concerned about the political realities in Washington than we are about stopping human trafficking across our southern border is totally unacceptable. An open border goes against the very ideas of why our country was founded. It totally undercuts American sovereignty. The American people know that. They are fed up with the status quo, and I can tell you, firsthand, so is President Donald Trump.

The Dems are very clear. My colleagues have demonstrated that they prefer open borders, illegal drug transfers, and human trafficking to a commonsense protection of our southern border.

We know fences work. I have been to countries around the world where they are protecting their borders with simple fences where they need them.

We have multiple approaches to defending our southern border. We have many miles right now that already have similar fences up that deter illegal crossings.

At the same time, this President has shown over and over again that he will work with our colleagues across the aisle to find some common solution here that we can all live with. He is ready to make a deal today. In fact, as we speak, the Vice President, the President, and the Chief of Staff are in the White House right now; the leader of the Democratic Party in the Senate is, right now, negotiating.

This needs to get done. I have done dozens of these in my career, and looking at what is important to both parties, there is no reason this can't get done.

I believe the President is ready to make a deal to fully fund the Federal Government—the last 25 percent. Let's remember how we got there. This body, the Senate and the House, did something they haven't done in 22 years, and that is fund at least 75 percent of our Federal Government on time. That was by September 30. We are here, at the end of our first quarter of the next fiscal year, still trying to fund the last 25 percent because of this controversy over the border wall.

The first number was \$25 billion, as I said, which was agreed to by the other side. Then, there was another \$5 billion offered. Lastly, the President, I thought, had a deal earlier this week with our colleagues across the aisle for \$1.6 billion. That deal was taken away.

We are right now, I think, experiencing the second Schumer shutdown of this year. The first was over the DACA controversy. President Trump

took the Democratic request for 600,000 work permits for an indefinite period of time and changed that and made an offer of a pathway to citizenship for 1.8 million DACA recipients. He took a chance with the ultraright in our party, the conservative part of the party. He took a chance and stood up and said: This is the right thing to do, if it is paired with the right deal on the other side.

I believe there is no reason we can't get this package done right now. I think the President agrees with that. I think the Democratic leader agrees with that. But prior to yesterday, for a few days, there was no one talking.

I give Mick Mulvaney and the Vice President a lot of credit. I know that the Vice President was in this building until about 9:30 last night negotiating this. I just believe it is time to get this done.

NANCY PELOSI, in the House, repeatedly said that President Trump couldn't get the votes from the House to pass a funding package that included these border security priorities. We now know she was wrong. The votes were there. The House has sent a bill back over here that not only has border security but a relief package—a serious relief package for hurricane victims, disaster relief victims, and the wildfire victims in California.

The U.S. Senate should have included President Trump's priorities from the very beginning. Now this body has a chance to do the right thing.

It is time to get this done. We are here. Let's get a deal, bring it back in here, pass it, get it back to the House, and let's stop this nonsense. Let's not yield to political self-interest on either side.

I implore all of us who have influence with the people who are negotiating this: Let's get beyond this. This is so close. There is no reason we are sitting here, letting America be nervous about whether we are going to get this done. This should have been done back in September, as I said earlier. Now let's focus on our national interests, the things we are all called to do in our oath of office: Protect and defend the Constitution of the United States. Let's fully fund this government—the last 25 percent—move past this, secure our border, and provide disaster relief for the people who have a timely need, right now, for us to do that.

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 (Mr. PERDUE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of Calendar Nos. 1204, 1206 through 1215, and 1228 through 1232; that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officers 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. David W. Abba
Col. Christopher R. Amrhein
Col. Charles D. Bolton
Col. Larry R. Broadwell, Jr.
Col. Terry L. Bullard
Col. Scott A. Cain
Col. Jimmy R. Canlas
Col. Julian C. Cheater
Col. Roy W. Collins
Col. Colin J. Connor
Col. Donald J. Cothorn
Col. David S. Eaglin
Col. Steven G. Edwards
Col. Troy L. Endicott
Col. Gregory J. Gagnon
Col. Richard W. Gibbs
Col. Jennifer L. Grant
Col. Stewart A. Hammons
Col. Robert S. Jobe
Col. John M. Klein, Jr.
Col. Gregory Kreuder
Col. Benjamin R. Maitre
Col. Matteo G. Martemucci
Col. Caroline M. Miller
Col. David A. Mineau
Col. Paul J. Murray
Col. Ty W. Neuman
Col. John P. Newberry
Col. Jefferson J. O'Donnell
Col. Thomas B. Palenske
Col. Evan L. Pettus
Col. Christopher S. Povak
Col. Bradley L. Pyburn
Col. Chad D. Raduege
Col. Michael T. Rawls
Col. Ryan R. Samuelson
Col. David J. Sanford
Col. David G. Shoemaker
Col. Rebecca J. Sonkiss
Col. Claude K. Tudor, Jr.
Col. Daniel H. Tulley
Col. Jeffery D. Valenzia
Col. John C. Walker
Col. Steven P. Whitney

IN THE MARINE CORPS

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Bradley S. James

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States 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. Duke Z. Richardson
IN THE ARMY

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Army under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be brigadier general

Col. Kevin D. Admiral
Col. Timothy D. Brown
Col. Joshua M. Rudd
Col. Paul T. Stanton

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army 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. Terry R. Ferrell

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. Timothy D. Connolly

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. Gerald R. Krimbill

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. Stacy M. Babcock

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army 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

Lt. Gen. Eric J. Wesley

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army 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. Andrew P. Poppas
IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. Robert D. Sharp

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be general

Lt. Gen. Richard D. Clarke

IN THE MARINE CORPS

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be general

Lt. Gen. Kenneth F. McKenzie, Jr.

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following Air National Guard of the United States officers 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. Scott C. Bridgers
Col. Thomas D. Crimmins
Col. Thomas B. Hatley
Col. Scott A. Howard
Col. Patrick M. Kennedy
Col. Robert G. Kilgore
Col. William A. Kinnison, Jr.
Col. Terrence L. Koudelka, Jr.
Col. Kerry R. Lovely
Col. Brian T. McHenry
Col. Barbara C. Morrow
Col. Duke M. Ota, Jr.
Col. Louis J. Perino
Col. Erik A. Peterson
Col. Troy E. Pou
Col. Michael L. Reid
Col. John P. Russo
Col. Torrence W. Saxe
Col. David A. Smith
Col. Thomas M. Suelzer
Col. Taison K. Tanaka
Col. Justin R. Walrath

The following named Air National Guard of the United States officers 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 major general

Brig. Gen. John D. Caine
Brig. Gen. Larry K. Clark
Brig. Gen. Sean T. Collins
Brig. Gen. John P. Hronek, II
Brig. Gen. Wendy K. Johnson
Brig. Gen. Gregory F. Jones
Brig. Gen. Timothy J. LaBarge
Brig. Gen. Ronald S. Lambe
Brig. Gen. Timothy T. Lunderman
Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Owens, II
Brig. Gen. Greg A. Semmel
Brig. Gen. Brian M. Simpler

The following named Air National Guard of the United States officers 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. Steven D. Michaud
Col. Raymond H. Siegfried, II

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Commerce Committee be discharged from further consideration and that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of PN Nos. 2507, 2626, 2638, 2639, 2670, 2671; that the nominations be confirmed; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 271(e):

To be commander

Douglas M. Salik

The following named officer for appointment to serve as the Director of the Coast Guard Reserve in the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 53(b):

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Rear Adm. Matthew W. Sibley

The following named officers of the Coast Guard permanent commissioned teaching staff for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grades indicated under title 14, U.S.C., sections 189 and 276:

To be captain

ANNA W. HICKEY

To be commander

VICTORIA C. FUTCH

The following named officer of the United States Coast Guard to the position of Coast Guard Band Director to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 336(b):

To be commander

Adam R. Williamson

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Coast Guard Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203(A):

To be captain

MARC C. DEVEREAUX
LAILA M. GRASSLEY
GRETCHEN A. JONES
PAUL G. MORRIS
MICHAEL E. RUWE
JOHN R. SETTLE III
MICHAEL N. ST. JEANOS
KIRSTEN R. TREGO
MICHAEL R. VAUGHN
CRAIG L. WENNET

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 271(E):

To be captain

GRETCHEN M. BAILEY
ALAIN V. BALMACEDA
MICHELLE C. BAS
IAN A. BASTEK
MICHAEL W. BATCHELDER
KENNETH J. BODA
ROY R. BRUBAKER
JOANN F. BURDIAN
ANDREW T. CAMPEN
CHRISTOPHER R. CEDERHOLM
BRADLEY CLARE
ROBERT C. COMPHER
CHAD W. COOPER
NATHAN E. COULTER
CHARLES C. CULOTTA
FRANCIS J. DELROSSO, JR.
JOHN T. DEWEY
JEROME E. DUBAY
TIMOTHY W. EASON
JANET D. ESPINOYOUNG
SARAH K. FELGER
KEVIN D. FLOYD
JAMES G. FORGY
TED R. FOWLES
PAUL E. FRANTZ
MICHAEL E. FRAWLEY
MICHAEL R. GESELE
HANS C. GOVERTSEN
CHARLES M. GUERRERO
TOBY L. HOLDRIDGE
BRIAN P. HOPKINS
CHRISTOPHER M. HUBERTY
AUSTIN R. IVES
DANIEL C. JONES
SEAN R. KATZ
JARED E. KING
CASSIE A. KITCHEN
PERRY J. KREMER
TIMOTHY R. LAVIER
JACQUELINE M. LEVERICH
LEXIA M. LITTLEJOHN
CHAD A. LONG
HARRY D. MAUTTE

ALAN B. MCCABE
 RANDY F. MEADOR
 MICHAEL L. MEDICA
 ALAN H. MOORE
 ULYSSES S. MULLINS
 RAYMOND NEGRON
 DAVID J. OBERMEIER
 LUIS C. PARRALES
 JUSTIN D. PETERS
 HARPER L. PHILLIPS
 TRACY O. PHILLIPS
 SCOTT S. PHY
 STEVEN E. RAMASSINI
 RODRIGO G. ROJAS
 KEITH M. ROPELLA
 JERREL W. RUSSELL
 CLINT B. SCHLEGEL
 ANITA M. SCOTT
 JENNIFER L. SINCLAIR
 DEREK L. SMITH
 ERIC A. SMITH
 BOWEN C. SPIEVACK
 JAMES W. SPITLER
 DOUGLAS K. STARK
 MATTHEW A. THOMPSON
 GREGORY M. TOZZI
 BRYAN J. ULLMER
 EVA J. VANCAMP
 ANDREW J. WRIGHT

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Secretary of the Senate, on December 21, 2018, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 3628. An act to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the enrolled bill was signed on December 21, 2018, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. DAINES).

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on December 21, 2018, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 3628. An act to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. COONS, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. Res. 741. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on the letter of resignation of Secretary of Defense James Mattis and on the decision of President Trump to rapidly withdraw United States forces from Syria; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. JONES (for himself and Mr. PERDUE):

S. Res. 742. A resolution designating the first week of December 2018, and supporting the designation of each first week of December thereafter, as "Cancer Screen Week", identifying the burden of cancer in the United States, and encouraging people to talk with their healthcare providers about appropriate screenings for the prevention and early detection of cancer; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. REED, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. Res. 743. A resolution congratulating the International Association of Fire Fighters on the 100th anniversary of its founding; considered and agreed to.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 741—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE ON THE LETTER OF RESIGNATION OF SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JAMES MATTIS AND ON THE DECISION OF PRESIDENT TRUMP TO RAPIDLY WITHDRAW UNITED STATES FORCES FROM SYRIA

Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. COONS, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 741

Whereas James Mattis served the United States with distinction over the course of a long career in the United States Marine Corps and as Secretary of Defense;

Whereas the Senate concurs with the following sentiments expressed in letter of resignation submitted by Secretary Mattis to President Trump:

(1) The strength of the United States is inextricably linked to the strength of our system of alliances and partnerships.

(2) The United States cannot protect our interests or serve as the indispensable nation in the free world without those alliances and partnerships.

(3) Maintaining that system of alliances and partnerships requires that the United States demonstrate respect for our allies.

(4) While the Armed Forces of the United States cannot serve as the world's policeman, the United States must use all tools of American power to provide for the common defense, including providing effective leadership to our alliances.

(5) Those alliances and partnerships have assisted the United States in increasing our national security, for example when all North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) nations fought alongside the United States following the attacks of September 11, 2001, and when 74 nations joined the effort to defeat the threat from the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

(6) The United States must demonstrate resolve and be unambiguous in our approach to countries whose strategic interests run counter to our own.

(7) The Russian Federation and China wish to shape a world order consistent with their authoritarian model, allowing them to veto other nations' economic, diplomatic, and security decisions, and to promote their own interests at the expense of other nations, the United States, and our allies.

(8) The United States must do everything possible to advance a rules-based international order that is most conducive to our security, prosperity, and values, and our efforts in that regard are strengthened by the solidarity of our alliances.

(9) United States military pressure has demonstrated considerable, but incomplete progress against global terrorist groups, particularly al Qaeda, the group responsible for the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States and the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, who threaten the stability of the Middle East and the safety of the American people and the citizens of many of our closest allies;

Whereas there are a small number of troops on the ground in Syria to train, equip, advise, and assist United States partners in the Syrian Democratic Forces fighting the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria;

Whereas the governments of the Russian Federation and Iran are fighting alongside the Assad regime against United States allies and interests;

Whereas the abrupt decision of the President to remove all United States forces in Syria without consultation enables Iran and the Russian Federation to expand their influence and presence in Syria and beyond and threatens United States partners in Syria and Israel and other allies in the region; and

Whereas the decision of the President to precipitously withdraw United States troops will leave the people of Syria even more vulnerable to violence from terrorist groups and provide time and space for al Qaeda and the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria to reconstitute and launch attacks against the United States and our allies: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses its gratitude to Secretary of Defense James Mattis for his decades of honorable service to the United States in the United States Marine Corps and at the Department of Defense;

(2) expresses strong support for United States alliances and partnerships with allies around the world;

(3) expresses concern with President Trump's decision to rapidly withdraw United States forces from Syria, a decision taken without consultation with Congress or our allies and partners and without apparent concern for our national and collective interests; and

(4) believes that these decisions could further undermine United States leadership in the world, weaken our alliance and partnership structure, and make it harder to achieve a world more conducive to United States interests, including support for democracy.

SENATE RESOLUTION 742—DESIGNATING THE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER 2018, AND SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF EACH FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER THEREAFTER, AS “CANCER SCREEN WEEK”, IDENTIFYING THE BURDEN OF CANCER IN THE UNITED STATES, AND ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO TALK WITH THEIR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS ABOUT APPROPRIATE SCREENINGS FOR THE PREVENTION AND EARLY DETECTION OF CANCER

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

S. RES. 742

Whereas the American Cancer Society estimates that, in 2018, more than 600,000 people in the United States will lose their lives to cancer;

Whereas the National Cancer Institute estimates that approximately 18,000 to 210,000 deaths in United States from cancer could be avoided through prevention and early detection;

Whereas the death rate from cancer dropped 25 percent between 1991 and 2014 because of reductions in smoking and advances in early detection and treatment;

Whereas, according to the American Cancer Society, the 5-year relative survival rate for cancer detected at the local stage is approximately 55 percent for lung cancer, 90 percent for colon and rectum cancers, 91 percent for cervical cancer, 99 percent for breast cancer, and 98 percent for melanoma of the skin;

Whereas many of those cancers are often preventable and early detection and treatment are critical, as cancer does not always cause symptoms and many cancers occur in people with no family history of cancer;

Whereas specific types of cancer disproportionately affect different populations, for example—

- (1) breast cancer is the most common form of cancer among Black women;
- (2) the rate of prostate cancer among Black men is double the rate for other men;
- (3) the likelihood of developing colorectal cancer for Alaska Natives is double that of other people in the United States;
- (4) cervical cancer is more prevalent among Hispanic and Black women;
- (5) 2 out of 3 people diagnosed with lung cancer are 65 years of age or older; and
- (6) melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer, is one of the most common types of cancer among young adults;

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the rates of screening for many types of cancer among populations for which screenings are recommended remain substantially below the targets set forth in the Healthy People 2020 report;

Whereas it is critical to reinforce the need for people to discuss their individual risk factors for cancer with their healthcare providers and understand the recommendations for, and benefits of, cancer screening; and

Whereas it is critical that healthcare providers present individuals who are diagnosed with cancer through screening clear and complete options for further diagnostic or molecular testing and treatment: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) encourages all people in the United States to talk with their healthcare pro-

viders about their risk factors for all types of cancer, including breast, cervical, colon, lung, prostate, and skin cancer, and recommended screening options;

(2) designates the first week of December 2018 as “Cancer Screen Week”; and

(3) supports the designation of the first week of December as “Cancer Screen Week”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 743—CONGRATULATING THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. REED, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 743

Whereas, on February 28, 1918, delegates representing 24 firefighter unions united to form the International Association of Fire Fighters (referred to in this preamble as the “IAFF”) to “organize all fire fighters . . . foster a higher degree of skill and efficiency . . . improve and protect members’ health and welfare . . . establish safety standards . . . cultivate friendship and fellowship . . . provide proper compensation for work performed . . . and improve social and economic conditions”;

Whereas, in 1918, at the first IAFF Convention, the IAFF adopted 20 resolutions to benefit firefighters and the fire service, including resolutions relating to—

- (1) a two-platoon system;
- (2) pension laws;
- (3) automatic sprinkler systems;
- (4) building inspections; and
- (5) the removal of hazards for fire prevention;

Whereas, throughout the history of the IAFF, the IAFF has successfully improved the knowledge, skills and abilities of the domestic defenders of the people of the United States by designing, developing, and deploying high quality standardized training in a multitude of disciplines, including—

- (1) hazardous materials response;
- (2) responding to incidents involving weapons of mass destruction;
- (3) confined space operations;
- (4) responding to incidents involving illicit drug labs; and
- (5) planning and responding to high-consequence incidents;

Whereas the IAFF has been the national leader in every significant firefighter health and safety initiative for nearly a century, including—

- (1) the recognition of and fight against occupational diseases and illnesses, such as cancer and cardiovascular ailments;
- (2) the promotion of physical fitness screening and training; and
- (3) the promotion of mental health and wellness, including awareness and treatment of post-traumatic stress;

Whereas, on March 5, 2017, the IAFF opened the first-of-its-kind Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Treatment and Recovery to provide science-based treatment to firefighters struggling with post-traumatic stress and co-occurring health issues, such as substance abuse, depression, and anxiety;

Whereas the mission of the Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Treatment and Recovery reinforces the commitment of the IAFF to prioritizing the safety and well-being of all IAFF members and provides a safe space for firefighters to seek treatment and heal;

Whereas the IAFF actively works to secure the enactment of legislation at all levels of

government that directly impacts the jobs, economic security, and safety of firefighters and emergency medical personnel, including—

(1) the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.);

(2) the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-347; 124 Stat. 3623); and

(3) legislation establishing—

(A) the Public Safety Officers’ Benefits Program (part L of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10281 et seq.));

(B) the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (section 33 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2229));

(C) the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant Program (section 34 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2229a)); and

(D) presumptive illness compensation in a majority of States;

Whereas the IAFF has served as a leader in the widespread integration of fire and emergency medical services, ensuring that nearly all professional firefighters in the United States play a critical role in the delivery of emergency medical services as cross-trained, dual-role firefighters who are trained in both fire suppression and Emergency Medical Services response;

Whereas the IAFF has partnered with the Muscular Dystrophy Association (referred to in this preamble as the “MDA”) to raise funds to support the search for the cause of and cure for muscle diseases, including—

- (1) by declaring the MDA the charity of choice of the IAFF in 1954; and
- (2) by participating in Fill the Boot campaigns to raise more than \$630,000,000 for the MDA;

Whereas, in furtherance of the mission of the IAFF to aid IAFF members and their families in times of need, the IAFF established the IAFF Foundation to provide—

- (1) aid to professional firefighters and emergency medical personnel following natural disasters;
- (2) assistance to IAFF members and their families for the treatment and care of burn injuries;
- (3) scholarships to the children of fallen IAFF members; and
- (4) maintenance of the Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial to honor IAFF members who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty;

Whereas the IAFF memorializes the thousands of firefighters and emergency medical personnel who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service of others, including—

- (1) the 343 firefighters who lost their lives on September 11, 2001;
- (2) the scores of firefighters and emergency medical personnel who have died in the years since September 11, 2001, of injuries and illnesses relating to the events of September 11, 2001; and
- (3) the firefighters and emergency medical personnel who have died of occupational disease;

Whereas each of the firefighters and emergency medical personnel who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service of others is fondly remembered and respected by IAFF members;

Whereas, as of December 2018, the IAFF has headquarters in both Washington, DC, and Ottawa, Ontario, and represents more than 313,000 full-time professional firefighters and paramedics in more than 3,200 affiliates;

Whereas, as of December 2018, greater than 85 percent of the population in communities throughout the United States and Canada is

protected by firefighters and paramedics who are members of the IAFF;

Whereas the sustained and ongoing commitment of the members of the IAFF to the people of the United States and Canada serves the public interest; and

Whereas countless firefighters from across the United States are honored at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial created by Congress and located on the campus of the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the International Association of Fire Fighters on the 100th anniversary of its founding;

(2) recognizes the expertise and devotion to service demonstrated by the International Association of Fire Fighters as the International Association of Fire Fighters continues to be the voice for and represent the professional interests of firefighters and emergency medical responders across the United States and Canada; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the General President of the International Association of Fire Fighters.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4179. Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. TOOMEY (for himself and Mr. NELSON)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 4203, to amend title 18, United States Code, with regard to stalking.

SA 4180. Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. PETERS) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 573, to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission.

SA 4181. Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. CORKER) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 4969, to improve the design and construction of diplomatic posts, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4179. Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. TOOMEY (for himself and Mr. NELSON)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 4203, to amend title 18, United States Code, with regard to stalking; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Combat Online Predators Act”.

SEC. 2. ENHANCED PENALTY FOR STALKERS OF CHILDREN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 110A of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 2261A the following:

“§ 2261B. Enhanced penalty for stalkers of children

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), if the victim of an offense under section 2261A is under the age of 18 years, the maximum imprisonment for the offense is 5 years greater than the maximum term of imprisonment otherwise provided for that offense in section 2261.

“(b) LIMITATION.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to a person who violates section 2261A if—

“(1) the person is subject to a sentence under section 2261(b)(5); and

“(2)(A) the person is under the age of 18 at the time the offense occurred; or

“(B) the victim of the offense is not less than 15 nor more than 17 years of age and not more than 3 years younger than the person

who committed the offense at the time the offense occurred.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 110A of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 2261A the following new item:

“2261B. Enhanced penalty for stalkers of children.”.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 2261A of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking “section 2261(b) of this title” and inserting “section 2261(b) or section 2262B, as the case may be”.

SEC. 3. REPORT ON BEST PRACTICES REGARDING ENFORCEMENT OF ANTI-STALKING LAWS.

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit a report to Congress, which shall—

(1) include an evaluation of Federal, tribal, State, and local efforts to enforce laws relating to stalking; and

(2) identify and describe those elements of such efforts that constitute the best practices for the enforcement of such laws.

SA 4180. Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. PETERS) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 573, to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “National Criminal Justice Commission Act of 2018”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) it is in the interest of the Nation to establish a commission to undertake a comprehensive review of the criminal justice system;

(2) there has not been a comprehensive study since the President’s Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice was established in 1965;

(3) that commission, in a span of 18 months, produced a comprehensive report entitled “The Challenge of Crime in a Free Society,” which contained 200 specific recommendations on all aspects of the criminal justice system involving Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments, civic organizations, religious institutions, business groups, and individual citizens; and

(4) developments over the intervening 50 years require once again that Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments, law enforcement agencies, including rank and file officers, civil rights organizations, community-based organization leaders, civic organizations, religious institutions, business groups, and individual citizens come together to review evidence and consider how to improve the criminal justice system.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION.

There is established a commission to be known as the “National Criminal Justice Commission” (referred to in this Act as the “Commission”).

SEC. 4. PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION.

The Commission shall—

(1) undertake a comprehensive review of the criminal justice system;

(2) make recommendations for Federal criminal justice reform to the President and Congress; and

(3) disseminate findings and supplemental guidance to the Federal Government, as well as to State, local, and Tribal governments.

SEC. 5. REVIEW, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND REPORT.

(a) GENERAL REVIEW.—The Commission shall undertake a comprehensive review of

all areas of the criminal justice system, including Federal, State, local, and Tribal governments’ criminal justice costs, practices, and policies.

(b) RECOMMENDATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the first meeting of the Commission, the Commission shall submit to the President and Congress recommendations for changes in Federal oversight, policies, practices, and laws designed to prevent, deter, and reduce crime and violence, reduce recidivism, improve cost-effectiveness, and ensure the interests of justice at every step of the criminal justice system.

(2) UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUIRED.—A recommendation of the Commission may be adopted and submitted under paragraph (1) if the recommendation is approved by a unanimous vote of the Commissioners at a meeting where a quorum is present pursuant to section 6(d).

(3) REQUIREMENT.—The recommendations submitted under this subsection shall be made available to the public.

(c) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the first meeting of the Commission, the Commission shall also disseminate to the Federal Government, as well as to State, local, and Tribal governments, a report that details the findings and supplemental guidance of the Commission regarding the criminal justice system at all levels of government.

(2) MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED.—Commission findings and supplemental guidance may be adopted and included in the report required under paragraph (1) if the findings or guidance is approved by a majority vote of the Commissioners at a meeting where a quorum is present pursuant to section 6(d), except that any Commissioners dissenting from particular finding or supplemental guidance shall have the right to state the reason for their dissent in writing and such dissent shall be included in the report of the Commission.

(3) REQUIREMENT.—The report submitted under this subsection shall be made available to the public.

(d) PRIOR COMMISSIONS.—The Commission shall take into consideration the work of prior relevant commissions in conducting its review.

(e) STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—In issuing its recommendations and report under this section, the Commission shall not infringe on the legitimate rights of the States to determine their own criminal laws or the enforcement of such laws.

(f) PUBLIC HEARINGS.—The Commission shall conduct public hearings in various locations around the United States.

(g) CONSULTATION WITH GOVERNMENT AND NONGOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall—

(A) closely consult with Federal, State, local, and Tribal government and nongovernmental leaders, including State, local, and Tribal law enforcement officials, including rank and file officers, legislators, public health officials, judges, court administrators, prosecutors, defense counsel, victims’ rights organizations, probation and parole officials, criminal justice planners, criminologists, civil rights and liberties organizations, community-based organization leaders, formerly incarcerated individuals, professional organizations, and corrections officials; and

(B) include in the final report required under subsection (c) summaries of the input and recommendations of these leaders.

(2) UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION.—To the extent the review and recommendations required by this section relate to sentencing policies and practices for

the Federal criminal justice system, the Commission shall conduct such review in consultation with the United States Sentencing Commission.

(h) **SENSE OF CONGRESS, GOAL OF UNANIMITY.**—It is the sense of the Congress that, given the national importance of the matters before the Commission, the Commission should work toward unanimously supported findings and supplemental guidance, and that unanimously supported findings and supplemental guidance should take precedence over those findings and supplemental guidance that are not unanimously supported.

SEC. 6. MEMBERSHIP.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Commission shall be composed of 14 members, as follows:

(1) The President shall appoint the Attorney General to serve as chairman and a member of the Commission.

(2) Six members shall be appointed by the Attorney General in consultation with—

(A) the leadership of the Senate and House of Representatives of the same political party as the President; and

(B) the leadership of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate of the same political party as the President.

(3) Seven members shall be appointed by the senior members of the leadership of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the opposite party of the President in consultation with the leadership of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate of the opposite political party of the President.

(b) **MEMBERSHIP.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Members will be selected based upon knowledge or experience in such relevant areas as—

(A) law enforcement;

(B) criminal justice;

(C) national security;

(D) prison and jail administration;

(E) prisoner reentry;

(F) public health, including physical and sexual victimization, drug addiction and mental health;

(G) victims' rights;

(H) civil rights;

(I) civil liberties;

(J) court administration;

(K) social services; and

(L) State, local, and Tribal government.

(2) **LAW ENFORCEMENT REPRESENTATION.**—

(A) **MEMBERS APPOINTED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL.**—Of the 6 members appointed by the Attorney General under subsection (a)(2)—

(i) not fewer than 2 shall be representatives from Federal, State, or local law enforcement agencies; and

(ii) not fewer than 1 shall be a representative from Tribal law enforcement agencies.

(B) **OTHER MEMBERS.**—Of the 7 members appointed under subsection (a)(3)—

(i) not fewer than 2 shall be representatives of Federal, State, or local law enforcement agencies; and

(ii) not fewer than 1 shall be a representative from Tribal law enforcement agencies.

(3) **DISQUALIFICATION.**—An individual shall not be appointed as a member of the Commission if such individual possesses any personal financial interest in the discharge of any of the duties of the Commission.

(4) **TERMS.**—Members shall be appointed for the life of the Commission.

(c) **APPOINTMENT; FIRST MEETING.**—

(1) **APPOINTMENT.**—Members of the Commission shall be appointed not later than 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) **FIRST MEETING.**—The Commission shall hold its first meeting on the date that is 60

days after the date of enactment of this Act, or not later than 30 days after the date on which funds are made available for the Commission, whichever is later.

(3) **ETHICS.**—At the first meeting of the Commission, the Commission shall draft appropriate ethics guidelines for commissioners and staff, including guidelines relating to conflict of interest and financial disclosure. The Commission shall consult with the Senate and House Committees on the Judiciary as a part of drafting the guidelines and furnish the Committees with a copy of the completed guidelines.

(d) **MEETINGS; QUORUM; VACANCIES.**—

(1) **MEETINGS.**—The Commission shall meet at the call of the chairman or his or her designee.

(2) **QUORUM.**—A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for purposes of conducting business, except that 2 members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for purposes of receiving testimony.

(3) **VACANCIES.**—Any vacancy in the Commission shall not affect its powers, but shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made. If vacancies in the Commission occur on any day after 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, a quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of the Commission as of such day, so long as not less than 1 Commission member chosen by a member of each party, Republican and Democratic, is present.

(e) **ACTIONS OF COMMISSION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Commission—

(A) shall, subject to the requirements of section 5, act by resolution agreed to by a majority of the members of the Commission voting and present; and

(B) may establish panels composed of less than the full membership of the Commission for purposes of carrying out the duties of the Commission under this title—

(i) which shall be subject to the review and control of the Commission; and

(ii) any findings and determinations made by such a panel shall not be considered the findings and determinations of the Commission unless approved by the Commission.

(2) **DELEGATION.**—Any member, agent, or staff of the Commission may, if authorized by the chairman of the Commission, take any action which the Commission is authorized to take pursuant to this Act.

SEC. 7. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) **STAFF.**—

(1) **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.**—The Commission shall have a staff headed by an Executive Director. The Executive Director shall be paid at a rate established for the Certified Plan pay level for the Senior Executive Service under section 5382 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) **APPOINTMENT AND COMPENSATION.**—The chairman of the Commission shall designate and fix the compensation of the Executive Director and, in accordance with rules agreed upon by the Commission, may appoint and fix the compensation of such other personnel as may be necessary to enable the Commission to carry out its functions, without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates, except that no rate of pay fixed under this subsection may exceed the equivalent of that payable for a position at level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code.

(3) **PERSONNEL AS FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The executive director and any personnel of the Commission who

are employees shall be employees under section 2105 of title 5, United States Code, for purposes of chapters 63, 81, 83, 84, 85, 87, 89, and 90 of that title.

(B) **MEMBERS OF COMMISSION.**—Subparagraph (A) shall not be construed to apply to members of the Commission.

(4) **THE COMPENSATION OF COMMISSIONERS.**—Each member of the Commission may be compensated at not to exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay in effect for a position at level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for each day during which that member is engaged in the actual performance of the duties of the Commission. All members of the Commission who are officers or employees of the United States, State, or local government shall serve without compensation in addition to that received for their services as officers or employees.

(5) **TRAVEL EXPENSES.**—While away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the Commission, members of the Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in the Government service are allowed expenses under section 5703(b) of title 5, United States Code.

(b) **EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.**—With the approval of the Commission, the Executive Director may procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code.

(c) **DETAIL OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.**—Upon the request of the Commission, the head of any Federal agency may detail, without reimbursement, any of the personnel of such agency to the Commission to assist in carrying out the duties of the Commission. Any such detail shall not interrupt or otherwise affect the civil service status or privileges of the Federal employee.

(d) **OTHER RESOURCES.**—The Commission shall have reasonable access to materials, resources, statistical data, and other information such Commission determines to be necessary to carry out its duties from the Library of Congress, the Department of Justice, the Office of National Drug Control Policy, the Department of State, and other agencies of the executive and legislative branches of the Federal Government. The chairman of the Commission shall make requests for such access in writing when necessary.

(e) **VOLUNTEER SERVICES.**—Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1342 of title 31, United States Code, the Commission is authorized to accept and utilize the services of volunteers serving without compensation. The Commission may reimburse such volunteers for local travel and office supplies, and for other travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5, United States Code. A person providing volunteer services to the Commission shall be considered an employee of the Federal Government in performance of those services for the purposes of chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, relating to compensation for work-related injuries, chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code, relating to tort claims, and chapter 11 of title 18, United States Code, relating to conflicts of interest.

(f) **OBTAINING OFFICIAL DATA.**—The Commission may secure directly from any agency of the United States information necessary to enable it to carry out this Act. Upon the request of the chairman of the Commission, the head of that department or agency shall furnish that information to the Commission. The Commission shall not have access to sensitive information regarding ongoing investigations.

(g) **MAILS.**—The Commission may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other departments and agencies of the United States.

(h) **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTING.**—The Commission shall issue biannual status reports to Congress regarding the use of resources, salaries, and all expenditures of appropriated funds.

(i) **CONTRACTS.**—The Commission is authorized to enter into contracts with Federal and State agencies, private firms, institutions, and individuals for the conduct of activities necessary for the discharge of its duties and responsibilities. A contract, lease or other legal agreement entered into by the Commission may not extend beyond the date of the termination of the Commission.

(j) **GIFTS.**—Subject to existing law, the Commission may accept, use, and dispose of gifts or donations of services or property.

(k) **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE.**—The Administrator of General Services shall provide to the Commission, on a reimbursable basis, the administrative support services necessary for the Commission to carry out its responsibilities under this Act. These administrative services may include human resource management, budget, leasing, accounting, and payroll services.

(l) **NONAPPLICABILITY OF FACA AND PUBLIC ACCESS TO MEETINGS AND MINUTES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Commission.

(2) **MEETINGS AND MINUTES.**—

(A) **MEETINGS.**—

(i) **ADMINISTRATION.**—All meetings of the Commission shall be open to the public, except that a meeting or any portion of it may be closed to the public if it concerns matters or information described in section 552b(c) of title 5, United States Code. Interested persons shall be permitted to appear at open meetings and present oral or written statements on the subject matter of the meeting. The Commission may administer oaths or affirmations to any person appearing before it.

(ii) **NOTICE.**—All open meetings of the Commission shall be preceded by timely public notice in the Federal Register of the time, place, and subject of the meeting.

(B) **MINUTES AND PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.**—Minutes of each open meeting shall be kept and shall contain a record of the people present, a description of the discussion that occurred, and copies of all statements filed. The minutes and records of all open meetings and other documents that were made available to or prepared for the Commission shall be available for public inspection and copying at a single location in the offices of the Commission.

(m) **ARCHIVING.**—Not later than the date of termination of the Commission, all records and papers of the Commission shall be delivered to the Archivist of the United States for deposit in the National Archives.

SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF FUNDS.

For each of fiscal years 2019 and 2020, the Attorney General may use, from any unobligated balances made available under the heading “General Administration” to the Department of Justice in an appropriations Act, such amounts as are necessary, not to exceed \$7,000,000 per fiscal year and not to exceed \$14,000,000 total for both fiscal years, to carry out this Act, except that none of the funds authorized to be used to carry out this Act may be used for international travel.

SEC. 9. SUNSET.

The Commission shall terminate 60 days after the Commission submits the report required under section 5(c) to Congress.

SA 4181. Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. CORKER) proposed an amendment to the

bill H.R. 4969, to improve the design and construction of diplomatic posts, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Improving Embassy Design and Security Act of 2018”.

SEC. 2. STANDARDIZATION IN CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION.

(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that the Department of State’s Bureau of Overseas Building Operations (OBO) or successor office should prioritize the standardization of embassy design and keep customization to a minimum.

(b) **CONSULTATION.**—The Secretary of State shall carry out any new embassy compound project or new consulate compound project that utilizes a non-standard design, including those projects that are in the design phase or pre-design phase as of the date of the enactment of this Act, only in consultation with the appropriate congressional committees. The Secretary shall provide such committees, for each such project, the following documentation:

(1) A comparison of the estimated full lifecycle costs of the project at issue to the estimated full lifecycle costs of such project if such project were to use a standard design.

(2) A comparison of the estimated completion date of such project to the estimated completion date of such project if such project were to use a standard design.

(3) A comparison of the security of such completed project to the security of such completed project if such completed project were to use a standard design.

(4) A justification for the Secretary’s selection of a non-standard design over a standard design for such project.

(5) A written explanation if any of the documentation necessary to support the comparisons and justification, as the case may be, described in paragraphs (1) through (4) cannot be provided.

(c) **SUNSET.**—The consultation requirement under subsection (b) shall expire on September 30, 2022.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States that the Bureau of Overseas Building Operations of the Department of State or its successor office shall continue to balance functionality and security with accessibility as defined by guidelines established by the United States Access Board in constructing embassies and consulates and shall ensure compliance with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4151 et seq.) to the fullest extent possible.

SEC. 4. CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION TRANSPARENCY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 118 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (22 U.S.C. 304) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “ANNUAL REPORT ON EMBASSY CONSTRUCTION COSTS” and inserting “QUARTERLY REPORT ON OVERSEAS CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS”; and

(2) by amending subsections (a) and (b) to read as follows:

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection, and every 90 days thereafter until September 30, 2022, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a comprehensive report regarding all ongoing overseas capital construction projects and major embassy security upgrade projects.

“(b) **CONTENTS.**—Each report required under subsection (a) shall include the following with respect to each ongoing overseas

capital construction project and major embassy security upgrade project:

“(1) The initial cost estimate as specified in the proposed allocation of capital construction and maintenance funds required by the Committees on Appropriations for Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs.

“(2) The current cost estimate.

“(3) The value of each request for equitable adjustment received by the Department of State to date.

“(4) The value of each certified claim received by the Department of State to date.

“(5) The value of any usage of the project’s contingency fund to date and the value of the remainder of the project’s contingency fund.

“(6) An enumerated list of each request for adjustment and certified claim that remains outstanding or unresolved.

“(7) An enumerated list of each request for equitable adjustment and certified claim that has been fully adjudicated or that the Department has settled, and the final dollar amount of each adjudication or settlement.

“(8) The date of estimated completion specified in the proposed allocation of capital construction and maintenance funds required by the Committees on Appropriations not later than 45 days after the date of the enactment of an Act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs.

“(9) The current date of estimated completion.”.

(b) **INITIAL REPORT.**—The first report required under subsection (a) of section 118 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (as amended by this section) shall include an annex regarding all overseas capital construction projects and major embassy security upgrade projects completed during the 10-year period ending on December 31, 2018, including, for each such project, the elements specified in subsection (b) of such section 118 (as amended by this section).

SEC. 5. CONTRACTOR PERFORMANCE INFORMATION.

(a) **DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION.**—The Secretary of State shall complete by October 1, 2020, all contractor performance evaluations required by subpart 42.15 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

(b) **PRIORITIZATION SYSTEM.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall develop a prioritization system for clearing the current backlog of required evaluations referred to in subsection (a).

(2) **ELEMENTS.**—The system required under paragraph (1) should prioritize such evaluations as follows:

(A) Project completion evaluations should be prioritized over annual evaluations.

(B) Evaluations for relatively large contracts should have priority.

(C) Evaluations that would be particularly informative for the awarding of government contracts should have priority.

(c) **BRIEFING.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall brief the appropriate congressional committees on the Department of State’s plan for completing all evaluations by October 1, 2020, and the prioritization system developed pursuant to this section.

(d) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) contractors deciding whether to bid on Department of State contracts would benefit from greater understanding of the Department as a client; and

(2) the Department should develop a forum through which contractors can rate the Department's project management performance.

SEC. 6. GROWTH PROJECTIONS FOR NEW EMBASSIES AND CONSULATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For each new embassy compound project (NEC) and new consulate compound project (NCC) in or not yet in the design phase as of the date of the enactment of this Act, the Office of Management Policy, Rightsizing, and Innovation of the Department of State shall project growth over the estimated life of the facility at issue using all available and relevant data, including the following:

(1) Relevant historical trends for Department personnel and personnel from other agencies represented at the NEC or NCC that is to be constructed.

(2) An analysis of the tradeoffs between risk and the needs of United States Government policy conducted as part of the most recent Vital Presence Validation Process, if applicable.

(3) Reasonable assumptions about the strategic importance of the NEC or NCC, as the case may be, over the life of the building at issue.

(4) Any other data that would be helpful in projecting the future growth of NEC or NCC.

(b) OTHER AGENCIES.—Each Federal agency represented at an embassy or consulate shall provide to the Department of State, upon request, growth projections for the personnel of such agency over the estimated life of such embassy or consulate, as the case may be.

(c) BASIS FOR ESTIMATES.—The Department of State shall base growth assumption for all NECs and NCCs on the estimates required under subsections (a) and (b).

(d) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—Any congressional notification of site selection for a NEC or NCC submitted after the date of the enactment of this Act shall include the growth assumption used pursuant to subsection (c).

SEC. 7. LONG-RANGE PLANNING PROCESS.

(a) PLANS REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter for five years, the Secretary of State shall develop—

(A) a comprehensive six-year Long-Range Overseas Buildings Plan (LROBP) documenting the Department of State's overseas building program for the replacement of overseas diplomatic facilities taking into account security factors under the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 (22 U.S.C. 4865 note) and other relevant statutes and regulations, as well as occupational safety and health factors pursuant to the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 651 et seq.) and other relevant statutes and regulations, including environmental factors such as indoor air quality that impact employee health and safety; and

(B) a comprehensive six-year plan detailing the Department's long-term planning for the maintenance and sustainment of completed facilities, known as a Long-Range Overseas Maintenance Plan (LROMP), which takes into account security factors under the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 and other relevant statutes and regulations, as well as occupational safety and health factors pursuant to the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 and other relevant statutes and regulations, including environmental factors such as indoor air quality that impact employee health and safety.

(2) INITIAL REPORT.—The first plan developed pursuant to paragraph (1)(A) shall also

include a one-time status report on existing small diplomatic posts and a strategy for establishing a physical diplomatic presence in countries in which there is no current physical diplomatic presence. The report, which may include a classified annex, shall include the following:

(A) A description of the extent to which each small diplomatic post furthers the national interest of the United States.

(B) A description of how each small diplomatic post provides American Citizen Services, including data on specific services provided and the number of Americans receiving services over the previous year.

(C) A description of whether each small diplomatic post meets current security requirements.

(D) A description of the full financial cost of maintaining each small diplomatic post.

(E) Input from the relevant chiefs of mission on any unique operational or policy value the small diplomatic post provides.

(3) UPDATED INFORMATION.—The annual updates of the plans developed pursuant to paragraph (1) shall highlight any changes from the previous year's plan to the ordering of construction and maintenance projects.

(b) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) SUBMISSION OF PLANS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 60 days after the completion of the LROBP and the LROMP, the Secretary of State shall submit such plans to the appropriate congressional committees.

(2) REFERENCE IN BUDGET JUSTIFICATION MATERIALS.—In the budget justification materials submitted to the appropriate congressional committees in support of the Department of State's budget for any fiscal year (as submitted with the budget of the President under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code), the plans specified in the LROBP and LROMP shall be referenced to justify funding requested for building and maintenance projects overseas.

(3) FORM OF REPORT.—The plans required to be submitted under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include classified annexes

(c) SMALL DIPLOMATIC POST DEFINED.—In this section, the term “small diplomatic post” means any consulate that has employed five or fewer United States Government employees on average over the 36 months before the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 8. VALUE ENGINEERING AND RISK ASSESSMENT.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Federal departments and agencies are required to use value engineering (VE) as a management tool, where appropriate, to reduce program and acquisition costs pursuant to OMB Circular A-131, Value Engineering, dated December 31, 2013.

(2) OBO has a Policy Directive and Standard Operation Procedure, dated May 24, 2017, on conducting risk management studies on all international construction projects.

(b) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) SUBMISSION TO AUTHORIZING COMMITTEES.—The proposed allocation of capital construction and maintenance funds that is required by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 45 days after the date of the enactment of an Act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs shall also be submitted to the appropriate congressional committees.

(2) REQUIREMENT TO CONFIRM COMPLETION OF VALUE ENGINEERING AND RISK ASSESSMENT STUDIES.—The notifications required under paragraph (1) shall include confirmation that the Department of State has completed the

requisite VE and risk management studies described in subsection (a).

(c) REPORTING AND BRIEFING REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary of State shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees upon request—

(1) a description of each recommendation from each study described in subsection (a) and a table detailing which recommendations were accepted and which were rejected; and

(2) a report or briefing detailing the rationale for not implementing recommendations made by VE studies that may yield significant cost savings to the Department of State, if implemented.

SEC. 9. BUSINESS VOLUME.

Subparagraph (E) of section 402(c)(2) of the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986 (22 U.S.C. 4852(c)(2)) is amended by striking “in 3 years” and inserting “cumulatively over 3 years”.

SEC. 10. EMBASSY SECURITY REQUESTS AND DEFICIENCIES.

The Secretary of State shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees, upon request, information on security deficiencies at United States diplomatic posts, including—

(1) requests made over the previous year by United States diplomatic posts for security upgrades; and

(2) significant security deficiencies at United States diplomatic posts that are not operating out of a new embassy compound or new consulate compound.

SEC. 11. OVERSEAS SECURITY BRIEFINGS.

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall revise the Foreign Affairs Manual to stipulate that information on the current threat environment shall be provided to all United States Government employees under Chief of Mission authority traveling to a foreign country on official business. To the extent practicable, such material shall be provided to employees prior to their arrival at a post or as soon as possible thereafter.

SEC. 12. CONTRACTING METHODS IN CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION.

(a) DELIVERY.—Unless the Secretary of State notifies the appropriate congressional committees that the use of the design-build project delivery method would not be appropriate, the Secretary shall make use of such method at diplomatic posts that have not yet received design or capital construction contracts as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) NOTIFICATION.—Before executing a contract for a delivery method other than design-build in accordance with subsection (a), the Secretary of State shall notify the appropriate congressional committees in writing of the decision, including the reasons therefor. The notification required by this subsection may be included in any other report regarding a new diplomatic facility that is required to be submitted to the appropriate congressional committees

(c) PERFORMANCE EVALUATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall report to the appropriate congressional committees regarding performance evaluation measures in line with GAO's “Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government” that will be applicable to design and construction, lifecycle cost, and building maintenance programs of the Bureau of Overseas Building Operations of the Department of State.

SEC. 13. COMPETITION IN EMBASSY CONSTRUCTION.

Not later than 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committee a report detailing

steps the Department of State is taking to expand the embassy construction contractor base in order to increase competition and maximize value.

SEC. 14. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) **DESIGN-BUILD.**—The term “design-build” means a method of project delivery in which one entity works under a single contract with the Department of State to provide design and construction services.

(3) **NON-STANDARD DESIGN.**—The term “non-standard design” means— A design for a new embassy compound project or new consulate compound project that does not utilize a standardized design for the structural, spatial, or security requirements of such embassy compound or consulate compound, as the case may be.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II COMMEMORATION ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask that the Chair lay before the Senate the message to accompany S. 3661.

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 3661) entitled “An Act to provide for a program of the Department of Defense to commemorate the 75th anniversary of World War II,” do pass with an amendment.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I move to concur in the House amendment, and I ask unanimous consent that the motion be agreed to and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

AMENDING THE FEDERAL ASSETS SALE AND TRANSFER ACT OF 2016 TO PROVIDE FLEXIBILITY WITH RESPECT TO THE LEASEBACK OF CERTAIN FEDERAL REAL PROPERTY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 7319, which was received from the House.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 7319) to amend the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to provide flexibility with respect to the leaseback of certain Federal real property, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 7319) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

AMENDING THE FEDERAL ASSETS SALE AND TRANSFER ACT OF 2016 TO ENSURE THAT THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS REFORM BOARD HAS ADEQUATE TIME TO CARRY OUT THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 7318, which was received from the House.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 7318) to amend the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to ensure that the Public Buildings Reform Board has adequate time to carry out the responsibilities of the Board.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 7318) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

AUTHORIZING EARLY REPAYMENT OF OBLIGATIONS TO THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION WITHIN THE NORTHPORT IRRIGATION DISTRICT IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4689 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4689) to authorize early repayment of obligations to the Bureau of Reclamation within the Northport Irrigation District in the State of Nebraska.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I further ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The bill (H.R. 4689) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION PUMPED STORAGE HYDROPOWER DEVELOPMENT ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 663, H.R. 1967.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1967) to amend the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 to authorize pumped storage hydropower development utilizing multiple Bureau of Reclamation reservoirs.

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Bureau of Reclamation Pumped Storage Hydropower Development Act”.

SEC. 2. AUTHORITY FOR PUMPED STORAGE HYDROPOWER DEVELOPMENT USING MULTIPLE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION RESERVOIRS.

Section 9(c) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (43 U.S.C. 485h(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), in the fourth sentence, by striking “, including small conduit hydropower development” and inserting “and reserve to the Secretary the exclusive authority to develop small conduit hydropower using Bureau of Reclamation facilities and pumped storage hydropower exclusively using Bureau of Reclamation reservoirs”; and

(2) in paragraph (8), by striking “has been filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission as of August 9, 2013” and inserting “was filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission before August 9, 2013, and is still pending”.

SEC. 3. LIMITATIONS ON ISSUANCE OF CERTAIN LEASES OF POWER PRIVILEGE.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **COMMISSION.**—The term “Commission” means the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

(2) **DIRECTOR.**—The term “Director” means the Director of the Office of Hearings and Appeals.

(3) **OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS.**—The term “Office of Hearings and Appeals” means the Office of Hearings and Appeals of the Department of the Interior.

(4) **PARTY.**—The term “party”, with respect to a study plan agreement, means each of the following parties to the study plan agreement:

(A) The proposed lessee.

(B) The Tribes.

(5) **PROJECT.**—The term “project” means a proposed pumped storage facility that—

(A) would use multiple Bureau of Reclamation reservoirs; and

(B) as of June 1, 2017, was subject to a preliminary permit issued by the Commission pursuant to section 4(f) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 797(f)).

(6) **PROPOSED LESSEE.**—The term “proposed lessee” means the proposed lessee of a project.

(7) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(8) **STUDY PLAN.**—The term “study plan” means the plan described in subsection (d)(1).

(9) **STUDY PLAN AGREEMENT.**—The term “study plan agreement” means an agreement entered into under subsection (b)(1) and described in subsection (c).

(10) **TRIBES.**—The term “Tribes” means—

(A) the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation; and

(B) the Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation.

(b) **REQUIREMENT FOR ISSUANCE OF LEASES OF POWER PRIVILEGE.**—The Secretary shall not issue a lease of power privilege pursuant to section 9(c)(1) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (43 U.S.C. 485h(c)(1)) (as amended by section 2) for a project unless—

(1) the proposed lessee and the Tribes have entered into a study plan agreement; or

(2) the Secretary or the Director, as applicable, makes a final determination for—

(A) a study plan agreement under subsection (c)(2); or

(B) a study plan under subsection (d).

(c) **STUDY PLAN AGREEMENT REQUIREMENTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A study plan agreement shall—

(A) establish the deadlines for the proposed lessee to formally respond in writing to comments and study requests about the project previously submitted to the Commission;

(B) allow for the parties to submit additional comments and study requests if any aspect of the project, as proposed, differs from an aspect of the project, as described in a preapplication document provided to the Commission;

(C) except as expressly agreed to by the parties or as provided in paragraph (2) or subsection (d), require that the proposed lessee conduct each study described in—

(i) a study request about the project previously submitted to the Commission; or

(ii) any additional study request submitted in accordance with the study plan agreement;

(D) require that the proposed lessee study any potential adverse economic effects of the project on the Tribes, including effects on—

(i) annual payments to the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation under section 5(b) of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation Grand Coulee Dam Settlement Act (Public Law 103-436; 108 Stat. 4579); and

(ii) annual payments to the Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation authorized after the date of enactment of this Act, the amount of which derives from the annual payments described in clause (i);

(E) establish a protocol for communication and consultation between the parties;

(F) provide mechanisms for resolving disputes between the parties regarding implementation and enforcement of the study plan agreement; and

(G) contain other provisions determined to be appropriate by the parties.

(2) **DISPUTES.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—If the parties cannot agree to the terms of a study plan agreement or implementation of those terms, the parties shall submit to the Director, for final determination on the terms or implementation of the study plan agreement, notice of the dispute, consistent with paragraph (1)(F), to the extent the parties have agreed to a study plan agreement.

(B) **INCLUSION.**—A dispute covered by subparagraph (A) may include the view of a proposed lessee that an additional study request submitted in accordance with paragraph (1)(B) is not reasonably calculated to assist the Secretary in evaluating the potential impacts of the project.

(C) **TIMING.**—The Director shall issue a determination regarding a dispute under subparagraph (A) not later than 120 days after the date on which the Director receives notice of the dispute under that subparagraph.

(d) **STUDY PLAN.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The proposed lessee shall submit to the Secretary for approval a study plan that details the proposed methodology for performing each of the studies—

(A) identified in the study plan agreement of the proposed lessee; or

(B) determined by the Director in a final determination regarding a dispute under subsection (c)(2).

(2) **INITIAL DETERMINATION.**—Not later than 60 days after the date on which the Secretary re-

ceives the study plan under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall make an initial determination that—

(A) approves the study plan;

(B) rejects the study plan on the grounds that the study plan—

(i) lacks sufficient detail on a proposed methodology for a study identified in the study plan agreement; or

(ii) is inconsistent with the study plan agreement; or

(C) imposes additional study plan requirements that the Secretary determines are necessary to adequately define the potential effects of the project on—

(i) the exercise of the paramount hunting, fishing, and boating rights of the Tribes reserved pursuant the Act of June 29, 1940 (54 Stat. 703, chapter 460; 16 U.S.C. 835d et seq.);

(ii) the annual payments described in clauses (i) and (ii) of subsection (c)(1)(D);

(iii) the Columbia Basin project (as defined in section 1 of the Act of May 27, 1937 (50 Stat. 208, chapter 269; 57 Stat. 14, chapter 14; 16 U.S.C. 835);

(iv) historic properties and cultural or spiritually significant resources; and

(v) the environment.

(3) **OBJECTIONS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary makes an initial determination under paragraph (2), the Tribes or the proposed lessee may submit to the Director an objection to the initial determination.

(B) **FINAL DETERMINATION.**—Not later than 120 days after the date on which the Director receives an objection under subparagraph (A), the Director shall—

(i) hold a hearing on the record regarding the objection; and

(ii) make a final determination that establishes the study plan, including a description of studies the proposed lessee is required to perform.

(4) **NO OBJECTIONS.**—If no objections are submitted by the deadline described in paragraph (3)(A), the initial determination of the Secretary under paragraph (2) shall be final.

(e) **CONDITIONS OF LEASE.**—

(1) **CONSISTENCY WITH RIGHTS OF TRIBES; PROTECTION, MITIGATION, AND ENHANCEMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Any lease of power privilege issued by the Secretary for a project under subsection (b) shall contain conditions—

(i) to ensure that the project is consistent with, and will not interfere with, the exercise of the paramount hunting, fishing, and boating rights of the Tribes reserved pursuant to the Act of June 29, 1940 (54 Stat. 703, chapter 460; 16 U.S.C. 835d et seq.); and

(ii) to adequately and equitably protect, mitigate damages to, and enhance fish and wildlife, including related spawning grounds and habitat, affected by the development, operation, and management of the project.

(B) **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TRIBES.**—The conditions required under subparagraph (A) shall be based on joint recommendations of the Tribes.

(C) **RESOLVING INCONSISTENCIES.**—

(i) **IN GENERAL.**—If the Secretary determines that any recommendation of the Tribes under subparagraph (B) is not reasonably calculated to ensure the project is consistent with subparagraph (A) or is inconsistent with the requirements of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (43 U.S.C. 485 et seq.), the Secretary shall attempt to resolve any such inconsistency with the Tribes, giving due weight to the recommendations and expertise of the Tribes.

(ii) **PUBLICATION OF FINDINGS.**—If, after an attempt to resolve an inconsistency under clause (i), the Secretary does not adopt in whole or in part a recommendation of the Tribes under subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall issue each of the following findings, including a statement of the basis for each of the findings:

(I) A finding that adoption of the recommendation is inconsistent with the requirements of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (43 U.S.C. 485 et seq.).

(II) A finding that the conditions selected by the Secretary to be contained in the lease of power privilege under subparagraph (A) comply with the requirements of clauses (i) and (ii) of that subparagraph.

(2) **ANNUAL CHARGES PAYABLE BY LICENSEE.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to subparagraph (B), any lease of power privilege issued by the Secretary for a project under subsection (b) shall contain conditions that require the lessee of the project to make direct payments to the Tribes through reasonable annual charges in an amount that recompenses the Tribes for any adverse economic effect of the project identified in a study performed pursuant to the study plan agreement for the project.

(B) **AGREEMENT.**—

(i) **IN GENERAL.**—The amount of the annual charges described in subparagraph (A) shall be established through agreement between the proposed lessee and the Tribes.

(ii) **CONDITION.**—The agreement under clause (i), including any modification of the agreement, shall be deemed to be a condition to the lease of power privilege issued by the Secretary for a project under subsection (b).

(C) **DISPUTE RESOLUTION.**—

(i) **IN GENERAL.**—If the proposed lessee and the Tribes cannot agree to the terms of an agreement under subparagraph (B)(i), the proposed lessee and the Tribes shall submit notice of the dispute to the Director.

(ii) **RESOLUTION.**—The Director shall resolve the dispute described in clause (i) not later than 180 days after the date on which the Director receives notice of the dispute under that clause.

(3) **ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS.**—The Secretary may include in any lease of power privilege issued by the Secretary for a project under subsection (b) other conditions determined appropriate by the Secretary, on the condition that the conditions shall be consistent with the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (43 U.S.C. 485 et seq.).

(4) **CONSULTATION.**—In establishing conditions under this subsection, the Secretary shall consult with the Tribes.

(f) **DEADLINES.**—The Secretary or any officer of the Office of Hearing and Appeals before whom a proceeding is pending under this section may extend any deadline or enlarge any time-frame described in this section—

(1) at the discretion of the Secretary or the officer; or

(2) on a showing of good cause by any party.

(g) **JUDICIAL REVIEW.**—Any final action of the Secretary or the Director made pursuant to this section shall be subject to judicial review in accordance with chapter 7 of title 5, United States Code.

(h) **EFFECT ON OTHER PROJECTS.**—Nothing in this section establishes any precedent or is binding on any Bureau of Reclamation lease of power privilege, other than for a project.

Mr. McCONNELL. I further ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read the third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The bill (H.R. 1967), as amended, was passed.

COMBAT ONLINE PREDATORS ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4203, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4203) to amend title 18, United States Code, with regard to stalking.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Toomey substitute amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 4179), in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Combat Online Predators Act".

SEC. 2. ENHANCED PENALTY FOR STALKERS OF CHILDREN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 110A of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 2261A the following:

"§ 2261B. Enhanced penalty for stalkers of children

"(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), if the victim of an offense under section 2261A is under the age of 18 years, the maximum imprisonment for the offense is 5 years greater than the maximum term of imprisonment otherwise provided for that offense in section 2261.

"(b) LIMITATION.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to a person who violates section 2261A if—

"(1) the person is subject to a sentence under section 2261(b)(5); and

"(2)(A) the person is under the age of 18 at the time the offense occurred; or

"(B) the victim of the offense is not less than 15 nor more than 17 years of age and not more than 3 years younger than the person who committed the offense at the time the offense occurred."

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 110A of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 2261A the following new item:

"2261B. Enhanced penalty for stalkers of children."

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 2261A of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking "section 2261(b) of this title" and inserting "section 2261(b) or section 2262B, as the case may be".

SEC. 3. REPORT ON BEST PRACTICES REGARDING ENFORCEMENT OF ANTI-STALKING LAWS.

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit a report to Congress, which shall—

(1) include an evaluation of Federal, tribal, State, and local efforts to enforce laws relating to stalking; and

(2) identify and describe those elements of such efforts that constitute the best practices for the enforcement of such laws.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill (H.R. 4203), as amended, was passed.

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 7279, which was received from the House.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 7279) to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide for an integrated planning process, to promote green infrastructure, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

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

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 7279) was passed.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

CANCER SCREEN WEEK

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 742, submitted earlier today.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 742) designating the first week of December 2018, and supporting the designation of each first week of December thereafter, as "Cancer Screen Week", identifying the burden of cancer in the United States, and encouraging people to talk with their healthcare providers about appropriate screenings for the prevention and early detection of cancer.

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

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 742) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

CONGRATULATING THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 743, submitted earlier today.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 743) congratulating the International Association of Fire Fighters on the 100th anniversary of its founding.

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

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 743) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF DR. SAMUEL DUBOIS COOK

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 285 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 285) honoring the life and achievements of Dr. Samuel DuBois Cook.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 285) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of October 5, 2017, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

PROVIDING FOR A CORRECTION IN
THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 4174

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 149, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 149) directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make certain corrections in the enrollment of H.R. 4174.

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

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

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 149) was agreed to.

NATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE
COMMISSION ACT OF 2017

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. 573 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 573) to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. I further ask unanimous consent that the amendment at the desk be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The amendment (No. 4180) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “National Criminal Justice Commission Act of 2018”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) it is in the interest of the Nation to establish a commission to undertake a comprehensive review of the criminal justice system;

(2) there has not been a comprehensive study since the President’s Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice was established in 1965;

(3) that commission, in a span of 18 months, produced a comprehensive report entitled “The Challenge of Crime in a Free Society,” which contained 200 specific rec-

ommendations on all aspects of the criminal justice system involving Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments, civic organizations, religious institutions, business groups, and individual citizens; and

(4) developments over the intervening 50 years require once again that Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments, law enforcement agencies, including rank and file officers, civil rights organizations, community-based organization leaders, civic organizations, religious institutions, business groups, and individual citizens come together to review evidence and consider how to improve the criminal justice system.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION.

There is established a commission to be known as the “National Criminal Justice Commission” (referred to in this Act as the “Commission”).

SEC. 4. PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION.

The Commission shall—

(1) undertake a comprehensive review of the criminal justice system;

(2) make recommendations for Federal criminal justice reform to the President and Congress; and

(3) disseminate findings and supplemental guidance to the Federal Government, as well as to State, local, and Tribal governments.

SEC. 5. REVIEW, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND REPORT.

(a) GENERAL REVIEW.—The Commission shall undertake a comprehensive review of all areas of the criminal justice system, including Federal, State, local, and Tribal governments’ criminal justice costs, practices, and policies.

(b) RECOMMENDATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the first meeting of the Commission, the Commission shall submit to the President and Congress recommendations for changes in Federal oversight, policies, practices, and laws designed to prevent, deter, and reduce crime and violence, reduce recidivism, improve cost-effectiveness, and ensure the interests of justice at every step of the criminal justice system.

(2) UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUIRED.—A recommendation of the Commission may be adopted and submitted under paragraph (1) if the recommendation is approved by a unanimous vote of the Commissioners at a meeting where a quorum is present pursuant to section 6(d).

(3) REQUIREMENT.—The recommendations submitted under this subsection shall be made available to the public.

(c) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the first meeting of the Commission, the Commission shall also disseminate to the Federal Government, as well as to State, local, and Tribal governments, a report that details the findings and supplemental guidance of the Commission regarding the criminal justice system at all levels of government.

(2) MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED.—Commission findings and supplemental guidance may be adopted and included in the report required under paragraph (1) if the findings or guidance is approved by a majority vote of the Commissioners at a meeting where a quorum is present pursuant to section 6(d), except that any Commissioners dissenting from particular finding or supplemental guidance shall have the right to state the reason for their dissent in writing and such dissent shall be included in the report of the Commission.

(3) REQUIREMENT.—The report submitted under this subsection shall be made available to the public.

(d) PRIOR COMMISSIONS.—The Commission shall take into consideration the work of

prior relevant commissions in conducting its review.

(e) STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—In issuing its recommendations and report under this section, the Commission shall not infringe on the legitimate rights of the States to determine their own criminal laws or the enforcement of such laws.

(f) PUBLIC HEARINGS.—The Commission shall conduct public hearings in various locations around the United States.

(g) CONSULTATION WITH GOVERNMENT AND NONGOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall—

(A) closely consult with Federal, State, local, and Tribal government and nongovernmental leaders, including State, local, and Tribal law enforcement officials, including rank and file officers, legislators, public health officials, judges, court administrators, prosecutors, defense counsel, victims’ rights organizations, probation and parole officials, criminal justice planners, criminologists, civil rights and liberties organizations, community-based organization leaders, formerly incarcerated individuals, professional organizations, and corrections officials; and

(B) include in the final report required under subsection (c) summaries of the input and recommendations of these leaders.

(2) UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION.—To the extent the review and recommendations required by this section relate to sentencing policies and practices for the Federal criminal justice system, the Commission shall conduct such review in consultation with the United States Sentencing Commission.

(h) SENSE OF CONGRESS, GOAL OF UNANIMITY.—It is the sense of the Congress that, given the national importance of the matters before the Commission, the Commission should work toward unanimously supported findings and supplemental guidance, and that unanimously supported findings and supplemental guidance should take precedence over those findings and supplemental guidance that are not unanimously supported.

SEC. 6. MEMBERSHIP.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall be composed of 14 members, as follows:

(1) The President shall appoint the Attorney General to serve as chairman and a member of the Commission.

(2) Six members shall be appointed by the Attorney General in consultation with—

(A) the leadership of the Senate and House of Representatives of the same political party as the President; and

(B) the leadership of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate of the same political party as the President.

(3) Seven members shall be appointed by the senior members of the leadership of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the opposite party of the President in consultation with the leadership of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate of the opposite political party of the President.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Members will be selected based upon knowledge or experience in such relevant areas as—

(A) law enforcement;

(B) criminal justice;

(C) national security;

(D) prison and jail administration;

(E) prisoner reentry;

(F) public health, including physical and sexual victimization, drug addiction and mental health;

- (G) victims' rights;
- (H) civil rights;
- (I) civil liberties;
- (J) court administration;
- (K) social services; and
- (L) State, local, and Tribal government.

(2) LAW ENFORCEMENT REPRESENTATION.—

(A) MEMBERS APPOINTED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL.—Of the 6 members appointed by the Attorney General under subsection (a)(2)—

(i) not fewer than 2 shall be representatives from Federal, State, or local law enforcement agencies; and

(ii) not fewer than 1 shall be a representative from Tribal law enforcement agencies.

(B) OTHER MEMBERS.—Of the 7 members appointed under subsection (a)(3)—

(i) not fewer than 2 shall be representatives of Federal, State, or local law enforcement agencies; and

(ii) not fewer than 1 shall be a representative from Tribal law enforcement agencies.

(3) DISQUALIFICATION.—An individual shall not be appointed as a member of the Commission if such individual possesses any personal financial interest in the discharge of any of the duties of the Commission.

(4) TERMS.—Members shall be appointed for the life of the Commission.

(C) APPOINTMENT; FIRST MEETING.—

(1) APPOINTMENT.—Members of the Commission shall be appointed not later than 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) FIRST MEETING.—The Commission shall hold its first meeting on the date that is 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, or not later than 30 days after the date on which funds are made available for the Commission, whichever is later.

(3) ETHICS.—At the first meeting of the Commission, the Commission shall draft appropriate ethics guidelines for commissioners and staff, including guidelines relating to conflict of interest and financial disclosure. The Commission shall consult with the Senate and House Committees on the Judiciary as a part of drafting the guidelines and furnish the Committees with a copy of the completed guidelines.

(D) MEETINGS; QUORUM; VACANCIES.—

(1) MEETINGS.—The Commission shall meet at the call of the chairman or his or her designee.

(2) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for purposes of conducting business, except that 2 members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for purposes of receiving testimony.

(3) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the Commission shall not affect its powers, but shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made. If vacancies in the Commission occur on any day after 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, a quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of the Commission as of such day, so long as not less than 1 Commission member chosen by a member of each party, Republican and Democratic, is present.

(E) ACTIONS OF COMMISSION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission—

(A) shall, subject to the requirements of section 5, act by resolution agreed to by a majority of the members of the Commission voting and present; and

(B) may establish panels composed of less than the full membership of the Commission for purposes of carrying out the duties of the Commission under this title—

(i) which shall be subject to the review and control of the Commission; and

(ii) any findings and determinations made by such a panel shall not be considered the findings and determinations of the Commission unless approved by the Commission.

(2) DELEGATION.—Any member, agent, or staff of the Commission may, if authorized by the chairman of the Commission, take any action which the Commission is authorized to take pursuant to this Act.

SEC. 7. ADMINISTRATION.

(A) STAFF.—

(1) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The Commission shall have a staff headed by an Executive Director. The Executive Director shall be paid at a rate established for the Certified Plan pay level for the Senior Executive Service under section 5382 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) APPOINTMENT AND COMPENSATION.—The chairman of the Commission shall designate and fix the compensation of the Executive Director and, in accordance with rules agreed upon by the Commission, may appoint and fix the compensation of such other personnel as may be necessary to enable the Commission to carry out its functions, without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates, except that no rate of pay fixed under this subsection may exceed the equivalent of that payable for a position at level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code.

(3) PERSONNEL AS FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The executive director and any personnel of the Commission who are employees shall be employees under section 2105 of title 5, United States Code, for purposes of chapters 63, 81, 83, 84, 85, 87, 89, and 90 of that title.

(B) MEMBERS OF COMMISSION.—Subparagraph (A) shall not be construed to apply to members of the Commission.

(4) THE COMPENSATION OF COMMISSIONERS.—Each member of the Commission may be compensated at not to exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay in effect for a position at level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for each day during which that member is engaged in the actual performance of the duties of the Commission. All members of the Commission who are officers or employees of the United States, State, or local government shall serve without compensation in addition to that received for their services as officers or employees.

(5) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—While away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the Commission, members of the Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in the Government service are allowed expenses under section 5703(b) of title 5, United States Code.

(b) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—With the approval of the Commission, the Executive Director may procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code.

(c) DETAIL OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.—Upon the request of the Commission, the head of any Federal agency may detail, without reimbursement, any of the personnel of such agency to the Commission to assist in carrying out the duties of the Commission. Any such detail shall not interrupt or otherwise affect the civil service status or privileges of the Federal employee.

(d) OTHER RESOURCES.—The Commission shall have reasonable access to materials, resources, statistical data, and other information such Commission determines to be necessary to carry out its duties from the Library of Congress, the Department of Jus-

tice, the Office of National Drug Control Policy, the Department of State, and other agencies of the executive and legislative branches of the Federal Government. The chairman of the Commission shall make requests for such access in writing when necessary.

(e) VOLUNTEER SERVICES.—Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1342 of title 31, United States Code, the Commission is authorized to accept and utilize the services of volunteers serving without compensation. The Commission may reimburse such volunteers for local travel and office supplies, and for other travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5, United States Code. A person providing volunteer services to the Commission shall be considered an employee of the Federal Government in performance of those services for the purposes of chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, relating to compensation for work-related injuries, chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code, relating to tort claims, and chapter 11 of title 18, United States Code, relating to conflicts of interest.

(f) OBTAINING OFFICIAL DATA.—The Commission may secure directly from any agency of the United States information necessary to enable it to carry out this Act. Upon the request of the chairman of the Commission, the head of that department or agency shall furnish that information to the Commission. The Commission shall not have access to sensitive information regarding ongoing investigations.

(g) MAILS.—The Commission may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other departments and agencies of the United States.

(h) ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTING.—The Commission shall issue biannual status reports to Congress regarding the use of resources, salaries, and all expenditures of appropriated funds.

(i) CONTRACTS.—The Commission is authorized to enter into contracts with Federal and State agencies, private firms, institutions, and individuals for the conduct of activities necessary to the discharge of its duties and responsibilities. A contract, lease or other legal agreement entered into by the Commission may not extend beyond the date of the termination of the Commission.

(j) GIFTS.—Subject to existing law, the Commission may accept, use, and dispose of gifts or donations of services or property.

(k) ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator of General Services shall provide to the Commission, on a reimbursable basis, the administrative support services necessary for the Commission to carry out its responsibilities under this Act. These administrative services may include human resource management, budget, leasing, accounting, and payroll services.

(1) NONAPPLICABILITY OF FACIA AND PUBLIC ACCESS TO MEETINGS AND MINUTES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Commission.

(2) MEETINGS AND MINUTES.—

(A) MEETINGS.—

(i) ADMINISTRATION.—All meetings of the Commission shall be open to the public, except that a meeting or any portion of it may be closed to the public if it concerns matters or information described in section 552b(c) of title 5, United States Code. Interested persons shall be permitted to appear at open meetings and present oral or written statements on the subject matter of the meeting. The Commission may administer oaths or affirmations to any person appearing before it.

(ii) NOTICE.—All open meetings of the Commission shall be preceded by timely public notice in the Federal Register of the time, place, and subject of the meeting.

(B) MINUTES AND PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—Minutes of each open meeting shall be kept and shall contain a record of the people present, a description of the discussion that occurred, and copies of all statements filed. The minutes and records of all open meetings and other documents that were made available to or prepared for the Commission shall be available for public inspection and copying at a single location in the offices of the Commission.

(m) ARCHIVING.—Not later than the date of termination of the Commission, all records and papers of the Commission shall be delivered to the Archivist of the United States for deposit in the National Archives.

SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF FUNDS.

For each of fiscal years 2019 and 2020, the Attorney General may use, from any unobligated balances made available under the heading “General Administration” to the Department of Justice in an appropriations Act, such amounts as are necessary, not to exceed \$7,000,000 per fiscal year and not to exceed \$14,000,000 total for both fiscal years, to carry out this Act, except that none of the funds authorized to be used to carry out this Act may be used for international travel.

SEC. 9. SUNSET.

The Commission shall terminate 60 days after the Commission submits the report required under section 5(c) to Congress.

The bill (S. 573), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

EMBASSY SECURITY AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEAR 2019

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4969 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4969) to improve the design and construction of diplomatic posts, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Corker substitute amendment be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 4181) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Improving Embassy Design and Security Act of 2018”.

SEC. 2. STANDARDIZATION IN CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Department of State’s Bureau of Overseas Building Operations (OBO) or successor office should prioritize the standardization of embassy design and keep customization to a minimum.

(b) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of State shall carry out any new embassy compound project or new consulate compound project that utilizes a non-standard design, including those projects that are in the design phase or pre-design phase as of the date of the enactment of this Act, only in consultation with the appropriate congressional committees. The Secretary shall provide such committees, for each such project, the following documentation:

(1) A comparison of the estimated full lifecycle costs of the project at issue to the estimated full lifecycle costs of such project if such project were to use a standard design.

(2) A comparison of the estimated completion date of such project to the estimated completion date of such project if such project were to use a standard design.

(3) A comparison of the security of such completed project to the security of such completed project if such completed project were to use a standard design.

(4) A justification for the Secretary’s selection of a non-standard design over a standard design for such project.

(5) A written explanation if any of the documentation necessary to support the comparisons and justification, as the case may be, described in paragraphs (1) through (4) cannot be provided.

(c) SUNSET.—The consultation requirement under subsection (b) shall expire on September 30, 2022.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States that the Bureau of Overseas Building Operations of the Department of State or its successor office shall continue to balance functionality and security with accessibility as defined by guidelines established by the United States Access Board in constructing embassies and consulates and shall ensure compliance with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4151 et seq.) to the fullest extent possible.

SEC. 4. CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION TRANSPARENCY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 118 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (22 U.S.C. 304) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “ANNUAL REPORT ON EMBASSY CONSTRUCTION COSTS” and inserting “QUARTERLY REPORT ON OVERSEAS CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS”; and

(2) by amending subsections (a) and (b) to read as follows:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection, and every 90 days thereafter until September 30, 2022, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a comprehensive report regarding all ongoing overseas capital construction projects and major embassy security upgrade projects.

“(b) CONTENTS.—Each report required under subsection (a) shall include the following with respect to each ongoing overseas capital construction project and major embassy security upgrade project:

“(1) The initial cost estimate as specified in the proposed allocation of capital construction and maintenance funds required by the Committees on Appropriations for Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs.

“(2) The current cost estimate.

“(3) The value of each request for equitable adjustment received by the Department of State to date.

“(4) The value of each certified claim received by the Department of State to date.

“(5) The value of any usage of the project’s contingency fund to date and the value of

the remainder of the project’s contingency fund.

“(6) An enumerated list of each request for adjustment and certified claim that remains outstanding or unresolved.

“(7) An enumerated list of each request for equitable adjustment and certified claim that has been fully adjudicated or that the Department has settled, and the final dollar amount of each adjudication or settlement.

“(8) The date of estimated completion specified in the proposed allocation of capital construction and maintenance funds required by the Committees on Appropriations not later than 45 days after the date of the enactment of an Act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs.

“(9) The current date of estimated completion.”

(b) INITIAL REPORT.—The first report required under subsection (a) of section 118 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (as amended by this section) shall include an annex regarding all overseas capital construction projects and major embassy security upgrade projects completed during the 10-year period ending on December 31, 2018, including, for each such project, the elements specified in subsection (b) of such section 118 (as amended by this section).

SEC. 5. CONTRACTOR PERFORMANCE INFORMATION.

(a) DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION.—The Secretary of State shall complete by October 1, 2020, all contractor performance evaluations required by subpart 42.15 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

(b) PRIORITIZATION SYSTEM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall develop a prioritization system for clearing the current backlog of required evaluations referred to in subsection (a).

(2) ELEMENTS.—The system required under paragraph (1) should prioritize such evaluations as follows:

(A) Project completion evaluations should be prioritized over annual evaluations.

(B) Evaluations for relatively large contracts should have priority.

(C) Evaluations that would be particularly informative for the awarding of government contracts should have priority.

(c) BRIEFING.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall brief the appropriate congressional committees on the Department of State’s plan for completing all evaluations by October 1, 2020, and the prioritization system developed pursuant to this section.

(d) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) contractors deciding whether to bid on Department of State contracts would benefit from greater understanding of the Department as a client; and

(2) the Department should develop a forum through which contractors can rate the Department’s project management performance.

SEC. 6. GROWTH PROJECTIONS FOR NEW EMBASSIES AND CONSULATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For each new embassy compound project (NEC) and new consulate compound project (NCC) in or not yet in the design phase as of the date of the enactment of this Act, the Office of Management Policy, Rightsizing, and Innovation of the Department of State shall project growth over the estimated life of the facility at issue using all available and relevant data, including the following:

(1) Relevant historical trends for Department personnel and personnel from other

agencies represented at the NEC or NCC that is to be constructed.

(2) An analysis of the tradeoffs between risk and the needs of United States Government policy conducted as part of the most recent Vital Presence Validation Process, if applicable.

(3) Reasonable assumptions about the strategic importance of the NEC or NCC, as the case may be, over the life of the building at issue.

(4) Any other data that would be helpful in projecting the future growth of NEC or NCC.

(b) OTHER AGENCIES.—Each Federal agency represented at an embassy or consulate shall provide to the Department of State, upon request, growth projections for the personnel of such agency over the estimated life of such embassy or consulate, as the case may be.

(c) BASIS FOR ESTIMATES.—The Department of State shall base growth assumption for all NECs and NCCs on the estimates required under subsections (a) and (b).

(d) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—Any congressional notification of site selection for a NEC or NCC submitted after the date of the enactment of this Act shall include the growth assumption used pursuant to subsection (c).

SEC. 7. LONG-RANGE PLANNING PROCESS.

(a) PLANS REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter for five years, the Secretary of State shall develop—

(A) a comprehensive six-year Long-Range Overseas Buildings Plan (LROBP) documenting the Department of State's overseas building program for the replacement of overseas diplomatic facilities taking into account security factors under the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 (22 U.S.C. 4865 note) and other relevant statutes and regulations, as well as occupational safety and health factors pursuant to the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 651 et seq.) and other relevant statutes and regulations, including environmental factors such as indoor air quality that impact employee health and safety; and

(B) a comprehensive six-year plan detailing the Department's long-term planning for the maintenance and sustainment of completed facilities, known as a Long-Range Overseas Maintenance Plan (LROMP), which takes into account security factors under the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 and other relevant statutes and regulations, as well as occupational safety and health factors pursuant to the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 and other relevant statutes and regulations, including environmental factors such as indoor air quality that impact employee health and safety.

(2) INITIAL REPORT.—The first plan developed pursuant to paragraph (1)(A) shall also include a one-time status report on existing small diplomatic posts and a strategy for establishing a physical diplomatic presence in countries in which there is no current physical diplomatic presence. The report, which may include a classified annex, shall include the following:

(A) A description of the extent to which each small diplomatic post furthers the national interest of the United States.

(B) A description of how each small diplomatic post provides American Citizen Services, including data on specific services provided and the number of Americans receiving services over the previous year.

(C) A description of whether each small diplomatic post meets current security requirements.

(D) A description of the full financial cost of maintaining each small diplomatic post.

(E) Input from the relevant chiefs of mission on any unique operational or policy value the small diplomatic post provides.

(3) UPDATED INFORMATION.—The annual updates of the plans developed pursuant to paragraph (1) shall highlight any changes from the previous year's plan to the ordering of construction and maintenance projects.

(b) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) SUBMISSION OF PLANS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 60 days after the completion of the LROBP and the LROMP, the Secretary of State shall submit such plans to the appropriate congressional committees.

(2) REFERENCE IN BUDGET JUSTIFICATION MATERIALS.—In the budget justification materials submitted to the appropriate congressional committees in support of the Department of State's budget for any fiscal year (as submitted with the budget of the President under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code), the plans specified in the LROBP and LROMP shall be referenced to justify funding requested for building and maintenance projects overseas.

(3) FORM OF REPORT.—The plans required to be submitted under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include classified annexes.

(c) SMALL DIPLOMATIC POST DEFINED.—In this section, the term “small diplomatic post” means any consulate that has employed five or fewer United States Government employees on average over the 36 months before the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 8. VALUE ENGINEERING AND RISK ASSESSMENT.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Federal departments and agencies are required to use value engineering (VE) as a management tool, where appropriate, to reduce program and acquisition costs pursuant to OMB Circular A-131, Value Engineering, dated December 31, 2013.

(2) OBO has a Policy Directive and Standard Operation Procedure, dated May 24, 2017, on conducting risk management studies on all international construction projects.

(b) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) SUBMISSION TO AUTHORIZING COMMITTEES.—The proposed allocation of capital construction and maintenance funds that is required by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 45 days after the date of the enactment of an Act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs shall also be submitted to the appropriate congressional committees.

(2) REQUIREMENT TO CONFIRM COMPLETION OF VALUE ENGINEERING AND RISK ASSESSMENT STUDIES.—The notifications required under paragraph (1) shall include confirmation that the Department of State has completed the requisite VE and risk management studies described in subsection (a).

(c) REPORTING AND BRIEFING REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary of State shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees upon request—

(1) a description of each recommendation from each study described in subsection (a) and a table detailing which recommendations were accepted and which were rejected; and

(2) a report or briefing detailing the rationale for not implementing recommendations made by VE studies that may yield significant cost savings to the Department of State, if implemented.

SEC. 9. BUSINESS VOLUME.

Subparagraph (E) of section 402(c)(2) of the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and

Antiterrorism Act of 1986 (22 U.S.C. 4852(c)(2)) is amended by striking “in 3 years” and inserting “cumulatively over 3 years”.

SEC. 10. EMBASSY SECURITY REQUESTS AND DEFICIENCIES.

The Secretary of State shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees, upon request, information on security deficiencies at United States diplomatic posts, including—

(1) requests made over the previous year by United States diplomatic posts for security upgrades; and

(2) significant security deficiencies at United States diplomatic posts that are not operating out of a new embassy compound or new consulate compound.

SEC. 11. OVERSEAS SECURITY BRIEFINGS.

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall revise the Foreign Affairs Manual to stipulate that information on the current threat environment shall be provided to all United States Government employees under Chief of Mission authority traveling to a foreign country on official business. To the extent practicable, such material shall be provided to employees prior to their arrival at a post or as soon as possible thereafter.

SEC. 12. CONTRACTING METHODS IN CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION.

(a) DELIVERY.—Unless the Secretary of State notifies the appropriate congressional committees that the use of the design-build project delivery method would not be appropriate, the Secretary shall make use of such method at diplomatic posts that have not yet received design or capital construction contracts as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) NOTIFICATION.—Before executing a contract for a delivery method other than design-build in accordance with subsection (a), the Secretary of State shall notify the appropriate congressional committees in writing of the decision, including the reasons therefor. The notification required by this subsection may be included in any other report regarding a new diplomatic facility that is required to be submitted to the appropriate congressional committees.

(c) PERFORMANCE EVALUATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall report to the appropriate congressional committees regarding performance evaluation measures in line with GAO's “Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government” that will be applicable to design and construction, lifecycle cost, and building maintenance programs of the Bureau of Overseas Building Operations of the Department of State.

SEC. 13. COMPETITION IN EMBASSY CONSTRUCTION.

Not later than 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committee a report detailing steps the Department of State is taking to expand the embassy construction contractor base in order to increase competition and maximize value.

SEC. 14. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) DESIGN-BUILD.—The term “design-build” means a method of project delivery in which one entity works under a single contract with the Department of State to provide design and construction services.

(3) NON-STANDARD DESIGN.—The term “non-standard design” means— A design for a new embassy compound project or new consulate compound project that does not utilize a standardized design for the structural, spatial, or security requirements of such embassy compound or consulate compound, as the case may be.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The bill (H.R. 4969), as amended, was passed.

COMBATING EUROPEAN ANTI-SEMITISM ACT OF 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 672 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 672) to require continued and enhanced annual reporting to Congress in the Annual Report on International Religious Freedom on anti-Semitic incidents in Europe, the safety and security of European Jewish communities, and the efforts of the United States to partner with European governments, the European Union, and civil society groups, to combat anti-Semitism, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 672) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session and the Commerce Committee be discharged from further consideration and the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of PN Nos. 2705 and 2706; that the nominations be confirmed and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the Record; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

The nominations were considered and confirmed en bloc as follows:

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 271(E):

To be commander

AUSTIN L. ADCOCK
ANTONE S. ALONGI
MATTHEW S. AUSTIN
SAMUEL H. BABBITT
MICHAEL W. BAIRD
JON T. BARTEL
PATRICIA M. BENNETT
ROBERT A. BIXLER II
KELLY C. BLACKBURN
JULIE E. BLANCHFIELD
RONALD D. BLEDSOE, JR.
BRIAN T. BOLAND
JEFFREY M. BOLLING
MARY D. BROOKS
KATHERINE L. BROWN
STACI K. BROWN
BRADLEY A. BRUNAUGH
KENNETH J. BURGESS
ERIC S. BURLEY
JASON A. BUSTAMANTE
WILLIAM R. CAHILL
JAMES M. CARABIN
JOEL B. CARSE
AARON J. CASAVANT
XOCHITL L. CASTANEDA
ACE V. CASTLE
ERIC W. CHANG
DAVID K. CHAPMAN
DARYL C. CLARY
GREGORY A. CLAYTON
DAVID M. COBURN
MUHAMMADALI N. COCHRAN
ROBERT A. COLE
BRADLEY D. CONWAY
JAMES R. COOLEY
GEORGE H. COTTRELL
JEREMY A. COURTADE
MICHAEL T. COURTNEY
TREVOR C. COWAN
ALLISON B. COX
JONATHAN W. COX
BYRON A. CREECH
CARLOS M. CRESPO
DAVID B. CRUZ
JEFFREY R. DAIGLE
ALLISON M. DAMERON
MICHAEL R. DARRAH
JESSICA S. DAVILA
KELVIN J. DAVIS
ARTHUR M. DEHNZ
PHILLIP A. DELISLE
JOHN F. DEWEY IV
JARROD M. DEWITZ
JENNIFER R. DOHERTY
PATRICK A. DRAYER
LAUREN F. DUFRENE
CHRISTOPHER P. DUFRESNE
STANLEY P. FIELDS
BRANDON C. FISHER
MATTHEW P. FRAZEE
MICHAEL FRIEND
MATTHEW A. GANS
KEVIN E. GARCIA
CHRISTIAN C. GAUDIO
SARAH J. GEOFFRION
JAMES A. GIBSON, JR.
MICHAEL R. GILLHAM
GERROD C. GLAUNER
MATTHEW E. GRAY
MYLES J. GREENWAY
NAVIN L. GRIFFIN
MICHAEL C. GRIS II
JASON D. HAGEN
IAN A. HALL
ANDERS J. HAMMERSBORG
JAMES J. HANNAM
TODD E. HARTFIEL
JUAN M. HERNANDEZ
MARCUS T. HIRSCHBERG
JASON A. HOPKINS

NATHAN R. HUDSON
DANIEL J. HUELSMAN
MICHAEL J. HUNT
IAN T. HURST
RAYMOND D. JACKSON, JR.
WILL D. JOHNSON
MARK C. JORGENSEN
KEVIN L. KAMMETER
HANNAH K. KAWAMOTO
MARGARET D. KENNEDY
JAMES R. KENSHALO
COREY M. KERNS
GREGORY J. KNOLL
RICHARD E. KUZAK
KARA M. LAVIN
AMANDA M. LEE
BRANDON M. LINK
RICHARD A. MACH
AMY D. MCELROY
REYNA E. MCGRAIL
CLAY D. MCKINNEY
BRADLEY W. MIDDLETON
DAVID A. MIDDLETON
BROOKE A. MILLARD
JESSE M. MILLARD
JONATHAN D. MILLER
KENNETH R. MILLSON
TODD C. MOE
GREGORY N. MOURITSEN
GARY C. MURPHY
SAMUEL R. NASSAR
BRANDON J. NATTEAL
JOSHUA B. NELSON
KELLEE M. NOLAN
CHARLES S. NOVAK
DAVID M. OTANI
NICHOLAS W. PARKER
THOMAS T. PEQUIGNOT
ERIC C. PERDUE
LUKE R. PETERSEN
MARK A. PIBER
STEPHEN W. PITTMAN
JEFFREY R. PLATT
JASON T. PLUMLEY
CLAYTON S. PREBLE
KRISTEN M. PREBLE
RANDY L. PRESTON
MILES R. RANDALL, JR.
KENT R. REINHOLD
KENNETH H. ROCKHOLD
THOMAS C. RODZEWICZ
JOSE M. ROSARIO
ELIZABETH M. ROSCOE
ERIC S. RUNYON
MATTHEW A. SCHIBLER
DAVID P. SHEPPARD
BRENDAN C. SHIELDS
JONATHAN D. SHUMATE
DANIELLE M. SHUPE
LUKE M. SLIVINSKI
SCOTT R. SMITH
WILLIAM M. SNYDER
BENJAMIN J. SPECTOR
CHARLES B. STANLEY
JEFFREY J. SULLENS
PHILIP D. THISSE
KEITH O. THOMAS
CHAD R. THOMPSON
JAROD S. TOCZKO
ROBERTO N. TREVINO
JORGE L. VALENTE
PEDRO L. VAZQUEZ
BRETT R. WALTER
MATTHEW J. WALTER
BENJAMIN M. WALTON
MOLLY K. WATERS
RYAN A. WATERS
MICHAEL E. WHITTREDGE
JAMES E. WILLINGHAM
CHARLES K. WILSON
ERIC J. WILSON
DAVID J. YADRICK

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C. section 271(E) and title 10, U.S.C. section 12203(A):

To be lieutenant commander

JUSTIN P. AARONSON
MARK RYAN ALLEN
RHENEE K. ALLEN
JOSEPH P. ANTHONY
SHANNON M. ANTHONY
JUAN R. APONTE
BRANDON J. ATEN
ANDREW D. BACON
JACOB D. BALDASSINI
LEMUEL R. BEAUCHAMP
RYAN T. BECK
BRETT F. BELANGER
SHEHU BELLO
MARTIN J. BERG
KELLY C. BERRY
ANNE E. BESSER
RICHARD A. BICSAK
DANIEL J. BLAICH
BROCK A. BLAISDELL
KEITH A. BLEVINS
ROGER BOGERT
STEPHEN D. BONDIRA
JOHN P. BOTTI III
RUDY H. BOWIS
CHRISTOPHER G. BOYKIN
DANIEL J. BRAHAN
NICOLE E. BREDARIOL
CHRISTOPHER A. BREUER
ERICA M. BREWTON
SALOMEE G. BRIGGS
AARON G. BROCKUS
EMILY H. BROCKWAY
KELLEY M. BROWN
KENTON G. BROWN
MARCUS W. BROWN
PATRICK J. BROWN
COLLINSON P. BURGWYN III
PATRICK M. BURNETT
DUSTIN R. BURTON
WILLIAM M. BURTT
KRISTINA I. BUTLER
RYAN BUTLER
ROBERT W. CANOY, JR.
JARED A. CARBAJAL
KEVIN P. CARMICHAEL
ERIC S. CASIDA
THEODORE L. CETRULO
SHAWN M. CHAUVOT
JOHN J. CHESNUT
JUSTIN D. CHURCH
JOSEPH J. CIARAVELLA
BRADFORD E. CLARK
MICHAEL P. COMERFORD
TABITHA C. CONNELL
LINDSAY N. COOK
SETH R. CRAVEN
NICHOLAS C. CUSTER
KYLE C. CUTTIE
NICOLE W. DEEM
DANIEL A. DELGADO
MICHAEL P. DEVOLLD
MATTHEW Z. DIULIO
BRIAN P. DOCHTERMANN
AARON J. DORRIAN
DANA T. DOUGHERTY
MATTHEW P. DYRDAHL
KEITH J. ENDRES
CHARLES R. ENGLAND
DAVID A. EVANS
KARIN N. EVELYN
MATTHEW E. EYLER
ANTHONY L. FALCE
KATHLEEN L. FALLON
DANIEL A. FEIRMAN
ERIN E. FILLMORE
LAURA M. FITZPATRICK
LAURA B. FOSTER
JAMES E. FOTHERGILL
MORGAN M. FOWLER
MICHAEL I. FREEMAN
HEIDI A. FUNKHOUSER
ADRIANA J. GAENZLE
DAVID J. GARDEN
THEODORA T. GAUDREN
MICHAEL J. GEREAU
ERIN M. GILL

LAUREN M. GILLIKIN
GREGORY D. GILMORE
SEAN C. GLAVAN
RYAN A. GOMEZ
SONHA A. GOMEZ
FELIPE L. GUARDIOLA
MICHAEL J. HAAS
SAMUEL B. HAFENSTEINER
DANIEL P. HALSIG
JESSICA E. HAMILTON
MATTHEW G. HARDGROVE
AMANDA L. HARRIS
NICHOLAS R. HARTMANN
LISA M. HATLAND
JUSTIN C. HECK
DAVID H. HERNDON
KEELY J. HIGBIE
KEVIN J. HIGGINS
DANIEL R. HILBURN
HUNTER A. HILL
SHAKA W. HILL
CORY J. HOFFMAN
CHRISTOPHER J. HOOPER
CHRISTINE T. IGISOMAR
ANTHONY V. IPPOLITO
ANDREW G. JAROLIMEK
JASON J. JOLL
PHILIP A. JONES
TIMOTHY M. JONES
MATTHEW R. KAHLEY
THOMAS G. KAI
ANDREW P. KAUFFMAN
MICHELLE E. KEATING
TYLER E. KELLEY
MOLLY E. KEYSER
BRYAN M. KILCOIN
GARIN A. KIRKPATRICK
MARY E. KLYNMAN
RYAN A. KOROKNAY
KEVIN X. KUHN
PHILIPP C. KUNZE
LAURA L. LADD
CHRISTOPHER M. LAFRAMBOISE
MATTHEW R. LAM
PATRICK D. LAMMERSEN
GREGORY R. LANDOSKY
MICHAEL C. LANGELIER
GRANT H. LANGSTON
TERENCE O. LEAHY
ELIZABETH A. LEDBETTER
CHANEL L. LEE
ROBERT S. LIST
LUIS D. LLANES
SAMUD I. LOONEY
JAVIER E. LOPEZ
ERIC J. LUNDE
CONOR S. MADISON
JONATHAN D. MAGIN
JEREMY D. MAGINOT
JOHN O. MANSOLILLO
THOMAS C. MANSOUR
ZEPHYR R. MAYS
ROBERT E. MCCABE
BRETT F. MCCALL
JEREMY T. MCCALL
JASON P. MCCARTHEY
FRANK W. MCINTOSH IV
JESSICA L. MCINTYRE
CHRISTOPHER J. MCKAY
MARTIN J. MCKENNA
COREY M. MCPARTLIN
BRENT M. MELLEN
ADAM D. MILLER
BRIAN L. MILLER
DANIEL E. MILLER
PATRICK J. MILLER
RONALD A. MILLER
JOHNANDREW M. MINNITI
TYLER A. MONEZ
DELOISE L. MOORE
TIMOTHY M. MOSHER
ADAM T. MOSLEY
RYAN W. MOWBRAY
THOMAS D. MULDER
JASON D. NGUYEN
LIEZL A. NICHOLAS
ANDREW S. NORBERG
DANIEL F. OBRIEN III

CHRISTOPHER M. OCONNOR
ERIN K. O'DONNELL
JAMES J. OKORN
CHELSEY G. OLSON
CHRISTOPHER M. O'MEARA
GREGORY J. OSTROV
TIMOTHY K. OZIMEK
CHRISTOPHER K. PACE
DANIEL M. PARKER
TERRI A. PARRIS
CALEB L. PEACOCK
MICHAEL M. PERSUN
JEREMY A. PICKARD
MATTHEW D. POORE
PATRICK R. POWERS
ANDREA L. PSIMER
GREGORY G. QUILLEN
KRISTINA L. QUINN
CHRISTOPHER P. RABALAIS
CLAIRE M. REILLY
CHARLES J. RESSEL
ANDREA S. RICE
KYLE T. RICHTER
CALEB C. ROBARDS
ZACHARY B. ROBERTSON
LEONEL ROBLES, JR.
MARIA A. ROSARIO
SOREN J. ROSE
KEVIN J. ROTHMICH
LUIS M. RUCK
RAPHAEL J. SADOWITZ
MATTHEW H. SALDIVAR
JOHN F. SAUVE
KARL E. SAVACOO
VICTORIA A. SAXON
BRANDON S. SCHUMANN
JASON R. SCOTT
GUSTAV J. SEYLERSCMIDT
NATHAN A. SHAKESPEARE
GEORGE W. SHEPHERD
SHAWN C. SIMERAL
ERIN L. SLYCORD
GABRIELLA M. SMYTH
DREW SONETIRO
ALEX J. STACHEL
ANDREW M. STEC
DAVID M. STERN
ASHLEY D. STONE
MATHEW B. STUBER
AMANDA M. STYLES
KYLE M. SWEET
KRISTOPHER J. TAMBURELLO
CHARLES W. TAYLOR
STACY J. TEIXEIRA
JORGE A. TELLER
NKOSI R. THOMAS
WADE P. THOMSON
JONATHAN D. TICE
MEGAN C. TRIVETT
ELIZABETH A. TUFTS
ERIC C. TURNER
KATHERINE M. USTLER
MATHEW R. VANDERSLICE
LINH VINH
ASHLEY J. VRYHEID
WILLIAM S. WALLEN
BRIAN S. WALLER
JOSEPH K. WALTON
CHRISTOPHER S. WARD
BRYAN D. WATTS
GREGORY C. WAUGH
DENNIS R. WESTERMANN
ADAM M. WHALEN
JAMES F. WHITE
CHARLES M. WHITESEL
MARK A. WHYTE
ZACHARY M. WIEST
DERRICK A. WILLIAMS
KELLY A. WINSLOW
SHEA G. WINTERBERGER
JESSICA L. WISSMANN
NATHAN E. WOJCIK
BERT L. WOODS
MATTHEW E. ZACKMAN
JAMES B. ZORN

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, here is where we are.

The Senate will next meet for a pro forma session on Monday. That is the 24th. The next scheduled session will be on the 27th of December.

As I said earlier today when we opened, I am glad that productive discussions are continuing. When these negotiations produce a solution that is acceptable to all parties, which means 60 votes in the Senate, a majority in the House, and a Presidential signature, at that point, we will take it up on the Senate floor.

Senators will be notified when a vote is scheduled and, in the meantime, the discussions and negotiations continue.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2018

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn to then convene for a pro forma session on Monday, December 24, at 11 a.m.; I further ask that when the Senate adjourns on Monday, December 24, it next convene at 4 p.m., on Thursday, December 27; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; finally, that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the House message to accompany H.R. 695 under the previous order.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2018, AT 11 A.M.

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 3:17 p.m., adjourned until Monday, December 24, 2018, at 11 a.m.

DISCHARGED NOMINATIONS

The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of the following nominations by unanimous consent and the nominations were confirmed:

COAST GUARD NOMINATION OF DOUGLAS M. SALIK, TO BE COMMANDER.

COAST GUARD NOMINATION OF REAR ADM. MATTHEW W. SIBLEY, TO BE REAR ADMIRAL (LOWER HALF).

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ANNA W. HICKEY AND ENDING WITH VICTORIA C. FUTCH, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 14, 2018.

COAST GUARD NOMINATION OF ADAM R. WILLIAMSON, TO BE COMMANDER.

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MARC C. DEVEREAUX AND ENDING WITH CRAIG L. WENNET, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 26, 2018.

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH GRETCHEN M. BAILEY AND ENDING WITH ANDREW J. WRIGHT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 26, 2018.

The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of the following nominations by unanimous consent and the nominations were confirmed.

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH AUSTIN L. ADCOCK AND ENDING WITH DAVID J. YADRIK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 19, 2018.

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JUSTIN P. AARONSON AND ENDING WITH JAMES B. ZORN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 19, 2018.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate December 22, 2018:

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS 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. DAVID W. ABBA
COL. CHRISTOPHER R. AMRHEIN
COL. CHARLES D. BOLTON
COL. LARRY R. BROADWELL, JR.
COL. TERRY L. BULLARD
COL. SCOTT A. CAIN
COL. JIMMY R. CANLAS
COL. JULIAN C. CHEATER
COL. ROY W. COLLINS
COL. COLIN J. CONNOR
COL. DONALD J. COTHERN
COL. DAVID S. EAGLIN
COL. STEVEN G. EDWARDS
COL. TROY L. ENDICOTT
COL. GREGORY J. GAGNON
COL. RICHARD W. GIBBS
COL. JENNIFER L. GRANT
COL. STEWART A. HAMMONS
COL. ROBERT S. JOBE
COL. JOHN M. KLEIN, JR.
COL. GREGORY KREUDER
COL. BENJAMIN R. MAITRE
COL. MATTEO G. MARTEMUCCI
COL. CAROLINE M. MILLER
COL. DAVID A. MINEAU
COL. PAUL J. MURRAY
COL. TY W. NEUMAN
COL. JOHN P. NEWBERRY
COL. JEFFERSON J. O'DONNELL
COL. THOMAS B. PALENSKE
COL. EVAN L. PETTUS
COL. CHRISTOPHER S. POVAK
COL. BRADLEY L. PYBURN
COL. CHAD D. RADUEGE
COL. MICHAEL T. RAWLS
COL. RYAN R. SAMUELSON
COL. DAVID J. SANFORD
COL. DAVID G. SHOEMAKER
COL. REBECCA J. SONKISS
COL. CLAUDE K. TUDOR, JR.
COL. DANIEL H. TULLEY
COL. JEFFERY D. VALENZIA
COL. JOHN C. WALKER
COL. STEVEN P. WHITNEY

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. BRADLEY S. JAMES

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES 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. DUKE Z. RICHARDSON

IN THE ARMY

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

To be brigadier general

COL. KEVIN D. ADMIRAL

COL. TIMOTHY D. BROWN
COL. JOSHUA M. RUDD
COL. PAUL T. STANTON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY 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. TERRY R. FERRELL

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. TIMOTHY D. CONNELLY

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. GERALD R. KRIMBILL

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. STACY M. BABCOCK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY 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

LT. GEN. ERIC J. WESLEY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY 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. ANDREW P. POPPAS

IN THE NAVY

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

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. ROBERT D. SHARP

IN THE ARMY

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

To be general

LT. GEN. RICHARD D. CLARKE

IN THE MARINE CORPS

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

To be general

LT. GEN. KENNETH F. MCKENZIE, JR.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS 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. SCOTT C. BRIDGERS
COL. THOMAS D. CRIMMINS
COL. THOMAS B. HATLEY
COL. SCOTT A. HOWARD
COL. PATRICK M. KENNEDY
COL. ROBERT G. KILGORE
COL. WILLIAM A. KINNISON, JR.
COL. TERRENCE L. KOUDIELKA, JR.
COL. KERRY R. LOVELY
COL. BRIAN T. MCHENRY
COL. BARBARA C. MORROW
COL. DUKE M. OTA, JR.
COL. LOUIS J. PERINO
COL. ERIK A. PETERSON
COL. TROY E. POU
COL. MICHAEL L. REID
COL. JOHN P. RUSSO
COL. TORRENCE W. SAXE
COL. DAVID A. SMITH
COL. THOMAS M. SUELLER
COL. TAISON K. TANAKA
COL. JUSTIN R. WALRATH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS 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 major general

BRIG. GEN. JOHN D. CAINE
BRIG. GEN. LARRY K. CLARK
BRIG. GEN. SEAN T. COLLINS

BRIG. GEN. JOHN P. HRONEK II
BRIG. GEN. WENDY K. JOHNSON
BRIG. GEN. GREGORY F. JONES
BRIG. GEN. TIMOTHY J. LABARGE
BRIG. GEN. RONALD S. LAMBE
BRIG. GEN. TIMOTHY T. LUNDERMAN
BRIG. GEN. THOMAS J. OWENS II
BRIG. GEN. GREG A. SEMMEL
BRIG. GEN. BRIAN M. SIMPLER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS 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. STEVEN D. MICHAUD
COL. RAYMOND H. SIEGFRIED II

IN THE COAST GUARD

COAST GUARD NOMINATION OF DOUGLAS M. SALIK, TO BE COMMANDER.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO SERVE AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE COAST GUARD RESERVE IN THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 53(B):

To be rear admiral (lower half)

REAR ADM. MATTHEW W. SIBLEY

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ANNA W. HICKEY AND ENDING WITH VICTORIA C. FUTCH, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 14, 2018.

COAST GUARD NOMINATION OF ADAM R. WILLIAMSON, TO BE COMMANDER.

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MARC C. DEVEREAUX AND ENDING WITH CRAIG L. WENNET, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 26, 2018.

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH GRETCHEN M. BAILEY AND ENDING WITH ANDREW J. WRIGHT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 26, 2018.

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH AUSTIN L. ADCOCK AND ENDING WITH DAVID J. YADRICK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 19, 2018.

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JUSTIN P. AARONSON AND ENDING WITH JAMES B. ZORN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 19, 2018.