



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 114<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 162

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2016

No. 164

## Senate

The Senate met at 2:30 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

### PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal Lord God, who alone spreads out the heavens and rules the raging of the seas, make haste and touch our Nation with Your healing hands. Use our lawmakers to provide the checks and balances that will unite this land.

Lord, give them the wisdom to inquire of You, seeking to be Your instruments in the unfolding of Your loving providence. Confound the enemies of freedom until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.

Lord, do for this land we love immeasurably, abundantly, above all that we can ask or imagine, as Your will is done on Earth, even as it is done in Heaven.

O God, You are our helper and deliverer. Continue to be our shelter in the time of storm.

We pray in Your strong Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

### SENATE LEADERSHIP FOR THE 115TH CONGRESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, this morning our conference came together

to select a Republican leadership team for the 115th Congress. It is an honor to be chosen once again by my colleagues to continue serving as leader. I know I speak for every Republican Senator in expressing gratitude to the American people for entrusting us with this new majority. It is a great responsibility and one that we do not take lightly.

I want to recognize Senator SCHUMER and the new Members of his team as well. Leading a party—any party—in the Senate is no easy task. Our colleague from New York has a tough job ahead of him, but he is pretty tough as well, and I send him my congratulations. Regardless of party, though, one thing is clear. We have work to do. I know each of us is eager to get started.

That includes Senator-Elect TODD YOUNG from Indiana. I have had the opportunity to spend time with him this week and to congratulate him on his truly impressive victory. It was a hard-fought race, and he should be proud of the outstanding campaign he ran. Of course, our friend Senator DAN COATS leaves behind some pretty big shoes to fill. I will have more to say about that later, but I am confident that Senator-Elect YOUNG is up to the task. So we are all looking forward to his joining us on this side of the Capitol come next January.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

### ELECTORAL COLLEGE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, election day was tough for a lot of Americans. To say things didn't go the way we wanted on this side of the aisle would be a gross understatement. America is still reeling from this, and there will be even more concern in a few days when the final vote tally comes because Hillary Clinton will have gotten more

than 2 million votes more than Donald Trump.

So I think it speaks volumes that a Democratic Senator entered legislation yesterday that will take a look at the electoral college system. This should not be a partisan issue. It should be an issue that committees of jurisdiction in this body take a look at. Let's listen to some experts talk about it and find out if the system is working very well. It was set up a long time ago, and maybe it should be changed. So, I think it is something we need to take a look at.

It is interesting that just in the last few years—in this century—we have had two winners of elections that got less votes than the losers. I am sorry. We have two elections this century where the losers got more votes than the winners. So we need to take a look at that, and so I hope something is done on a bipartisan basis because no one knows what is going to happen 4 years from now, 8 years from now, 12 years from now. It is something that should be looked at. It is very important for us as a country to take another look at the electoral college system.

### NEVADA ELECTION RESULTS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there were a number of bright spots on election day, but I have to say, without any question, that the one for us was in Nevada. We scored victories everywhere.

The Koch brothers came to the State and publicly said: REID has been hard on us, and we are going to teach him a lesson. I wasn't born yesterday. I knew. They really didn't frighten me.

In spite of all their untold wealth, they could not affect what we had built up over the years in Nevada. We carried the State by about 30,000 votes for Hillary Clinton, which maybe in California it doesn't sound like a lot, but in South Carolina and Nevada it is a lot of votes—30,000 votes.

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



Printed on recycled paper.

S6387

In the Senate seat to replace me, we won by a large margin. We picked up two Democratic House seats. Out of the six Democratic House seats that were picked up in this past election, a third of them came from Nevada. We turned the assembly to a big, big majority. The State senate now has 21 members. It was 11-to-10 Republican. It is now 11-10 Democratic. To make it even better, the day after the election a Republican State senator switched to become an Independent, like BERNIE SANDERS and ANGUS KING. So there is a two-vote majority there. It was really a good day for Nevada.

We rejected the divisive vision of America that some had, but we also enacted some important reforms. In Nevada—the Wild West, NRA members galore—we voted to have background checks. When I went to the State legislature a long time ago, in 1969, as a young assemblyman, I introduced legislation to have a 3-day waiting period before you can buy a gun. That has been longstanding in most of rural Nevada. They eliminated that. But I started being concerned about this a long time ago, and now in Nevada we are going to have background checks for people purchasing guns. That is good. The National Rifle Association spent millions of dollars trying to stop that, but we cared more about keeping guns out of the hands of dangerous people than catering to people with special interests.

I mention the NRA. Listen, the National Rifle Association used to be a different organization. After the Columbine horror in Colorado, they came out saying that we should do something for background checks. They have changed. Members of the NRA in Nevada understand that. They are like NRA members all over the country. The majority of NRA members believe there should be background checks and you shouldn't as a criminal be able to buy a gun or you shouldn't be able to buy a gun if you are unstable mentally.

We elected the first Latina Senator in the history of the country, CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO. We are a diverse State. I am happy that our elected leaders that we brought back here certainly represent that.

I have talked about CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO. She is going to be a wonderful Senator. I am so proud of her. I have known her family for years. I have admiration for her accomplishments as a prosecutor and attorney general for the State. The Nevada seat was a Koch brothers prize, but they came in second.

We also elected RUBEN KIHUEN. He is a fine man. He is a Mexican immigrant elected to the House of Representatives. He will do a good job, this young man. I have so much admiration for him. The picture on the front page of our papers in Las Vegas was really wonderful. His mom and dad, immigrants themselves, with their boy who is now going to be a Member of Congress. That is pretty dramatic. They

came to the United States wanting to live the American dream, and that is what they have done.

Serving with RUBEN and serving with CATHERINE in the Congress is a woman by the name of JACKY ROSEN. JACKY has been an inspiring community leader for years, working as president of her synagogue. JACKY has no experience in politics—zero. She ran for a seat that is just a tiny bit Democratic, but a very competitive seat. It is a seat that Congressman HECK lost for the Senate and held for three terms. She didn't have a really long resume, other than being a wonderful person who had a great family and was involved in community activities. She was president of her synagogue. She proved to be a tremendously talented candidate, and she will be good here in Washington as a Member of Congress.

DINA TITUS, a longtime Member of Congress, is returning to the House for a fourth term. She knows Nevada inside and out. She is a longtime member of the State legislature and a professor at UNLV.

So I am grateful for these good people who are now going to be Members of the Congress of the United States. CATHERINE, RUBEN, JACKY, and DINA will be great for Nevada and the country.

Our Democratic legislature in Nevada will be led by an African American, Aaron Ford. We have an African American leading the State senate. He is the majority leader. He is a wonderful young man who is so talented, well educated. He has a Ph.D. and a law degree. He has it all.

Jason Frierson is going to be leading the assembly as speaker. He is just a good person, a good guy with an accomplished record in the State assembly.

There has been some talk about “the Reid machine,” but, of course, the machine is leaving Washington in a few weeks. But it is not about me. It is about our State and about the progress we have made over the years. The victories we saw last week speak volumes about the talent of the candidates and the people working to make sure these victories happen. Most of the work done in the State was by volunteers. There were thousands of people—thousands of people—out in the streets 2 weeks before the election.

On one Saturday, 70,000 doors were knocked on in the small State of Nevada—70,000. Having done door-to-door stuff ourselves, we all know that there were not 70,000 people home, but thousands and thousands of people were reached through that process.

As I have mentioned, our State has a crop of incredibly talented leaders to stand up to the Trump administration and hold Republicans accountable. Our new leaders are going to fight for the issues that are important to the people of the State of Nevada, all issues dealing with immigrants. My father-in-law was an immigrant to the United States from Russia. My grandfather was from

England. We are going to do everything we can to make sure that people understand the importance of immigration.

On Yucca Mountain, they asked me a couple of days ago about the Republicans wanting to revive Yucca Mountain. Well, I know the Presiding Officer and the Republicans are concerned about money. So if the Republicans want to revive Yucca Mountain, bring a great big checkbook because what it is going to cost to revive that is not millions of dollars but billions of dollars—billions. There is nothing there. All the equipment has been junked, ground up. It is where they sell junk and metal. It is gone.

What I say is, if the Republicans want to waste money on that, let them do it. Let them do it because it doesn't meet the environmental standards of anyplace, let alone our country. So let them try to revive it. But I say to my Republican friends, make sure you have a lot of money.

We are going to do everything together in the next few weeks, and certainly when I am gone, the new Congressional delegation will do everything they can to protect clean energy. We have really done a lot with wind, solar, and geothermal. We need to continue that.

In Nevada, 87 percent of the land is owned by the Federal Government. I know that is hard to comprehend. The Presiding Officer is from South Carolina. If you come to one of the beautiful wilderness areas, that land is not mine. That land is not Nevada land. It is your land. It is public land. You have as much right as anyone to enjoy those beautiful mountains that we have. We have 314 mountain ranges. We have a mountain that is 14,000 feet high. We have 32 mountains over 11,000 feet high. These are your mountains, just as they are mine.

I say to the Presiding Officer, don't be part of a deal to sell those public lands to the private sector. The States and local governments—they cannot protect those lands. So for our children and our grandchildren, don't let them mess with public lands.

I appreciate the Presiding Officer listening to me. I will close by saying that I am very proud of what happened in the State of Nevada a week ago yesterday.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. TOOMEY). The Senator from Florida.

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, what is the business before the Senate?

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

#### AMERICAN ENERGY AND CONSERVATION ACT OF 2016—MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to

proceed to S. 3110, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 543, S. 3110, a bill to provide for reforms of the administration of the outer Continental Shelf of the United States, to provide for the development of geothermal, solar, and wind energy on public land, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I want to speak on the bill. We are going to have a vote somewhere around midday tomorrow on this bill. This Senator comes to this issue with a long history of drilling for oil off our coast. Ever since I was a young Congressman, I have been fighting to keep oil rigs off Florida's coast. It is especially important at this time, as we have a new administration coming in that took a public position in the election declaring the intent of the President-elect to open up additional areas off the coast to oil drilling. The package that we are going to consider tomorrow is an enhancement of exactly that goal.

I want to point out to the Senate why this is not in the interest of our country now. First of all, we are dealing with a law that we passed about 5 or 6 years ago with an acronym of GOMESA, which opened up for the first time oil revenues that came from Federal waters to be shared with the Gulf States.

We were doing this primarily in the interests of Louisiana because Louisiana had been hit so hard by Hurricane Katrina, and there was a need to restore a lot of those marshes. This was another way of getting revenue to the State of Louisiana. At the same time that bill was passed, it enhanced a law that we had passed with my former colleague Senator Mel Martinez back in the 2006 timeframe that kept the oil drilling off Florida in the gulf—and kept it off, and it is in law. It is the only place of the Outer Continental Shelf where it is in law that you cannot drill up through the year 2022.

I want to point out for the historical record why that is so and why this bill we are considering tomorrow is not in the interest of the country. This area in yellow is the Gulf of Mexico off of Florida. This is Florida, the peninsula, the Keys. This is the gulf coast of Florida. Over here is Pensacola. All of that area in yellow is off limits to drilling until the year 2022.

Why? Well, it does not take a rocket scientist to realize what happened to Florida's economy after the Deep Water Horizon oil spill. The oil got as far as Pensacola. The spill was over here off of Louisiana. It got to the beaches of Pensacola, some to Destin, some tar balls to Panama City, until the wind started sending it back the other way.

But what happened to Florida's tourism industry on its gulf coast for an entire season? The tourists thought there was oil on our beaches, and tour-

ists did not come for an entire season all the way down to Marco Island, Naples—all of those beautiful sugary white sand beaches, including the beaches of Northwest Florida.

They did not come because they thought there was oil there. That did not just affect the airlines and the hotels. It affected the dry cleaners and the restaurants and all of the largest industry in Florida, which is the tourism industry. That is one reason.

Another reason is that there are so many of the bays and estuaries along this gulf coast where the critters are hatched that supply the fish stocks for the entire gulf. Of course, there are stocks that are hatched here that migrate out into the other oceans.

But there is a third reason. That reason is that all of this area to the east of this line—in other words, 125 miles off Panama City, 235 miles off Tampa Bay, even further off Naples—all of that is the largest testing and training area in the world for the U.S. military. The Department of Defense has issued two letters under the signatures of two Republican Secretaries of Defense saying that any oil-related activities here would be incompatible with our testing and training mission, this being the largest one in the United States.

That is why we do not have drilling there. You will hear the proponents of the bill say: Well, we have exempted this part. We have exempted it not only because it is off limits in law, but what they are doing to the rest of the gulf coast is almost doubling the revenue sharing that would go to the States, the Gulf States, thereby giving even more incentive for the State governments to want to have drilling off of their coasts regardless of the U.S. military, regardless of the economic engine of Florida, regardless of the very delicate environment.

But there is more. As a matter of fact, the bill before us would offer revenue sharing to States. Mind you, this is drilling in Federal waters. Any revenue would typically go to the Federal Government. As a matter of fact, it is estimated by CBO that it would be a loss of \$7 billion to the U.S. Treasury.

That would also be available for the States on the Atlantic. Here is Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and on up on the Atlantic coast. I brought this chart to show not only the gulf area off of Florida and the military testing and training ranges, but to look at the military testing and training ranges off the Atlantic coast. If it is incompatible here, are we not going to hear, as we have heard from some in the Department of Defense, that it is going to be incompatible in the Atlantic region?

I want to urge that not only have we been battling to keep our coastal environments and beaches clean and unpolluted—that is not the only argument. The argument is also one of keeping our national security tested and trained in the most sophisticated

weapons and training for the best military in the world.

This Senator is a senior member of the Senate Armed Services Committee. There is a reason that we do not have oil rigs out here. First of all, in the State of Florida, we have Tyndall Air Force Base at Panama City. That is where they are training our pilots on F-22s. At Eglin Air Force Base near Fort Walton Beach, that is where about half of the U.S. Air Force training and the other services—the Navy as well as the Air Force—are training their pilots for the F-35 that is now being cycled in to be the workhorse of our fighters.

The U.S. Navy, which will have F-35s but presently has F-18s, will fly a squadron to Key West Naval Air Station. They will be there for a week or two. When they lift off from the runway at Boca Chica Key, in 2 minutes they could be over restricted airspace, not having spent a lot of time and fuel to get to the area of restriction for their testing and training. So the Department of Defense has said: You simply cannot have oil rigs operating in an area where we are testing these very sophisticated weapons systems—and they need a lot of space; from this location down here, this is some 300 miles—as well as the training that goes on.

It is not just for the benefit of our military, it is key to our national defense.

We have watched the tar balls wash up on the beaches. We have seen the sugary white sands of Pensacola Beach completely black, covered in oil. We saw the harm that was done to not only the local businesses that cater to tourists, such as the hotels, restaurants, and attractions, but to all the ancillary businesses, such as the drycleaners and the real estate firms.

To put it into perspective, for our State of Florida, this is a \$50 billion industry that oils the engine of our economy. We are talking about generating some \$700 million in sales tax revenue for the State, and it helps support more than 450,000 jobs throughout the State. Why would you risk destroying a State's economy as well as our military preparation? It is not as if we don't have other places that we want to produce oil. Think of the oil shale that has been tapped in the Dakotas, in Oklahoma, and in Texas that is not producing at maximum capacity.

As Floridians, the images of the hazmat crews in those hazmat suits and the Coast Guard vessels skimming off the water just 6 years ago are emblazoned on our memories. Our fishermen and our businesses certainly haven't forgotten their own losses that amounted to hundreds of millions of dollars. So if the new administration and the oil industry want to have a fight on in issue, well, they certainly have one. This Senator is going to continue to try to keep the oil rigs off the State of Florida with everything I have, for all of the reasons I have stated.

When we vote tomorrow, I would commend to our colleagues to beware of all of the effects of almost doubling the revenue for the Gulf Coast States of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, which is at the heart of what is behind this particular bill we are going to vote on, but also beware there are hidden messages in this revenue sharing, and it strikes at the heart of what we have been trying to protect here—the environment, our economy, and our U.S. military preparedness.

I yield the floor.

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

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

#### BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, as long as no other Senator is asking to be recognized, let me just say that from the perspective of the senior Senator from Florida, I think it is the obligation of those of us who were backing the candidate who did not win the Presidency—as President Obama has said, the President-elect will be the President. It is incumbent upon the rest of us, regardless of party, to reach out and to try to help the new President on behalf of and for the sake of our country.

This Senator, who in four decades of public service has always tried to reach out in a bipartisan way and bring people together, to build consensus in order to govern, will continue to do so, and this Senator greets the new administration with that statement. It is important that a statement like that be made, especially in this time where we are so rent asunder, where we are so divided, and where we have come through an election that has been—the only word I can think of is “ugly.” Things were said in the ordinary course of conversation in this election that should not have been said. Particularly as we try to heal the wounds of both sides and take back the awful things that were said and create an atmosphere where we can come together for the sake of our country, that is especially important, and this Senator is going to contribute to that.

It is my hope that it will be received on all sides and that we will reach out and try to bring people together. I think it is important to say that, particularly at a time where feelings have been hurt and feelings have been so high and so tense.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### WORKING TOGETHER

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, we are living in historic times. The 115th Congress will be the first time in a decade that Republicans have held both Chambers of Congress and the White House. Before the George W. Bush administration in the early part of this century, you would have to go back to the Eisenhower administration—I believe it was 1953—to find a comparable time of Republican control.

Interestingly, for the history buffs who may be listening, there have actually been 14 times since 1945 when we have had single-party majorities in both Houses and the White House. Eleven of those times have been our Democratic colleagues and three times have been Republicans. So I come back to where I started in saying these are truly historic times.

This morning, our Republican conference met to elect our leadership team to serve in the next Congress during this extraordinary time.

After gaining the majority 2 years ago, it has been a pleasure to look back and see what we have been able to accomplish even with the President from the opposing party in the White House.

Yesterday I mentioned the rewrite of No Child Left Behind, which sent more authority back to the States, parents, and teachers to make education decisions for children in kindergarten through 12th grade. I also mentioned passing a long-term highway bill for 5 years—something we hadn't been able to do for a long time. Those are just two concrete examples of how, working together, we can tackle big, intractable problems. Frankly, nothing happens in the Senate unless it is bipartisan.

We also passed some other important legislation, something negotiated by the majority leader in the House at the time, NANCY PELOSI, or Leader PELOSI, and Speaker John Boehner, which was the reform of our Social Security laws in terms of how doctors under Medicare are paid. It is an important item because if doctors are not paid a prevailing fee or competitive fee for their services, they are simply not going to see Medicare patients and seniors are not going to have access to the care they deserve. We passed a bill sanctioning North Korea for its nuclear program and its human rights abuses. We also passed legislation to better support our troops, who fight and put themselves in harm's way to keep us safe every day.

I am grateful to our Republican colleagues for voting to continue the direction of progress for the American people by reelecting their current leadership, including the senior Senator from Kentucky, Mr. MCCONNELL. As all of us have, I have had the honor to serve alongside Senator MCCONNELL for several years now, although I have served for the last 4 years as the whip or the right hand of the majority leader when it comes to trying to corral

votes and trying to promote our legislative agenda. I found the majority leader to be a wise and steady hand in a town marked by the absence of those virtues, among many. So I am proud to serve with him in the next Congress, as I am with all of our colleagues, and in his case as the majority leader, as his assistant.

We also had a chance, having come back together after the election, to talk about the future and to talk about our agenda going forward. Yesterday I pointed out several legislative priorities at the top of the list—policy items we have to get right on behalf of the American people—such as confirming a Supreme Court Justice who will interpret the laws as we write them and as the Constitution is written, rather than as another policymaking branch of government.

We have also promised we would repeal and replace ObamaCare, which was a failed experiment—failed because the President, when he promoted it, said: If you like what you have, you can keep it. He said: If you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor. And he said: An average family of four will see their premiums go down \$2,500. None of that has been proven to be true. So it is very important we keep that promise of repealing ObamaCare and then replace it on a step-by-step basis over a transition period with more affordable health care that will preserve the choices in health care through Americans and their families and not Washington, DC.

And then there is the matter of legislation. After our Democratic friends lost their 60-vote majority in the Senate and the Republicans flipped the House, providing for a divided government, the one thing that has characterized the Obama administration has been its Executive actions and overregulation. In August, it was reported the President and his administration had issued 600 major regulations with a pricetag of more than \$740 billion.

If there is one thing I hear from my constituents back in Texas—small business owners and the like—it is that they are feeling the strangling effect of overregulation, along with the cost of compliance and the uncertainty that goes along with it. So it is no surprise to see that our economy has essentially flatlined and not been growing because none of this is good for the small business owners we are relying upon to create jobs and opportunities, and it is not good for American families looking for those jobs in order to provide for their families and simply put food on the table. So we are eager to roll back those expensive, and in many instances unnecessary, certainly in every instance burdensome regulations so the economy can have some breathing room and begin to grow again.

Many of us are interested in addressing tax reform as well. There is bipartisan consensus that our Tax Code is simply too complex and counterproductive. In fact, it is literally a self-

inflicted wound when it comes to forcing \$2 trillion-plus overseas that American-based companies would like to bring back, but the reason they do not is they would be subject to double taxation, first, in the country where the money has been earned and, secondly, when they bring it back to the United States. Rather than do that, many of them will leave that money overseas. That means that rather than investing in American jobs and American infrastructure, they are literally investing in jobs overseas and in building infrastructure to support their facilities in other countries. That makes no sense whatsoever.

So tax reform is high on our agenda. I believe, and I am optimistic, that at a time when everybody understands our Tax Code has simply gotten too complex, too expensive, and too counterproductive, we will be able to make some real progress.

Coming from a border State, I can tell you I am delighted to hear President Elect Trump talk about the importance of border security. In a post-9/11 world, it is simply critical we know who is coming into our country and make sure they do so only by legal means. So securing our border is something we need to deal with, and thank goodness there is no shortage of good ideas.

Chairman MIKE MCCAUL of the House Homeland Security Committee has a bipartisan bill I think would make great progress along those lines, but obviously we are going to have to have an important discussion among all Members of Congress and the administration about how best to accomplish the goal.

We also need to remember our ports of entry are where legitimate trade and travel occur, and we should do nothing to impede that because legitimate trade and travel are very important to our economy. The U.S. economy enjoys about 6 million jobs as a result of trade between the United States and Mexico alone.

So I look forward to working with the administration and with our colleagues to make sure we secure our border against illegal immigration, including human trafficking, drug trafficking, and the potential violence that goes along with that, while making sure our legitimate trade and travel at our ports of entry are supported so we can benefit from those as well.

Of course, as we debated earlier this Congress, having an updated and efficient infrastructure is vital to the health and well-being of our economy. I mentioned the Transportation bill we passed. A long-term Transportation bill will provide for some of that, but certainly not all that is necessary. We need to take a look at the proposals the President-elect is going to send our way, but there is no shortage of good ideas being discussed both in the House and the Senate as well.

I look forward to learning more about those, but one thing that hasn't

been talked about very much is how we are going to pay for it, and that is going to be an important item to discuss as well. Frankly, we can't keep spending our kids' and grandkids' inheritance or at least forcing upon the younger generations the obligation to pay for bills we incur today.

One of the things I hope will occur as a result of this historic election is that we will have the courage and the willingness to sit down and come up with structural solutions to our financial situation, which is \$19 trillion-plus in debt. Because of the Federal Reserve keeping interest rates very low, we are not having to pay huge amounts of money in order to service that debt or pay interest to the people who own that debt, but that is going to change if the Federal Reserve begins to raise interest rates, and we are going to find ourselves paying more and more money to service that debt to the bondholders and less and less of that money will be available for our priorities domestically, whether they be national security or other investments in things such as medical research and the like.

So finding out how we can crack that nut and come together on a bipartisan basis, working with the White House to deal with our long-term fiscal problems and continuing to meet the needs of our Nation are going to be challenging but exhilarating to do.

Many are talking about the next steps and what should and shouldn't happen in light of the new political reality, but what is clear to me today is that Republicans are united by a strong desire to listen to the concerns of the American people and to deliver results—results that make their lives easier and our collective futures stronger. I want to say that as committed as the majority party is to that, we can't do this without the cooperation and consensus building that comes along as part of the legislative process.

Unfortunately, we have seen the last years characterized by obstruction and filibusters and blocking things that essentially have already received bipartisan support. I am talking particularly about the appropriations process. One of the terrible things that happened this last year in the Congress is the Appropriations Committees have gotten back to work on a bipartisan basis. We would see bills coming out at a fiscally responsible level, with agreed-upon spending caps and Democrats and Republicans supporting them, only to see them dead on arrival on the floor of the Senate. That is the kind of mindless obstructionism I hope we can avoid going forward.

Just from the conversations I have had as a result of this election, many of our Democratic colleagues appear to be willing to work with us. Certainly, with the new leadership on the Democratic side of the aisle, I am more optimistic than I have been in a long time that we can come together while maintaining our strongly held convictions and principles—I am not talking about

compromising those but rather working together when we can—and try to develop more ideas to better serve the American people.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I rise in strong support of S. 3110, the American Energy and Conservation Act of 2016. This would increase revenue-sharing with the States for offshore oil and gas development. This legislation is scheduled for a vote on the Senate floor tomorrow.

I am pleased the Senate is finally voting on this critical legislation, and I thank my colleague from Louisiana, Senator CASSIDY, for his lead and his hard work on this crucial issue. Senator CASSIDY and I and several of our colleagues have worked hard over the years to bring this issue to the forefront and help both Congress and the American people understand how important revenue-sharing is not only to Louisiana, to other energy-producing States, but to the country and for the good of the country to expand American energy.

I also thank Leader MCCONNELL and Chairman MURKOWSKI for working with us to bring this important bill to the floor for a vote. Revenue sharing with oil- and gas-producing States is only fair, for two key reasons: First, energy-producing States incur real costs and real impacts from that production, including environmental, and second, revenue sharing is the most important way we can continue to incent domestic energy production over the long term in this country. It makes it fair and smart for our U.S. energy future.

Energy production is essential to job creation and an overall healthy economy. If it weren't for the oil and gas jobs that accompanied the energy sector boom earlier this decade, we would perhaps still be in a technical recession. One point I want to emphasize is that many of those jobs have been created by small firms in the oil and gas sector and support sectors. These small business energy jobs are something I have highlighted in my role as chair of the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, and they are vital in terms of the impact in this sector.

This legislation would increase revenue sharing for the Gulf States that produce energy offshore and would establish revenue sharing for new production off of Alaska and off of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. These are all areas that welcome the opportunity to have this revenue sharing to incent domestic energy production and increase the availability of American energy.

Contrary to what some have said, this legislation would not authorize any new offshore drilling. Let me repeat. This legislation does not provide for new or expanded lease sales. This bill is about revenue sharing.

Let me be clear on what revenue sharing means for a State like Louisiana, but there are many more. In Louisiana, we spend 100 percent of these revenues on environmental concerns—specifically coastal restoration. We lose about a football field worth of land in coastal Louisiana—just think of the football field you see every Sunday in an NFL game; that amount of land just in coastal Louisiana—every 38 minutes. That is 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 52 weeks a year, no time off for weekends, holidays, nothing. It is a constant loss. It is an environmental disaster. That is the most significant environmental issue by far that we face in our State. Our State is committed to spending all of the money we receive from revenue sharing to restore, rebuild, and protect our coast. That is vitally important for Louisiana, but it is also vitally important for the rest of the country because Louisiana supplies so much energy that is good for America.

Let me be clear on what this legislation does. It expands revenue sharing to Alaska and the Mid-Atlantic States, so it has impacts well beyond the gulf in a very positive way. Beginning in 2027, Alaska, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia would begin receiving 37.5 percent revenue sharing from oil and gas production off of their coasts, which is what Louisiana, Texas, Alabama, and Mississippi receive on new production there.

It would also increase revenue sharing that those Gulf States receive under the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006, or GOMESA. Under that law, revenue sharing in those four Gulf States is capped at \$500 million per year between all of them, but beginning in 2027, that cap would increase substantially. That cap right now is completely arbitrary and far too low. Revenue sharing is vital when it comes to adequately compensating States that help provide so much U.S. energy. It needs to be adequate if we are going to continue to incent those States to play that very important role in our U.S. economy. This legislation would help bring that objective to reality, and it is a critical component of a robust, strengthened revenue sharing regime for those major energy-producing States.

I urge my colleagues to pass this important legislation. Again, I thank everyone who has worked on this, starting with my colleague from Louisiana, Senator CASSIDY, who will be speaking on this topic immediately following me.

With that, I welcome the Senator's remarks.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I wish to thank Senator VITTER for his support, his kind words, and his tireless effort over his senatorial career to highlight the fact that Louisiana is losing so much land and there is something we need to do about it.

I also thank Majority Leader MCCONNELL for following through on his commitment to allow a vote on the American Energy and Conservation Act of 2016. This was introduced earlier this year by Senators MURKOWSKI, SCOTT, VITTER, TILLIS, SULLIVAN, and me. I thank each of them for their hard work.

I also thank Senators KAINE and WARNER for helping draft the Atlantic portion of the legislation and for cosponsoring an earlier version. As I just said, this is a bipartisan piece of legislation that uses an "all of the above" strategy to pursue true American energy independence.

More than anything else, though, this legislation is about creating better jobs with better benefits. If there was one message we heard from this past election—if we actually listened to the American people, if we heard what they were saying, what we heard is that they want jobs that work for them, better jobs with better benefits. This helps accomplish that. For example, a study conducted by Quest Offshore Resources, Inc., projects that this legislation would incentivize the creation of 280,000 new jobs by 2035. That same study estimates \$195 billion in new investments and an additional \$51 billion in cumulative government revenue. That is \$51 billion in new Federal revenue that this bill helps unlock. It goes a long way to addressing our debt, deficit, and obligation to future generations.

The American Energy and Conservation Act will benefit American families and small businesses by expanding opportunities for States—not just gulf coast but elsewhere—to support energy development.

For years, energy activities in coastal Gulf States and adjacent offshore waters have produced billions of barrels of oil and trillions of cubic feet of natural gas for American families. These States support offshore energy development for the rest of the country and provide the support and pay for the infrastructure needed to bring this energy to market. As with all development, there are increased costs associated with supporting increased traffic, additional use of local and State resources, as well as transportation corridors such as pipelines, vessels, and trucks to get this energy delivered to consumers across the United States.

This bill is truly an "all of the above" energy jobs bill. This legislation includes language introduced by Senators HELLER, HEINRICH, RISCH, and TESTER that streamlines the process for developing the renewable energy on public lands while establishing the first-ever revenue sharing paradigm for renewables. This legislation

incentivizes tapping into the 27,000 megawatts of carbon-free energy that the Bureau of Land Management estimates could be provided by these projects.

Furthermore, if offshore revenue exists for oil and gas development, the same should be true for offshore wind development. That is why we are using the same model established in GOMESA to extend revenue sharing to States that support offshore wind projects. This legislation thus incentivizes developing some of the 4,233 gigawatts of carbon-free generation that the Bureau of Land Management estimates is available for development off our coasts.

This is the American Energy and Conservation Act of 2016. This legislation makes significant investments in conservation projects all over the United States. This legislation provides an additional \$807 million for projects that increase access to public lands for hunting, fishing, and other outdoor recreational activities. This particular provision was included in Senator MURKOWSKI's Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act of 2015, which 24 Senators have cosponsored. The legislation makes investments in a variety of important programs, including the Payment in Lieu of Taxes Program.

This legislation is supported by over 50 important stakeholder groups, including the National Association of Manufacturers, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the American Chemistry Council, the American Petroleum Institute, and the Consumer Energy Alliance. These organizations understand that this legislation is a jobs builder and good policy for American workers.

Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, the American Energy and Conservation Act of 2016.

I yield back.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

REMEMBERING JACK SHATFORD

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, my Arkansan of the week is Jack Shatford, and the recognition is both honorary and, sadly, posthumous. Jack passed away last month during one of his many hunting trips to Arkansas. He loved our State and its people, and we all miss him badly.

Jack first got to know Arkansas on the other side of the world in Vietnam. Jack and my dad Len served together in the same infantry squad in Vietnam in 1969 and 1970. They became closest of friends, a friendship that only grew over nearly a half century.

Jack was from Missouri, so he and Dad were able to see each other regularly, often on deer-hunting trips in

Arkansas and duck- and goose-hunting trips in Missouri. He became like the brother my dad never had, a second son to my grandparents and Aunt Pood. Jack also got to know my mom Avis, just as my mom and dad got to know Jack's wife Joy. Over time, my sister and I came along and Jack and Joy became like an aunt and uncle to us, just like my parents felt about Kurt, Jack and Joy's son. Some of my oldest memories are traveling to Missouri to see the Shatfords at places like Six Flags, Silver Dollar City, and Branson and seeing how happy and excited my dad was in the days leading up to Jack's visits to Arkansas.

Jack was a lifelong hunter and outdoorsman. He worked for 34 years at the Missouri Department of Conservation. If it flew, ran, or swam, you can pretty much bet that Jack knew how to find it, track it, kill it, and cook it. In fact, I have to confess that Jack probably put more meat on the Cotton family table than my dad ever did. He taught me a lot of lessons as well, not just about the outdoors but about life. Jack helped me see some things through my dad's eyes, and I figure he probably did the same thing for my dad. Their example from Vietnam contributed to my decision to join the Army. That wasn't an easy time in the Cotton household, believe me, but Jack was there to help smooth things over, and he encouraged me all along the way.

Jack was a patriot. He had put his life on the line to defend the country we love so much. I know from my dad's war stories that Jack was fearless and brave, but he was also gentle and outgoing, the kind of guy who makes fast friends. He sure made a lot of friends in Dardanelle where he was like an adopted son. He even belonged to our Yell County Wildlife Federation. Above all, though, Jack was a loving family man, a devoted husband to Joy, and father to Kurt and his wife Mary, and Jack was a doting grandpa to Sarah and Shelby. They will miss Jack as we all miss him so dearly.

The pain hasn't gone away yet. It will not for a while, and it may never go away, but with the pain, we ought to be swelled with pride and gratitude to have known and loved such a fine man.

Jack Shatford, rest in peace and follow me.

#### FUNDING OUR MILITARY

Mr. President, the world may be more unstable than ever. The security architecture we built after World War II is at risk. Our parents and grandparents fought to keep the world free from a conflict between major powers. They created order out of the chaos of world war and genocide. They protected our freedom and ensured that our democratic ideals would be the dominant power in the world. The foundation of that order is the U.S. military. Since they toppled Nazi Germany and imperial Japan, they held firm against the North Korean assault

on the democratic South. They faced down a powerful Soviet Union through decades of Cold War. They liberated Kuwait and have shed blood and sweat for over a decade, keeping America safe from Islamic terrorism.

Today our military is composed solely of volunteers. We don't press our people into service. They choose to serve. Since the draft was abolished, we have had a basic compact with our men and women in uniform. In exchange for their service, we ensure that they have the best training, equipment, and leadership America has to offer. We make certain that if our troops must face the enemy, they are equipped to meet the task. With regret, I must say this compact is fraying and we are failing in our duty to our military.

Today the Armed Forces face a growing number of threats and a shrinking budget. Russia is resurgent. They don't think they lost the Cold War, only that they were behind at halftime. Russia's invasion and occupation of Ukraine and Georgia make it clear that Moscow seeks to dominate its so-called near abroad. Moscow wants to divide the great Atlantic Alliance, viewing the confederation of democracies as a threat to the power and authority of a Putin government. Their bombers probe our airspace in ways unseen since the Cold War. They recently sent a carrier fleet through the English Channel. They probe our electronic defenses with daily cyber attacks and rattle the sabre of their nuclear arsenal at the West.

China has also risen. They have sought to establish military control over the East and South China Seas. China also probes and attacks American servers, stealing vital military and industrial secrets. China has quadrupled its defense spending in the past few years, seeking control of the Pacific Rim.

North Korea is growing a nuclear arsenal and developing the capability to hit any American city with those nuclear bombs.

Iran continues to violate the terms of its nuclear agreement and is the world's worst state sponsor of terrorism. Just last month, Iranian-backed rebels fired Chinese anti-ship missiles at an American warship. Had it not been for the skill of the crew and our modern defenses, sailors may have come home in boxes.

In Afghanistan, we lost 15 service-members in 2016. They continue to fight daily, protecting Americans from the threat of a resurgent terrorist threat.

How do we repay their service? We have cut their budget by over \$1 trillion. We have told them to do more with less. We have ignored their needs, long and repeated deployments, and brutal operations tempo. We have cut their pay, forced them to sail on rickety ships, and told them to fly on aircraft so old they date back to the Truman and Eisenhower administrations. This neglect has taken its toll.

In January, 12 Marines died in a helicopter crash. Low readiness and subpar flying hours were to blame. Last week, six Green Berets were killed in 72 hours. They died in three separate incidents, stretching from the continental United States to Jordan, to Afghanistan. The Air Force is 4,000 airmen short of what is needed to maintain their fleet, and they are 700 pilots short to fly that fleet. They are salvaging parts from scrap yards to keep their aircraft flying.

Since May, five F-18 Hornets and Super Hornets have crashed, killing two pilots and destroying all five jets. In the Army, just 30 percent of brigade combat teams are properly trained and equipped to fight. The Navy has had to defer maintenance for combat ships, leaving them more dangerous for the crews.

We are wrong to ask our military to work and risk their lives under these conditions, and we cannot wait until the next fiscal year to fix this crisis because this is a crisis. This is no way to treat our troops and the military needs relief now.

I will soon introduce a \$26 billion emergency spending request, a lifeline to our overworked warfighters. The funds will be used to address immediate needs in military readiness and overseas operations. They will give our warfighters critical relief in these trying times. They will help keep our men and women in uniform safe as we ask them to do an increasingly dangerous job.

I ask my colleagues to put aside old debates and do what is right for our Armed Forces. They are the ones risking their lives daily, not us. They are the ones out on the front lines defending our country, not us. They are the ones begging for help, and we are the ones obligated to provide it.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### WORKING TOGETHER

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, it has been the great privilege and honor of my life to represent the people of Arizona in the Senate. I am humbled that in last Tuesday's election they placed their trust in me for another term.

Since I first came to this body, I have never taken that trust for granted, and I never will. I will get up every day for the next 6 years determined to work harder than the day before for the people of Arizona.

Of course, mine was not the only election last Tuesday. The American people did their civic duty and chose a



new President. I congratulate the President-elect. My prayers are with him and his family as he prepares to assume our Nation's highest office, and I will do all in my power to help him lead us through the many challenges confronting our Nation.

This was a long and difficult national election and not always an uplifting one. I know there were many Americans who were disappointed on election night, and we have seen some of that disappointment in the protests that have taken place in several cities across the Nation. Some of those protesters have even taken to using the slogan "Not my President." This is misguided.

I have been on the losing side of elections before, and it is no fun. But America has only one President at a time. We do not have to agree with the President on every issue, and when we do disagree, we should express ourselves in the spirit of mutual respect that is essential for a free and democratic people.

Therefore, I urge all Americans to offer our next President good will and an earnest effort to find ways to come together to make necessary compromises to grow our economy, defend our security, and leave future generations a stronger, better America.

That better America is one in which we never forget that whatever our differences, we are all Americans. We must respect our common citizenship by treating each other with respect.

That is why I have been so disturbed by reports of increased acts of intimidation, harassment, and even violence directed at minority, racial, and religious groups in the aftermath of this election.

Prejudice and hate have no place in America. Such behavior is a betrayal of who we are as a people and all that we aspire to be. To those who have committed these disgusting acts, I repeat the words of the President-elect: Stop it.

With the campaign over, it is time for all of us to go about the work the American people sent us here to do, and there is a lot of work to do. For too long, Washington has schemed, fought, and maneuvered to gain political advantage at the cost of delivering for the American people. The predictable result is that we have made little, if any, progress toward meeting the great challenges of our time and too many Americans feel left out and left behind.

This election made clear that Americans are fed up with business as usual in Washington, and they want us to make progress now on solving national problems that threaten their ability to prosper and make a better life for their families. They want progress now on growing the economy and increasing their opportunities to live purposeful and satisfying lives. They want progress now to secure their families and America's interests from the dangerous threats we face overseas.

As chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, America's na-

tional security and the men and women in uniform who protect it will be my top priorities.

We have to put an end to business as usual at the Pentagon, where the largest government agency cannot pass a financial audit and where a broken acquisitions system is too often plagued by cost overruns, schedule delays, and poor performance.

We have to put an end to sequestration once and for all and return to a strategy-based defense budget. It gives our servicemembers the resources, training, and equipment they need to meet current and future threats. We have to accelerate the defeat of ISIL in Iraq and Syria and continue to take the fight to radical Islamist terrorists who seek to attack our homeland. Above all, we must remain the free world's leader and stand up always and everywhere for the values that make us exceptional and to which all people are entitled: the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We have to reinvigorate America's alliances around the world, not discard them in favor of cynical deals with adversaries who want us to relinquish our global leadership.

We have to enhance shared efforts to deter and, if necessary, defeat aggression from whatever power threatens our interests and values. Achieving these goals will require a team at the Department of Defense composed of the best people our Nation has to offer. The Senate Armed Services Committee stands ready to receive nominations from the new President. The stakes for our Nation are high. So too must be our standards.

America has many challenges ahead, but none of us should despair of our present difficulties. Instead, we must believe always in the promise and greatness of America. I still do. In that spirit, my promise is this: to work as hard as I ever have; to use all my knowledge, experience, and relationships; and to work with our new President and my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to solve our problems together as fellow Americans.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LEE). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### CONGRATULATING THE CHICAGO CUBS ON WINNING THE WORLD SERIES

Mr. KIRK. Mr. President, I rise to offer congratulations to the 2016 World Series champion Chicago Cubs, who are being congratulated in a resolution that I did with my colleague Senator DURBIN.

For 100 years, it seemed fitting that we would overcome the daunting three games to one to win the series. Many times I have said that any team can have a bad century, like 108 years. One

of the most painful moments we have had as Cubs fans is watching the 1969 Cubs when we always knew we were going to beat the amazing Mets. I remember the names: the late Ron Santo, the late Ernie Banks, Fergie Jenkins, and Billy Williams. They were up nine games on the Mets but collapsed at the end of the season.

In 2016, the Cubs blew away the 1969 record and went all the way. They removed the curse of the billy goat and the black cat. That toughness exemplifies the can-do spirit of the people of Illinois. No one deserves this championship more than the best baseball fans in the country, the Cubs fans.

I also want to give a real shout-out to World Series MVP Ben Zobrist. Following the victory, I had the honor of riding in the victory parade. Over 5 million Chicagoans came to watch. I understand from the press that this was the seventh largest gathering in human history. Congratulations to the 2016 World Series champion Chicago Cubs.

I want to send my thank you to Tom Ricketts, Theo Epstein, and Joe Maddon, the players, the fans, and everyone involved in making this the most unforgettable Cubs season.

I yield back.

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

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

#### RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, 1 year ago I came to the Senate floor for a series of eight speeches on a subject central to the identity and character of our country's religious freedom. As Congress unanimously declared less than two decades ago, religious freedom undergirds the very origin and existence of the United States.

In that series of remarks, I started with the first principles to establish why religious freedom matters and must be given special protection. I reviewed the central role of religious freedom and the central role that religious freedom has played in shaping our country beginning long before independence. I have an example of how I phrased it on this chart.

From the earliest settlers to the revolutionary generation, to the 19th century, to the modern day, religious freedom has been a driving force in American life. Without the quest for religious liberty, there would be no United States, and without the continued guarantee of religious freedom, there can be no American ideal.

I also outlined the substance and status of religious freedom in America. In other words, I answered the questions of what religious freedom is and how important it is. From the pen of James Madison to the words of the First Amendment, from statutes to international treaties, religious freedom has



always been understood to include both belief and behavior in public and in private, collectively and individually. The status of the importance of religious freedom can be summed up in two words used repeatedly by America's Founders and leaders from the beginning: Religious freedom is both inalienable and preeminent.

In last year's series of speeches, I also described the ways our government institutions are increasingly undermining religious freedom. These attacks come from, of course, the executive branch and even State legislatures, and they occur because our leaders have forgotten, ignored, or never really learned the fundamentals of religious freedom.

A philosopher, George Santayana, wrote that "those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." Put another way, as President Andrew Jackson warned as he left office, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

"You must pay the price," Jackson said, "if you wish to secure the blessing."

Unfortunately, we are no longer paying the price necessary to maintain this fundamental right. Either by negligence or intention, political forces in our society are radically changing what has been the very heart and soul of our great country. They want to restrict the substance of religious freedom so that it includes belief but not behavior; in private but not in public; individually but not collectively. They want to demote the status of religious freedom from inalienable and preeminent to optional and secondary. Examples abound in just the last several years.

When the Obama administration and Democrats in Congress fashioned ObamaCare, for instance, they gave no thought to the law's impact on religious freedom. This is especially shocking given that Federal law required them to do so. The Religious Freedom Restoration Act sets a high standard for government actions that burden religious freedom and explicitly requires that Federal laws and regulations meet that standard. The Obama administration and congressional Democrats, however, ran roughshod over religious freedom in fashioning mandates and policies that force people to violate their deeply held religious beliefs.

The Supreme Court has twice held that the birth control mandate in ObamaCare is incompatible with the protections for religious freedom that Congress previously and nearly unanimously enacted.

Another example is before us today. Two years ago, President Obama issued a sweeping Executive order prohibiting Federal contractors and grant recipients from taking into account sexual orientation or gender identity when making employment decisions. The order itself is not a surprise. President Obama has been a supporter of LGBT

rights throughout his Presidency and believes that gays and lesbians deserve the same job opportunities as everyone else. On that latter point, I—along with most Americans—agree. What was remarkable about President Obama's order was that it contained no exemption for employers with religious affiliations.

For years, laws prohibiting discrimination in employment and housing have routinely included religious liberty exemptions to protect religious organizations from having to take actions that contravene their beliefs. Such exemptions, for example, permit a religiously affiliated school that holds traditional views on marriage and human sexuality to offer married housing only to couples of the opposite sex or decline to hire as a faculty member an individual in a committed, same-sex relationship. These exemptions enable religious organizations to hold true to their beliefs while still complying with the law.

President Obama's decision not to include a religious liberty exemption in his Executive order marked a sharp turn in the wrong direction. One year earlier, Senate Democrats had agreed to include a robust religious exemption in the Employment Nondiscrimination Act, or ENDA, a bill that would have prohibited sexual orientation discrimination in hiring by employers with at least 15 employees. ENDA's exemption tracked similar provisions in numerous State laws, including Utah's. Notwithstanding requests from religious groups, President Obama refused to include a similar exemption in his Executive order.

His refusal means that a religious organization that wishes to compete for Federal funds may be forced to hire individuals who hold views or engage in conduct that contravenes the organization's religious beliefs. This is a direct attack on the ability of such organizations to preserve and promote their religious identity.

Earlier this year, the House of Representatives took action to reverse the President's troubling refusal to protect religious employers. Back in May, the House passed the annual National Defense Authorization Act, or NDAA, to fund the Armed Forces. At the markup on the bill, Representative STEVE RUSSELL of Oklahoma offered, and the committee adopted, an amendment to the bill to clarify that religious organizations that contract with or receive grants from the Federal Government do not lose religious liberty. They do not lose religious liberty protections that they enjoy under other laws merely because they choose to work with the Federal Government.

These protections, which are found in the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, include the ability to hire "individuals of a particular religion to perform work connected with the [organization's] activities" and to "require that all applicants and employees conform to the [organization's] religious tenets."

Such protections enable religious organizations to preserve their religious identity by hiring employees who share the organization's religious beliefs.

Now, the Russell amendment affirms that religious organizations and schools enjoy these same protections when they contract with or receive grants from the Federal Government.

The amendment embodies the commonsense, longstanding principle that religious organizations should not have to surrender control over their religious mission in order to interact with government. Unfortunately, there has been a lot of misinformation spread about the Russell amendment and what it does and does not do so let me take a moment to clear it up.

Some have claimed the amendment would allow contractors to deny service to gays or lesbians or would enable any contractor who so wishes to make hiring decisions on the basis of religious beliefs. It would do no such thing. The amendment is limited only to hiring and employment practices and only to religiously affiliated corporations, associations, educational institutions, or societies, in conformance with the existing protections in the Civil Rights Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The amendment clarifies that religious organizations do not lose religious liberty protections merely because they enter into contract with or receive grants from the Federal Government. That is it. We might think that a position reaffirming existing religious liberty protections would not raise eyebrows. Unfortunately, we would be wrong.

President Obama swiftly expressed his opposition to the Russell amendment. Not only that, but he threatened to veto the entire NDAA, cutting off funding for the entire Department of Defense rather than allow the amendment to take effect. President Obama would rather shutter our Armed Forces than enable religious employers to select employees who share their particular values.

Regrettably, the President has been joined in his opposition by 42 Senate Democrats who recently wrote a letter to the President outlining their "strong opposition" to the Russell amendment and asking the President to "ensure that [the amendment] is removed from the final version of [the NDAA]."

The President and my Democratic colleagues are concerned, it seems, that if religious organizations that contract with the Federal Government are able to select employees who share the organization's religious beliefs, they may make decisions that liberals would disapprove of. For example, a religious family services charity may choose to hire individuals who hold traditional views on marriage and human sexuality. Because the President and my colleagues across the aisle do not share these views, they think religious organizations should be unable to take them into account when

seeking employees who will promote the organization's mission. It is difficult to imagine a position more at odds with our heritage of religious freedom.

President Obama and Senate Democrats would empower the Federal Government to compel religious organizations to hire individuals who do not share the organization's religious beliefs. They would insert Federal tentacles into fundamental decisions regarding religious mission and identity. They would have the Federal Government declare off-limits traditional views on sexual orientation and gender identity that many Americans hold as a matter of religious conviction.

But there is an even more pernicious aspect to the Democrats' position on this issue. Many liberals argue that claims of religious liberty are nothing more than a front for discrimination. They contend—with some force—that religious liberty claimants just don't like gay people or don't like women and use religion as a cover for their deep-seated animus toward disfavored groups. That is, of course, ridiculous.

I would challenge anyone who holds this view to actually interact with a religious person. They will find, contrary to their own prejudices, that people of faith are loving, gracious, and polite and, more often than not, go out of their way to help the poor and the downtrodden. Religious believers don't treat others with kindness and charity despite their faith; they do so because of their faith.

To my liberal friends, I say: Before you tar religious believers with whatever benighted stereotypes you see portrayed on TV and in the news media, get to know some of them. You will find your assumptions about them are totally wrong.

Nevertheless, many liberals claim that religious liberty is a guise for discrimination. There is no reason, they say, for a religious organization or individual to seek an exemption from an otherwise equitable law, other than animus toward those the law is designed to protect.

But what, then, are we to make of President Obama's Executive order and the left's reaction to the Russell amendment?

President Obama could have included a religious liberty exemption in his order—such exemptions are standard in other laws, and numerous religious groups asked him to include one here—but he chose not to. Senate Democrats could easily have agreed to the Russell amendment, which does nothing more than reaffirm existing protections for religious employers—but they chose not to do so. What reason is there to exclude religious contractors and grant recipients from religious liberty protections that are otherwise generally available? Why single out such contractors and grant recipients for disfavor? It makes you wonder.

Do my Democratic colleagues not see that the very argument they make

against religious liberty can be turned against them?

They are seeking to withdraw from religious contractors and grant recipients rights and protections that would otherwise be available under existing law. They are undermining the ability of believers to navigate between secular and spiritual demands. They are bringing to bear the sword of the State when they could easily stay their hand.

It is difficult for me to look at the President's actions and those of my colleagues across the aisle and see anything other than discrimination against people of faith. They could give room for believers—as our Nation has done for centuries—but they choose not to. Rather, they cut and nip at religious liberty until all that remains is a hollow shell.

I am left to wonder when the drive for equality became the drive to exclude and to undermine religion because that seems to be where we have arrived.

Give a place for us, say people of faith. Allow us to live out our beliefs. We will abide the law, but we ask you to make reasonable accommodations. Surely a simple religious liberty exemption—indeed, one that is already part of our existing laws—would be reasonable.

I close with an appeal to my Democratic colleagues. The outcome of the fight over the Russell amendment is not in doubt. Even if President Obama vetoes the NDAA or the Russell amendment is removed during conference, President Obama's Executive order will be withdrawn or else amended by the President-elect to include a religious liberty exemption. The Russell amendment will become law whether it is through congressional action or Executive order.

The question for my colleagues across the aisle is whether they will stand up for the rights of religious contractors and grant recipients or whether they will join President Obama's losing battle against religious liberty. Will they protect people of faith or will they prosecute them?

President Obama has cast his lot with the prosecution. It is not too late for my Democratic colleagues to choose a different course, and I hope and pray they will.

These are not itty-bitty issues. These are issues that go right back to the core values of our country and our beliefs. Religious liberty is not something that can be cast aside. It is not something that should be cast aside. Religious liberty is a fundamental right, and we should not be playing around with it in the Congress.

When there is prejudice and there is discrimination, that is another matter, but in virtually every case of religious liberty, I don't find that prejudice or discrimination. Our churches are a vibrant part of America, and we sure as heck ought to stand behind them and make sure religious liberty is always protected.

I hope my colleagues will think these things through, I hope the 42 Democrats who voted to remove the Russell amendment will change their minds, and I hope they start to realize that religious freedom is not some itty-bitty thing. It is the thing in many respects that has been part of making America the greatest land in the world and the freest land in the world and the place where liberty includes real liberty.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I appear to be on the floor for Utah Day, with the junior Senator presiding and the senior Senator speaking. I am delighted to follow the senior Senator. I think in the boisterous days and months we will see ahead, his long-standing reputation for collegiality and reason and the respect in which his colleagues all hold him could become valuable attributes in our Senate.

#### CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. President, I am here as the Senate reconvenes from the 2016 election recess to give my 149th climate speech, but I want first to congratulate my colleagues who were reelected and the new Members elected to the Senate and President-Elect Trump and Vice President-Elect Pence. With control of the White House and majorities coming in the House and the Senate, Republicans will wield great power in Washington, DC, and as the well-known saying goes, "with great power comes great responsibility."

In his acceptance speech, President-Elect Trump asked us all for help and guidance in governing this great Nation. My guidance would be first to be responsible. A key test will be whether our President-elect and Republicans here in the Senate choose to be responsible about climate change.

I am gravely concerned about climate change, but based on the President-elect's campaign, he appears blissfully unconcerned, and Congress has been stalled by a decades-long industry-controlled campaign of calculated misinformation on the danger of carbon pollution and by just raw industry political pressure.

But the President-elect will soon hear—and, hopefully, take it to heart—from a grownup world outside the creepy alt-right and the fossil fuel industry, a world of people who actually know what they are talking about. The President-elect will hear from our military and national security experts how deadly serious this is.

Our former Pacific commander, Admiral Locklear, said it was the biggest national security threat we face in the Pacific theater. To use Admiral Locklear's exact words, "climate change is probably the most likely thing that is going to happen . . . that will cripple the security environment, probably more likely than the other scenarios we all often talk about."

Geoffrey Kemp, former Special Assistant to the President for National

Security Affairs under President Ronald Reagan, said:

Our military and intelligence leadership have recognized, under both the George W. Bush and the Obama administrations, that climate change will present real and costly risks to our national security and that the effects are going to get worse if we don't do something about it very soon. As General Douglas MacArthur warned about the dangers of unpreparedness for war, we don't want to be too late.

The President-elect will hear from our National Labs and from NOAA and NASA, the folks who put a rover on Mars and are driving it around and may know a little bit about real science, about the robust scientific consensus on climate change, and the urgency to change our course. If he doesn't trust our own scientific agencies, he can go to any major university in any State in the Nation and confirm what the government and military experts tell him.

The President-elect will hear from world leaders who have pledged, alongside the United States, to work across borders to limit carbon emissions. The Paris Agreement brought nearly 200 countries together with the common goal of keeping global warming below 2 degrees Celsius and avoiding the most catastrophic outcomes for the planet and its people.

He will also hear from CEOs across America, particularly those in the food and agriculture sectors who are living with climate change consequences every day, and from many others that we need to quit fooling around.

I hope the President-elect will listen to these voices of reason and expertise. The people in our Nation certainly are listening. Polls show over 60 percent of Americans are concerned about global warming, and more than 80 percent of Americans favor action to reduce carbon pollution.

Rhode Island, the Ocean State, would tell the administration that the oceans are the frontlines of climate change. The oceans have absorbed approximately 30 percent of the excess carbon dioxide that we have added to the atmosphere since the Industrial Revolution—30 percent of it. They have also absorbed roughly 90 percent of the excess heat trapped in the atmosphere by those greenhouse gases. Without the oceans to absorb that added heat and carbon dioxide, we would not be worried about the 2-degree warming limit the world community is racing to avoid. We would be looking at a 30-degree increase, and life as our species knows it on this planet would be over.

Oceans have spared us thus far from disaster, but what they have done to buffer our self-inflicted harm comes at its own cost. Global ocean temperatures are rising. In Rhode Island, Narragansett Bay's mean water temperature is up nearly 4 degrees Fahrenheit. Our Rhode Island lobster fishery is crashing, and our winter flounder fishery is gone.

As water warms, of course, it also expands, and as glaciers melt, they add to

the volume of the ocean. That is why sea levels are rising worldwide. The water is up about 10 inches at the Newport Naval Station tide gauge since the 1930s, and the Navy is actively planning how to defend the Norfolk Naval Station from rising seas.

The effect of the ocean's absorbing all that carbon dioxide is a little different. It causes a chemical reaction. It is making ocean water more acidic. The ocean is acidifying and doing so at the fastest rate in 50 million years. Considering we have only been on the planet as a species for about 200,000 years, that is a long, long interval.

Rhode Island's clambers, lobstermen, and aquaculture growers are watching with real alarm the damage acidified seas are doing. On America's northwest coast, oyster hatcheries have already experienced significant losses when their new hatches were unable to grow their shells in the acidified seawater. Off the coasts of Washington, Oregon, and Northern California, 50 percent of ocean pteropods were measured to have "severe shell damage," mostly from acidified seas. If that species collapses, the bottom falls out of the oceanic food chain.

As the oceans go, so goes the planet.

It is my sincere hope that President-Elect Trump will feel the call of history, of reason, and of patriotism to live up to the awesome responsibilities he now will bear.

The 22nd session of the Conference of the Parties to the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change, the so-called COP-22, is now taking place in Marrakech, Morocco. A similar gathering took place in Copenhagen 7 years ago. A full-page ad in the New York Times then called for passage of climate legislation in the United States for investment in the clean energy economy and for leadership to inspire the rest of the world to join the fight against climate change. It said:

We must embrace the challenge today to ensure that future generations are left with a safe planet and a strong economy. . . . We support your effort—

They said to President Obama—

to ensure meaningful and effective measures to control climate change, an immediate challenge facing the United States and the world today. Please don't postpone the earth. If we fail to act now, it is scientifically irrefutable that there will be catastrophic and irreversible consequences for humanity and our planet.

That full-page ad from which we took this was signed by Donald J. Trump, Chairman and President of the Trump organization. The signatories also included his children, Donald Jr., Eric, and Ivanka. Their future and their reputations are at stake too.

The President-elect campaigned against big special interests controlling Washington, and he mocked Republican politicians groveling before the Koch brothers at their "begathon," as he called it. He has a simple choice now. He can make his own decisions

based on the best recommendations of our military, our national science laboratories, and our great universities, or he can fall in tow to the Koch brothers—the biggest special interest of them all.

He can believe our National Labs and our National Aeronautics and Space Administration, or he can believe the National Enquirer. He can believe our military or he can believe the fossil fuel industry's denial apparatus. He can believe established scientific principles or he can believe fanciful conspiracy theories. His choice will be fateful, and the world and history will both be watching.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

#### RECOGNIZING COMMERCE LEXINGTON INC.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I wish to recognize an organization in my home State that has been honored for the fine work it is doing for the people of central Kentucky. Commerce Lexington, Inc., the chamber of commerce organization for greater Lexington, has been named Chamber of the Year by the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives, ACCE. In doing so, it beat other chambers of commerce from across the country, including those representing Brooklyn, NY; Jacksonville, FL; and Tacoma, WA. This is the first time Commerce Lexington Inc. has won this award.

ACCE's Chamber of the Year award recognizes the leadership role chambers of commerce play in both their respective business communities and in civic life. To win the award, Commerce Lexington Inc. had to compete against hundreds of other chambers, including those from 93 of the top 100 U.S. metro areas.

ACCE presented the award to Commerce Lexington Inc. at its annual convention in Savannah, GA, this past August. Commerce Lexington Inc. has been a finalist for the award 3 years in a row—2014, 2015, and 2016. And in addition to receiving the Chamber of the Year award, Commerce Lexington Inc. also earned one of ACCE's top communications/marketing honors, the Grand Award.

Commerce Lexington Inc. has about 1,700 members, and its mission is simple: to promote economic development, job creation, and growth in the greater Lexington area. It works to foster both the creation of new businesses and the growth of existing ones. Formed in 2004, its roots trace back to 1797. Commerce Lexington Inc.'s president and CEO, Bob Quick, leads a talented and dedicated staff, and he is doing a great job leading the organization, as it receipt of this award so ably demonstrates.

Of course, Commerce Lexington Inc. is successful because they have a great product. Lexington is widely regarded as one of the most livable cities in America and ranks high on lists of best places to start a business, find a job, or pursue higher education. It is a major economic driver of the Bluegrass State, location of the preeminent University of Kentucky, and home to the famous Keeneland Race Course.

I congratulate Bob Quick, Andi Johnson, and the leadership and staff of Commerce Lexington Inc. for winning this prestigious award. Of the thousands of chambers of commerce across our Nation, it is quite an honor to be recognized as one of the very best. I am grateful for Commerce Lexington Inc. and all they do for the Commonwealth.

#### BUDGET SCOREKEEPING REPORT

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I wish to submit to the Senate the budget scorekeeping report for November 2016. The report compares current law levels of spending and revenues with the amounts the Senate agreed to in the budget resolution for fiscal year 2016, the conference report to accompany S. Con. Res. 11, and the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015, P.L. 114-74, BBA 15. This information is necessary for the Senate Budget Committee to determine whether budget points of order lie against pending legislation. It has been prepared by the Republican staff of the Senate Budget Committee and the Congressional Budget Office, CBO, pursuant to section 308(b) of the Congressional Budget Act, CBA.

This is the seventh report I have made this calendar year. It is the fourth report since I filed the statutorily required fiscal year 2017 enforceable budget limits on April 18, 2016, pursuant to section 102 of BBA 15, and the 11th report I have made since adoption of the fiscal year 2016 budget resolution on May 5, 2015. My last filing can be found in the RECORD on September 8, 2016. The information contained in this report for fiscal year 2017 and beyond is current through November 14, 2016. This is the final report I will file this year that provides fiscal year 2016-specific data, as that fiscal year ended September 30, 2016.

Tables 1-7 of this report are prepared by my staff on the Budget Committee. While there are no changes to Tables 4, 6, and 7 from the last report, legislative activities by authorizing committees,

table 1, and the Senate Committee on Appropriations, tables 2, 3, and 5, have made changes to budgetary levels.

Table 1 gives the amount by which each Senate authorizing committee exceeds or is below its allocation for budget authority and outlays under the fiscal year 2016 budget resolution and the fiscal year 2017 enforceable budget levels filing. This information is used for enforcing committee allocations pursuant to section 302 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, CBA. Enforceable levels charged to authorizing committees for fiscal year 2016 remain unchanged from the last scorekeeping report, as budget authority remains below assumed levels by \$51 million and outlays are \$2.7 billion above allowable levels. The remaining enforceable levels have all changed since the last report. Notably, over the fiscal year 2017-2026 period, authorizing committees have approved \$550 million in new budget authority and \$505 million in outlays higher than allowable levels. During the last work period, Congress approved two bills with significant direct spending increases, the West Los Angeles Leasing Act of 2016, H.R. 5936, P.L. 114-226, and Treatment of Certain Payments in Eugenics Compensation Act, S. 1698, P.L. 114-241. Over 10 years, the former increased budget authority by \$44 million and outlays by \$18 million, and the latter increased both budget authority and outlays by \$4 million.

Table 2 gives the amount by which the Senate Committee on Appropriations exceeds or is below the statutory spending limits for fiscal year 2016. This information is used to determine points of order related to the spending caps found in section 312 and section 314 of the CBA. On September 29, the Continuing Appropriations and Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017, was signed into law, P.L. 114-223. Included in that bill as an offset for supplemental Zika funding was a provision that rescinded \$168 million in budget authority for fiscal year 2016 from funds provided in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. This rescission, which was not designated as an emergency, had the effect of reducing regular nonsecurity discretionary funding charged to the Appropriations Committee by \$168 million.

Table 3 tracks the same enforcement information as Table 2 for fiscal year 2017. The continuing resolution included full-year appropriations for military construction and veterans affairs programs. As such, that funding has been scored against the discretionary caps, leaving \$543.1 billion and \$414.8 billion in budget authority for security and nonsecurity discretionary spending, respectively, for the remainder of fiscal year 2017.

Table 5 tracks compliance with the fiscal year 2016 limit for overall changes in mandatory programs in appropriations bills, CHIMPS, established in the fiscal year 2016 budget resolu-

tion. This information is used for determining points of order under section 3103 of that resolution. The \$168 million rescission in the CR, discussed above, is classified as a CHIMP; therefore, it is scored against the overall limit of \$19.1 billion. In total, the Committee on Appropriations will be under the CHIMP limit by \$1.1 billion.

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

CBO provided a report both for fiscal year 2016 and fiscal year 2017. This information is used to enforce aggregate spending levels in budget resolutions under section 311 of the CBA. CBO's estimates show that current law levels of spending for fiscal year 2016 exceed the amounts in last year's budget resolution by \$138.7 billion in budget authority and \$103.6 billion in outlays. Revenues are \$155.2 billion below the revenue floor for fiscal year 2016 set by the budget resolution. As well, Social Security outlays are at the levels assumed for fiscal year 2016, while Social Security revenues are \$23 million below levels in the budget.

For fiscal year 2017, CBO annualizes the temporary effects of the Continuing Appropriations and Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017, which provides funding through December 9, 2016. For the enforcement of budgetary aggregates, the Senate Budget Committee excludes this temporary funding. As such, the committee views current law levels as being \$952.4 billion and \$582.9 billion below budget resolution levels for budget authority and outlays, respectively. Revenues are \$199 million above the level assumed in the budget resolution. Finally, Social Security outlays and revenues are at the levels assumed in the fiscal year 2017 enforcement filing for this budget year.

CBO's report also provides information needed to enforce the Senate's pay-as-you-go rule. As part of the fiscal year 2017 enforcement filing, the Senate's pay-as-you-go scorecard was reset to zero. Since my last filing, legislative activity has resulted in an increase in the deficit of \$74 million over the fiscal year 2016-2021 period, but deficit reduction of \$35 million over the fiscal year 2016-2026 period. Over the initial 6-year period, Congress has enacted legislation that increased outlays by \$482 million and revenues by \$408 million. Over the 11-year period, outlays were increased by \$505 million and revenues by \$544 million. The Senate's pay-as-you-go rule is enforced by section 201 of S. Con. Res. 21, the fiscal year 2008 budget resolution.

Finally, there is one new entry in the enforcement table included at the end of this submission, which tracks the Senate's budget enforcement activity on the floor. On September 14, 2016, a Senate PAYGO budget point of order,

section 201(a) of S. Con Res. 21, 110th Congress, was raised against the Water Resources Development Act of 2016, S. Amdt. 4979, for increasing the deficit by nearly \$300 million over the fiscal year 2016–2026 period. This point of order was waived through a motion from Senator INHOFE by a vote of 85–12. While the point of order was waived, the bill has yet to clear both houses of Congress, and, as such, its budgetary effects remain unrecorded for enforcement purposes.

All years in the accompanying tables are fiscal years.

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

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

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

(In millions of dollars)				
	2016	2017	2017–2021	2017–2026
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry				
Budget Authority .....	0	0	0	0
Outlays .....	0	0	0	0
Armed Services				
Budget Authority .....	–66	0	0	0
Outlays .....	–50	0	0	0
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs				
Budget Authority .....	0	0	0	0
Outlays .....	0	0	0	0
Commerce, Science, and Transportation				
Budget Authority .....	130	–3	–33	–8
Outlays .....	0	–3	–33	–8
Energy and Natural Resources				
Budget Authority .....	0	200	365	370
Outlays .....	0	200	365	370
Environment and Public Works				
Budget Authority .....	2,880	2	72	212
Outlays .....	252	1	57	193
Finance				
Budget Authority .....	365	0	0	0
Outlays .....	365	0	0	0
Foreign Relations				
Budget Authority .....	0	0	0	0
Outlays .....	0	0	0	0
Homeland Security and Government Affairs				
Budget Authority .....	0	3	3	4
Outlays .....	0	3	3	4
Judiciary				
Budget Authority .....	–3,358	–9	102	–72
Outlays .....	1,713	–9	102	–72
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions				
Budget Authority .....	0	0	0	0
Outlays .....	0	0	0	0
Rules and Administration				
Budget Authority .....	0	0	0	0
Outlays .....	0	0	0	0
Intelligence				
Budget Authority .....	0	0	0	0
Outlays .....	0	0	0	0
Veterans' Affairs				
Budget Authority .....	–2	–1	22	44
Outlays .....	388	–1	–12	18
Indian Affairs				
Budget Authority .....	0	0	0	0
Outlays .....	0	0	0	0
Small Business				
Budget Authority .....	0	0	0	0
Outlays .....	1	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>				
Budget Authority .....	–51	192	531	550
Outlays .....	2,669	191	482	505

**TABLE 2.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED REGULAR DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS <sup>1</sup>**  
(Budget authority, in millions of dollars)

2016		
	Security <sup>2</sup>	Nonsecurity <sup>2</sup>
Statutory Discretionary Limits .....	548,091	518,491
Amount Provided by Senate Appropriations Subcommittee		
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies .....	0	21,750

**TABLE 2.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED REGULAR DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS <sup>1</sup>**  
Continued

(Budget authority, in millions of dollars)		
2016		
	Security <sup>2</sup>	Nonsecurity <sup>2</sup>
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies .....	5,101	50,621
Defense .....	514,000	136
Energy and Water Development .....	18,860	18,325
Financial Services and General Government .....	44	23,191
Homeland Security .....	1,705	39,250
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies .....	0	32,159
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies .....	0	161,959
Legislative Branch .....	0	4,363
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies .....	8,171	71,698
State Foreign Operations, and Related Programs .....	0	37,780
Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies .....	210	57,091
<b>Current Level Total .....</b>	<b>548,091</b>	<b>518,323</b>
<b>Total Enacted Above (+) or Below (–) Statutory Limits .....</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>–168</b>

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

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

**TABLE 3.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED REGULAR DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS <sup>1</sup>**

(Budget authority, in millions of dollars)		
2017		
	Security <sup>2</sup>	Nonsecurity <sup>2</sup>
Statutory Discretionary Limits .....	551,068	518,531
Amount Provided by Senate Appropriations Subcommittee		
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies .....	0	9
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies .....	0	0
Defense .....	45	0
Energy and Water Development .....	0	0
Financial Services and General Government .....	0	0
Homeland Security .....	0	9
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies .....	0	0
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies .....	0	24,690
Legislative Branch .....	0	0
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies .....	7,898	74,600
State Foreign Operations, and Related Programs .....	0	0
Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies .....	0	4,400
<b>Current Level Total .....</b>	<b>7,943</b>	<b>103,708</b>
<b>Total Enacted Above (+) or Below (–) Statutory Limits .....</b>	<b>–543,125</b>	<b>–414,823</b>

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

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

**TABLE 4.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS/GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS**  
(In millions of dollars)

2016		
	BA	OT
OCO/GWOT Allocation <sup>1</sup> .....	73,693	32,079
Amount Provided by Senate Appropriations Subcommittee		
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies .....	0	0
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies .....	0	0
Defense .....	58,638	27,354
Energy and Water Development .....	0	0
Financial Services and General Government .....	0	0
Homeland Security .....	160	128
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies .....	0	0
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies .....	0	0
Legislative Branch .....	0	0
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies .....	0	0
State Foreign Operations, and Related Programs .....	14,895	4,597

**TABLE 4.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS/GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS—Continued**

(In millions of dollars)		
2016		
	BA	OT
Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies .....	0	0
<b>Current Level Total .....</b>	<b>73,693</b>	<b>32,079</b>
<b>Total OCO/GWOT Spending vs. Budget Resolution .....</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

BA = Budget Authority; OT = Outlays

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

**TABLE 5.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED CHANGES IN MANDATORY SPENDING PROGRAMS (CHIMPS)**

(Budget authority, millions of dollars)	
2016	
CHIMPS Limit for Fiscal Year 2016 .....	19,100
Senate Appropriations Subcommittees	
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies .....	600
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies .....	9,458
Defense .....	0
Energy and Water Development .....	0
Financial Services and General Government .....	725
Homeland Security .....	176
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies .....	28
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies .....	6,967
Legislative Branch .....	0
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies .....	0
State Foreign Operations, and Related Programs .....	0
Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies .....	0
<b>Current Level Total .....</b>	<b>17,954</b>
<b>Total CHIMPS Above (+) or Below (–) Budget Resolution .....</b>	<b>–1,146</b>

**TABLE 6.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED CHANGES IN MANDATORY SPENDING PROGRAM (CHIMP) TO THE CRIME VICTIMS FUND**

(Budget authority, millions of dollars)	
2016	
Crime Victims Fund (CVF) CHIMP Limit for Fiscal Year 2016 .....	10,800
Senate Appropriations Subcommittees	
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies .....	0
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies .....	9,000
Defense .....	0
Energy and Water Development .....	0
Financial Services and General Government .....	0
Homeland Security .....	0
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies .....	0
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies .....	0
Legislative Branch .....	0
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies .....	0
State Foreign Operations, and Related Programs .....	0
Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies .....	0
<b>Current Level Total .....</b>	<b>9,000</b>
<b>Total CVF CHIMP Above (+) or Below (–) Budget Resolution .....</b>	<b>–1,800</b>

**Table 7.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED CHANGES IN MANDATORY SPENDING PROGRAMS (CHIMPS)**

(Budget authority, millions of dollars)	
2017	
CHIMPS Limit for Fiscal Year 2017 .....	19,100
Senate Appropriations Subcommittees	
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies .....	0
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies .....	0
Defense .....	0
Energy and Water Development .....	0
Financial Services and General Government .....	0
Homeland Security .....	0
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies .....	0
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies .....	0
Legislative Branch .....	0
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies .....	0

TABLE 7.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED CHANGES IN MANDATORY SPENDING PROGRAMS (CHIMPS)—Continued

[Budget authority, millions of dollars]	
	2017
State Foreign Operations, and Related Programs .....	0
Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies .....	0
Current Level Total .....	0
Total CHIMPS Above (+) or Below (–) Budget Resolution .....	–19,100

U.S. CONGRESS,  
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,  
Washington, DC, November 14, 2016.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The enclosed report shows the effects of Congressional action on the fiscal year 2016 budget and is current

through September 30, 2016. This report is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

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

Since our last letter dated September 8, 2016, the Congress has cleared and the President has signed the Continuing Appropriations and Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017, and Zika Response and Preparedness Act (Public Law 114–223). That act had significant effects on budget authority in fiscal year 2016.

Sincerely,

KEITH HALL,  
Director.

Enclosure.

TABLE 1.—SENATE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT FOR SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016, AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

[In billions of dollars]			
	Budget Resolution	Current Level <sup>a</sup>	Current Level Over/Under (–) Resolution
On-Budget			
Budget Authority .....	3,071.2	3,209.9	138.7
Outlays .....	3,091.2	3,194.9	103.6
Revenues .....	2,676.0	2,520.7	–155.2
Off-Budget			
Social Security Outlays <sup>b</sup>	777.1	777.1	0.0
Social Security Revenues	794.0	794.0	0.0

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

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

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

TABLE 2.—SUPPORTING DETAIL FOR THE SENATE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT FOR ON-BUDGET SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016, AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

[In millions of dollars]			
	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Previously Enacted <sup>a</sup>			
Revenues .....	n.a.	n.a.	2,676,733
Permanents and other spending legislation .....	1,968,496	1,902,345	n.a.
Appropriation legislation .....	0	500,825	n.a.
Offsetting receipts .....	–784,820	–784,879	n.a.
Total, Previously Enacted .....	1,183,676	1,618,291	2,676,733
Enacted Legislation:			
An act to extend the authorization to carry out the replacement of the existing medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Denver, Colorado, to authorize transfers of amounts to carry out the replacement of such medical center, and for other purposes (P.L. 114–25) .....	0	20	0
Defending Public Safety Employees' Retirement Act & Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–26) .....	0	0	5
Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–27) .....	445	175	–766
Steve Gleason Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–40) .....	5	5	0
Surface Transportation and Veterans Health Care Choice Improvement Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–41) <sup>b</sup> .....	0	0	99
Continuing Appropriations Act, 2016 (P.L. 114–53) .....	700	775	0
Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–55) .....	130	0	0
Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–58) .....	–2	368	0
Protecting Affordable Coverage for Employees Act (P.L. 114–60) .....	0	0	40
Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–74) .....	3,424	4,870	269
Recovery Improvements for Small Entities After Disaster Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–88) .....	0	1	0
National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (P.L. 114–92) .....	–66	–50	0
Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (P.L. 114–94) .....	2,880	252	471
Federal Perkins Loan Program Extension Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–105) .....	269	269	0
Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (P.L. 114–113) <sup>b</sup> .....	2,008,016	1,563,177	–156,107
Patient Access and Medicare Protection Act (P.L. 114–115) .....	32	32	0
Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–125) .....	20	20	–7
Continuing Appropriations and Military Construction, Veteran Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017, and Zika Response and Preparedness Act (P.L. 114–223) <sup>c</sup> .....	1,208	0	0
Total, Enacted Legislation .....	2,017,061	1,569,914	–155,996
Entitlements and Mandatories:			
Budget resolution estimates of appropriated entitlements and other mandatory programs .....	9,170	6,674	0
Total Current Level <sup>d</sup> .....	3,209,907	3,194,879	2,520,737
Total Senate Resolution <sup>e</sup> .....	3,071,205	3,091,246	2,675,967
Current Level Over Senate Resolution .....	138,702	103,633	n.a.
Current Level Under Senate Resolution .....	n.a.	n.a.	155,230

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

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

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

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

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

<sup>c</sup> Certain provisions included in Divisions B–D of P.L. 114–223 provided supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2016 which, on net, provided an additional \$1,208 million in budget authority in fiscal year 2016. CBO estimated that: Division B would result in an additional \$1,108 million in budget authority in fiscal year 2016 for emergency requirements; Section 145 of Division C would result in an additional \$500 million in budget authority in fiscal year 2016 for disaster relief; and Division D would result in decreases in budget authority in fiscal year 2016 of \$232 million for emergency requirements, and of \$168 million for amounts not designated pursuant to section 251(b)(2) of the Deficit Control Act.

<sup>d</sup> For purposes of enforcing section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act in the Senate, the resolution, as approved by the Senate, does not include budget authority, outlays, or revenues for off-budget amounts. As a result, current level does not include these items.

<sup>e</sup> Periodically, the Senate Committee on the Budget revises the budgetary levels in S. Con. Res. 11, pursuant to various provisions of the resolution. The Initial Senate Resolution total below excludes \$6,872 million in budget authority and \$344 million in outlays assumed in S. Con. Res. 11 for disaster-related spending. The Revised Senate Resolution total below includes amounts for disaster-related spending:

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Initial Senate Resolution: .....	3,032,343	3,091,098	2,676,733
Revisions:			
Pursuant to section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and section 4311 of S. Con. Res. 11 .....	445	175	–766
Pursuant to section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and S. Con. Res. 11 .....	700	700	0
Pursuant to section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and S. Con. Res. 11 .....	0	1	0
Pursuant to section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and section 4313 of S. Con. Res. 11 .....	269	269	0
Pursuant to section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and section 3404 of S. Con. Res. 11 .....	36,072	–997	0
Pursuant to section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and S. Con. Res. 11 .....	1,376	0	0
Revised Senate Resolution .....	3,071,205	3,091,246	2,675,967



U.S. CONGRESS,  
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,  
Washington, DC, November 16, 2016.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The enclosed report shows the effects of Congressional action on the fiscal year 2017 budget and is current through November 14, 2016. This report is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the allocations, aggregates, and other budgetary levels printed in the Congressional Record on April 18, 2016, pursuant to section 102 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-74).

Since our last letter dated September 8, 2016, the Congress has cleared and the President has signed the following acts that have significant effects on budget authority, outlays, or revenues:

Continuing Appropriations and Military, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017, and Zika Response and Preparedness Act (Public Law 114-223);

Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-228); United States Appreciation for Olympians and Paralympians Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-239); and

Treatment of Certain Payments in Eugenics Compensation Act (Public Law 114-241).

Sincerely,

KEITH HALL,  
Director.

Enclosure.

TABLE 1.—SENATE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT FOR SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017, AS OF NOVEMBER 14, 2016

(In billions of dollars)			
	Budget Resolution	Current Level <sup>a</sup>	Current Level Over/Under (–) Resolution
On-Budget			
Budget Authority .....	3,212.5	3,297.5	85.0
Outlays .....	3,219.5	3,252.7	33.2
Revenues .....	2,682.0	2,682.2	0.2
Off-Budget			
Social Security Outlays <sup>b</sup> ..	805.4	805.4	0.0
Social Security Revenues ..	826.1	826.1	0.0

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

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

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

TABLE 2.—SUPPORTING DETAIL FOR THE SENATE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT FOR ON-BUDGET SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017, AS OF NOVEMBER 14, 2016

(In millions of dollars)			
	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Previously Enacted			
Revenues .....	n.a.	n.a.	2,681,976
Permanents and other spending legislation ...	2,054,886	1,960,659	n.a.
Appropriation legislation ..	0	504,803	n.a.
Offsetting receipts .....	– 834,250	– 834,301	n.a.
Total, Previously Enacted .....	1,220,636	1,631,161	2,681,976
Enacted Legislation:			
Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act (P.L. 114–182) .....	2	1	0
Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act (P.L. 114–187) .....	200	200	200
Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act of 2016 (P.L. 114–190) .....	– 3	– 3	0
Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 (P.L. 114–198) ..	– 9	– 9	0
Continuing Appropriations and Military Construction, Veteran Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017, and Zika Response and Preparedness Act (P.L. 114–223) ..	124,397	109,980	0
Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2016 (P.L. 114–228) .....	– 1	– 1	0
United States Appreciation for Olympians and Paralympians Act of 2016 (P.L. 114–239) ..	0	0	– 1
Treatment of Certain Payments in Eugenics Compensation Act (P.L. 114–241) .....	3	3	0
Total, Enacted Legislation .....	124,589	110,171	199
Continuing Resolution: Continuing Appropriations and Military Construction, Veteran Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017, and Zika Response and Preparedness Act (P.L. 114–223) ..	1,037,435	616,126	0
Entitlements and Mandatories: Budget resolution estimates of appropriated entitlements and other mandatory programs ..	914,848	895,267	0
Total Current Level <sup>c</sup> .....	3,297,508	3,252,725	2,682,175
Total Senate Resolution <sup>d</sup> ..	3,212,522	3,219,513	2,681,976
Current Level Over Senate Resolution .....	84,986	33,212	199

TABLE 2.—SUPPORTING DETAIL FOR THE SENATE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT FOR ON-BUDGET SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017, AS OF NOVEMBER 14, 2016—Continued

(In millions of dollars)			
	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Current Level Under Senate Resolution .....	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Memorandum: Revenues, 2017–2026:			
Senate Current Level .....	n.a.	n.a.	32,351,292
Senate Resolution .....	n.a.	n.a.	32,350,752
Current Level Over Senate Resolution .....	n.a.	n.a.	540
Current Level Under Senate Resolution .....	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Source: Congressional Budget Office.			
Notes: n.a. = not applicable; P.L. = Public Law.			
<sup>a</sup> Division A of P.L. 114–223 contains the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017; those amounts are shown in the “Enacted Legislation” portion of this table. Division C of P.L. 114–223, the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017, provides funding through December 9, 2016; those amounts are shown in the “Continuing Resolution” portion of this table. In addition, certain provisions included in Divisions B–D of P.L. 114–223 provide supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2016 which would result in additional outlays in fiscal year 2017 within the jurisdiction of various subcommittees. CBO estimates that:			
Division B would result in an additional \$344 million in outlays in fiscal year 2017 from funding for emergency requirements;			
Section 145 of Division C would result in an additional \$1 million in outlays in fiscal year 2017 from funding for emergency requirements and an additional \$10 million from funding for disaster relief; and			
Division D would result in a decrease of \$34 million in outlays in fiscal year 2017 from funding for emergency requirements.			
<sup>b</sup> Emergency funding that was not designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 shall not count for certain budgetary enforcement purposes. These amounts, which are not included in the current level totals, are as follows:			
	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Continuing Appropriations and Military Construction, Veteran Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017, and Zika Response and Preparedness Act (P.L. 114–223) .....	– 2	– 1	0
<sup>c</sup> For purposes of enforcing section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act in the Senate, the resolution, as approved by the Senate, does not include budget authority, outlays, or revenues for off-budget amounts. As a result, current level does not include these items.			
<sup>d</sup> Periodically, the Senate Committee on the Budget revises the budgetary levels printed in the Congressional Record on April 19, 2016, pursuant to section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and section 102 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–74):			
	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Original Senate Resolution: .....	3,212,350	3,219,191	2,681,976
Revisions:			
Pursuant to section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and section 102 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 .....	172	322	0
Revised Senate Resolution .....	3,212,522	3,219,513	2,681,976

TABLE 3.—SUMMARY OF THE SENATE PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARD FOR THE 114TH CONGRESS, AS OF NOVEMBER 14, 2016

(In millions of dollars)			2016–2021	2016–2026
Beginning Balance <sup>a</sup> .....			0	0
Enacted Legislation: <sup>b c d</sup>				
Breast Cancer Awareness Commemorative Coin Act (P.L. 114–148) <sup>e</sup> .....			0	0
Protect and Preserve International Cultural Property Act (P.L. 114–151) ..			*	*
Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016 (P.L. 114–153) .....			*	*
Transnational Drug Trafficking Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–154) .....			*	*
A bill to direct the Administrator of General Services, on behalf of the Archivist of the United States, to convey certain Federal property located in the State of Alaska to the Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska (P.L. 114–161) .....			*	*
To take certain Federal lands located in Lassen County, California, into trust for the benefit of the Susanville Indian Rancheria, and for other purposes (P.L. 114–181) ..			– 5	1
Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act (P.L. 114–182) ..			*	*
FOIA Improvement Act of 2016 (P.L. 114–185) .....			*	*
Fraud Reduction and Data Analytics Act of 2015 (P.L. 114–186) .....			0	0
Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act (P.L. 114–187) <sup>f</sup> ..			– 33	– 8
FAA Extension, Safety, and Security Act of 2016 (P.L. 114–190) .....			*	*
Venezuela Defense of Human Rights and Civil Society Extension Act of 2016 (P.L. 114–194) ..			*	*
United States Semiquincentennial Commission Act of 2016 (P.L. 114–196) ..			*	*
Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 (P.L. 114–198) .....			119	– 54
Making Electronic Government Accountable By Yielding Tangible Efficiencies Act of 2016 (P.L. 114–210) ..			*	*
John F. Kennedy Centennial Commission Act (P.L. 114–215) .....			*	*
A bill to reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes (P.L. 114–216) ..			*	*
Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act (P.L. 114–221) ..			*	*
Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act (P.L. 114–222) .....			*	*
Continuing Appropriations and Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017, and Zika Response and Preparedness Act (P.L. 114–223) ..			*	1
Virgin Islands of the United States Centennial Commission Act (P.L. 114–224) ..			*	*
West Los Angeles Leasing Act of 2016 (P.L. 114–226) .....			– 12	18
Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2016 (P.L. 114–228) ..			0	0
Eliminate, Neutralize, and Disrupt Wildlife Trafficking Act of 2016 (P.L. 114–231) ..			*	*

TABLE 3—SUMMARY OF THE SENATE PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARD FOR THE 114TH CONGRESS, AS OF NOVEMBER 14, 2016—Continued  
(In millions of dollars)

	2016–2021	2016–2026
Nevada Native Nations Land Act (P.L. 114–232) .....	*	*
Survivors' Bill of Rights of 2016 (P.L. 114–236) .....	*	*
United States Appreciation for Olympians and Paralympians Act of 2016 (P.L. 114–239) .....	2	3
Treatment of Certain Payments in Eugenics Compensation Act (P.L. 114–241) .....	3	4
Alice Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children Act (P.L. 114–244) .....	*	*
Federal Communications Commission Consolidated Reporting Act of 2015 (S. 253) .....	*	*
Program Management Improvement Accountability Act (S. 1550) .....	*	*
Current Balance .....	74	–35
Memorandum:		
	2016–2021	2016–2026
Changes to Revenues .....	408	540
Changes to Outlays .....	482	505

Source: Congressional Budget Office.  
Notes: n.e. = not able to estimate; P.L. = Public Law; FOIA = Freedom of Information Act; FAA = Federal Aviation Administration. \* = between –\$500,000 and \$500,000.  
a Pursuant to the statement printed in the Congressional Record on April 18, 2016, the Senate Pay-As-You-Go Scorecard was reset to zero.  
b The amounts shown represent the estimated effect of the public laws on the deficit. Negative numbers indicate an increase in the deficit; positive numbers indicate a decrease in the deficit.  
c Excludes off-budget amounts.  
d Excludes amounts designated as emergency requirements.  
e CBO estimates that P.L. 114–148 will cause a decrease in spending of \$7 million in 2018 and an increase in spending of \$7 million in 2020, resulting in a net effect on the deficit of zero over the six-year and eleven-year periods.  
f CBO estimates that P.L. 114–187 will cause an increase in spending over the six-year and eleven-year periods but would also increase revenues by the same amount over the same periods resulting in a net effect on the deficit of zero over the six-year and eleven-year periods.

ENFORCEMENT REPORT OF LEGISLATION POST-BIPARTISAN BUDGET ACT OF 2015 ENFORCEMENT FILING

Vote	Date	Measure	Violation	Motion to Waive <sup>f</sup>	Result
53	April 19, 2016 .....	S. Amdt. 3787 (Sen. Paul, R-KY) to S. Amdt. 2953 to S. 2012 (Energy Policy Modernization Act of 2015).	311(a)(2)(B)—Revenues reduced below levels assumed in the budget resolution <sup>a</sup> .	Sen. Paul (R-KY) .....	33–64, Not Waived
76	May 19, 2016 .....	S. Amdt. 3900 (Sen. Blunt, R-MO) to S. Amdt. 3896 to H.R. 2577 (Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act of 2017).	314(e)—Inclusion of emergency designations pursuant to Sec. 251 of BBEDCA <sup>b</sup> .	Sen. Collins (R-ME) .....	70–28, Waived
79	May 19, 2016 .....	S. Amdt. 4039 (Sen. McCain, R-AZ) to S. Amdt. 3896 to H.R. 2577 (Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act of 2017).	314(e)—Inclusion of emergency designations pursuant to Sec. 251 of BBEDCA <sup>b</sup> .	Sen. McCain (R-AZ) .....	84–14, Waived
115	June 29, 2016 .....	House Amendment to S. 2328, the vehicle for the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act (PROMESA).	425(a)(2)—Unfunded intergovernmental mandate in excess of limit <sup>d</sup> .	Sen. Hatch (R-UT) .....	85–13, Waived
139	September 14, 2016 .....	S. Amdt. 4979 (Sen. Inhofe, R-OK) to S. 2848, Water Resources Development Act of 2016.	201(a) of S. Con. Res. 21—Increase in deficits in violation of the Senate's Pay-As-You-Go Rule <sup>e</sup> .	Sen. Inhofe (R-OK) .....	85–12, Waived

<sup>a</sup> At the time of consideration, a point estimate was unavailable for the Paul amendment. However, it was estimated that it would decrease revenues below the levels assumed in the budget resolution.  
<sup>b</sup> This amendment designated \$1.1 billion in outlays as being for emergency purposes. This funding, which was not offset, would be used to combat the Zika virus.  
<sup>c</sup> This amendment designated \$7.7 billion in outlays as being for emergency purposes. This funding, which was not offset, would be used to extend the Veterans Choice Program.  
<sup>d</sup> In its estimate for PROMESA, the Congressional Budget Office found that the bill would impose a number of mandates on the territorial government of Puerto Rico and its instrumentalities. The costs of these mandates on public entities would exceed the annual threshold in UMRA for intergovernmental mandates (\$77 million in 2016, adjusted annually for inflation).  
<sup>e</sup> This amendment, as amended, triggered multiple points of order for increases in direct spending over all enforceable time periods. In particular, the amendment increased deficits by \$299 million over the 2016–2026 period.  
<sup>f</sup> Unless otherwise noted, the motion to waive was offered pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

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

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

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 16–53, concerning the Department of the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the United Kingdom for defense

articles and services estimated to cost \$1.00 billion. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,  
J. W. RIXEY,  
Vice Admiral, USN, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 16–53

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: United Kingdom  
(ii) Total Estimated Value:  
Major Defense Equipment\* \$780 million.  
Other \$220 million.  
Total \$1.00 billion.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):  
Twenty-six (26) Certifiable Predator B Remotely Piloted Aircraft (16 with option for additional 10).

Twelve (12) Advanced Ground Control Stations (GCSs) (8 with option for additional 4).

Four (4) New Launch and Recovery Element GCSs.

Four (4) Upgrades to existing Blk 15 Launch and Recovery Element GCSs (2 with option for additional 2).

Twenty-five (25) Multi-spectral Targeting Systems (12 + 2 spares, with option for additional 10+1 spare).

Twenty-five (25) AN/APY–8 Lynx IIe Block 20A Synthetic Aperture Radar and Ground Moving Target Indicators (SAR/GMTI) (12 + 2 spares, with option for additional 10 + 1 spare).

Eighty-six (86) Embedded Global Positioning System/Inertial Guidance Units (EGIs) (3 per aircraft) (48 + 5 spares, with option for additional 30 + 3 spares).

Non-MDE include: Non-MDE items include: communications equipment, Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) equipment, weapons installation kits, and TPE331–10YGD engines. In addition, the package provides a unique and common spares package, support equipment, U.S. Air Force technical orders, country specific technical orders, Contractor Logistics Support for two (optional three) years, contractor provided aircraft components, spares, and accessories, training, and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (X6–D–SAC).

(v) 5 Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Armed to be Paid: None.

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

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: November 16, 2016.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

United Kingdom—Certifiable Predator B Remotely Piloted Aircraft

The United Kingdom (UK) requested a possible sale of up to twenty-six (26) Certifiable Predator B Remotely Piloted Aircraft (16 with option for additional 10); twelve (12) Advanced Ground Control Stations (GCSs) (8 with option for additional 4); four (4) New Launch and Recovery Element GCSs; four (4) Upgrades to existing Blk 15 Launch and Recovery Element GCSs (2 with option for additional 2); twenty-five (25) Multi-spectral Targeting Systems (12 + 2 spares, with option for additional 10 + 1 spare); twenty-five (25) AN/

APY-8 Lynx Iie Block 20A Synthetic Aperture Radar and Ground Moving Target Indicators (SAR/GMTI) (12 + 2 spares, with option for additional 10 + 1 spare); Eighty-six (86) Embedded Global Positioning System/Inertial Guidance Units (EGIs) (3 per aircraft) (48 + 5 spares, with option for additional 30 + 3 spares). This sale also includes communications equipment, Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) equipment; weapons installation kits; TPE331-10YGD engines; unique and common spares package; support equipment; U.S. Air Force technical orders; country specific technical orders; Contractor Logistics Support for two (optional three) years; contractor provided aircraft components, spares, and accessories; personnel training; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The total estimated program cost is \$1.0 billion.

The UK is a close ally and an important partner on critical foreign policy and defense issues. The proposed sale will enhance U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives by enhancing the UK's capabilities to provide national defense and contribute to NATO and coalition operations.

This sale will improve the UK's ability to meet current and future threats by providing improved Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) coverage that enhances homeland security, promotes increased battlefield situational awareness, augments combat search and rescue, and provides ground troop support. The Certifiable Predator B will also be used to support the UK's armed forces and coalition forces engaged in current and future peacekeeping, peace-enforcing, counter-insurgent, and counterterrorism operations. The UK already operates armed remotely piloted aircraft, the MQ-9 Reaper, and will have no difficulty transitioning to the Certifiable Predator B.

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

The principal contractors will be General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. in San Diego, California. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the UK.

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

#### TRANSMITTAL NO. 16-53

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

#### Annex Item No. vii

##### (vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Certifiable Predator B (CPB) Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA) is a weapons-capable aircraft designed for medium to high altitude-long endurance Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR), Target Acquisition, and Strike missions. Protector (formerly known as Scavenger) represents the CPB as modified to a UK-specific configuration which includes the design, development and integration of a UK-specific weapons installation kit for employment of UK-produced weapons (Paveway IV and Brimstone II). Building upon the legacy of Predator B's proven success, CPB/Protector provides up to 40 hours endurance, speeds up to 220 knots true air speed (KTAS) and a maximum altitude of 45,000 feet. The system is designed to be controlled by two operators within an Advanced Ground Control Station (AGCS). The AGCS is designed to emulate a reconnaissance aircraft cockpit, giving users extensive means to operate both the aircraft and sensors. CPB/Protector is able to operate

using a direct Line-of-Sight (LOS) datalink or can be operated Beyond Line-of-Sight (BLOS) using satellite communications (SATCOM). The design enables unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) control to be handed off between multiple AGCSs thus allowing remote-split operations and centralized mission control with other assets. The CPB/Protector system can be deployed from a single site that supports launch, recovery, mission control, and maintenance. The system also supports remote-split operations where launch, recovery, and maintenance occur at a Forward Operating Base and mission control is conducted from another geographically separated location, or Main Operating Base (MOB).

2. The United Kingdom CPB/Protector system includes the following components.

a. A secure Advanced CGCS with workstations that allow operators to control and monitor the aircraft, as well as record and exploit downlinked payload data.

b. The unclassified General Atomics AN/APY-8 Block 20 Lynx Iie Synthetic Aperture Radar and Ground Moving Target Indicator (SAR/GMTI) system provides an all-weather surveillance, tracking and targeting capability. The AN/APY-8 Block 20 operates in the Ku band, using an offset-fed dish antenna mounted on a three-axis stabilized gimbal. It has a large field of regard, produces a strip map and can image up to a 10km wide swath. Swaths from multiple passes can be combined for wide-area surveillance.

c. The Raytheon Multi-spectral Targeting System with Laser Target Designator (LTD) and multi-use Electro-Optical (EO)/Infra-Red (IR) sensor provides long-range surveillance, high-altitude target acquisition, tracking, and range-finding with capabilities up to and including high definition color TV, high definition short-wave IR, medium-wave IR, and long wave IR sensors.

d. The weapons installation kit enables the integration of UK-produced munitions (Paveway IV and Brimstone II) onto the Protector platform. The integration of these munitions requires specialized non-recurring engineering work which will be performed by the platform OEM in the United States.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware or software in this proposed sale, any information gleaned from exploitation of hardware, publications and software could be used to develop countermeasures (electronic, infrared, or other types) as well as offensive and defensive counter-tactics and allow an adversary to exploit those vulnerabilities during combat.

4. A determination has been made that the recipient country can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the US Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the United Kingdom.

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 16-43, concerning the Department of the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Republic of Korea for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$141 million. After this letter is delivered to your

office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

J. W. RIXEY,  
Vice Admiral, USN, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 16-43

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Republic of Korea

(ii) Total Estimated Value:  
Major Defense Equipment\* \$41 million.  
Other \$100 million.  
Total \$141 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: The Government of the Republic of Korea has requested the sale and installation of AN/AAQ-24(V) Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) systems on up to four (4) A-330 Multi-Role Tanker and Transport (MRTT) aircraft. Each LAIRCM system consists of three (3) Guardian Laser Terminal Assemblies (GLTA), six (6) Ultra-Violet Missile Warning System (UVMWS) Sensors AN/AAR-54, one (1) LAIRCM System Processor Replacements (LSPR), one (1) Control Indicator Unit Replacement (CIUR), one (1) Smart Card Assembly (SCA), one (1) High Capacity Card (HCC), and a User Data Memory (UDM) card.

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Twenty-six (26) GLTA AN/AAQ-24(V) (12 + 14 spares).

Twelve (12) LSPR AN/AAQ-24(V) (4 + 8 spares).

Fifty-four (54) UVMWS Sensors AN/AAR-54 (24 + 30 spares).

Non-MDE include: CIURs, SCAs, HCCs, UDM cards, initial spares and repair parts, consumables, support equipment, technical data, engineering change proposals, minor modifications, publications, Field Service Representatives (FSRs), repair and return, depot maintenance, training and training equipment, contractor technical and logistics personnel services, U.S. Government and contractor representative support, Group A and B installation support, flight test and certification, selective availability anti-spoofing module (SAASM) Global Positioning System, and other related elements of logistics support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force.

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

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

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

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: November 16, 2016.

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

#### POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Republic of Korea—Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) System

The Government of the Republic of Korea (ROK) has requested the sale and installation of AN/AAQ-24(V) Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) systems for up to four (4) A-330 Multi-Role Tanker and Transport (MRTT) aircraft. Each LAIRCM system consists of the following major defense equipment (MDE): three (3) Guardian Laser Terminal Assemblies (GLTA), six (6) Ultra-Violet Missile Warning System (UVMWS) Sensors AN/AAR-54, one (1) LAIRCM System Processor Replacement (LSPR), one (1) Control Indicator Unit Replacement (CIUR), one (1) Smart Card Assembly (SCA), one (1) High Capacity Card (HCC), and User Data Memory (UDM) card. The sale includes spares bringing the MDE

total to twenty-six (26) GLTAs, twelve (12) LSPRs, and fifty-four (54) UVMWS Sensors AN/AAR-54.

The sale also includes the following non-MDE items: CIURs, SCAs, HHCs, UDM Cards, initial spares and repair parts, consumables, support equipment, technical data, engineering change proposals, minor modifications, publications, Field Service Representatives' (FSRs), repair and return, depot maintenance, training and training equipment, contractor technical and logistics personnel services, U.S. Government and contractor representative support, Group A and B installation support, flight test and certification, selective availability anti-spoofing module (SAASM) Global Positioning System, and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost is \$141 million.

The ROK is procuring the LAIRCM system to defend and protect its future aerial refueling and troop transport capabilities. This helps the ROK Air Force become more capable of sustaining and projecting air power across large distances and transporting its forces and fighter aircraft for both operational and training missions with less reliance on foreign partners, such as the United States. The ROK will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

This proposed sale contributes to the foreign policy and national security of the United States. The ROK is one of the major political and economic powers in East Asia and the Western Pacific and a key partner of the United States in ensuring peace and stability in that region. It is vital to U.S. national interests to assist our Korean ally in developing and maintain a strong and ready self-defense capability. This sale increases the ROK's capability to participate in Pacific regional security operations and improves its national security posture as a key U.S. ally.

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

This sale includes provisions for one (1) FSR to live in Korea for up to two years. Implementation of this proposed sale requires multiple temporary trips to Korea involving U.S. Government or contractor representatives over a period of up to six (6) years for program execution, delivery, technical support, and training.

The principal contractor is Northrop Grumman Corporation, Rolling Meadows, IL. At this time, there are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 16-43

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

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The AN/AAQ-24(V) Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) is a self-contained, directed energy countermeasures system designed to protect aircraft from infrared-guided surface-to-air missiles. The system features digital technology and micro-miniature solid-state electronics. The system operates in all conditions, detecting incoming missiles and jamming infrared-seeker equipped missiles with aimed bursts of laser energy. The LAIRCM system consists of multiple Ultra-Violet Missile Warning System (UVMWS) Sensors AN/AAR-54, Guardian Laser Turret Assembly (GLTA), LAIRCM System Processor Replacement (LSPR), Control Indicator Unit Replacement (CIUR), and a classified High Capacity Card (HCC), and User Data Memory (UDM) card. The HCC is loaded into the CIUR prior to

flight. When the classified HCC is not in use, it is removed from the CIUR and placed in onboard secure storage. LAIRCM Line Replaceable Unit (LRU) hardware is classified SECRET when the HCC is inserted into the CIUR. LAIRCM system software, including Operational Flight Program is classified SECRET. Technical data and documentation to be provided are UNCLASSIFIED.

a. The set of UVMWS Sensor units (AN/AAR-54) are mounted on the aircraft exterior to provide omni-directional protection. The UVMWS detects the rocket plume of missiles and sends appropriate data signals to the LSPR for processing. The LSPR analyzes the data from each UVMWS Sensor and automatically deploys the appropriate countermeasure via the GLTA. The CIUR displays the incoming threat.

b. The AN/AAR-54 UVMWS Sensor warns of threat missile approach by detecting radiation associated with the rocket motor. The AN/AAR-54 is a small, lightweight, passive, electro-optic, threat warning device used to detect surface-to-air missiles fired at helicopters and low-flying fixed-wing aircraft and automatically provide countermeasures, as well as audio and visual warning messages to the aircrew. The basic system consists of multiple UVMWS Sensor units, three (3) GLTAs, a LSPR, and a CIUR. The set of UVMWS units (each A-330 MRTT has six (6)) are mounted on the aircraft exterior to provide omni-directional protection. Hardware is UNCLASSIFIED. Software is SECRET. Technical data and documentation to be provided are UNCLASSIFIED.

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

3. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy justification. Moreover, the benefits to be derived from this sale, as outlined in the Policy Justification, outweigh the potential damage that could result if the sensitive technology were revealed to unauthorized persons.

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

#### RECOGNIZING DOUG PETERSON

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I wish to congratulate Doug Peterson today as he retires as President of the Minnesota Farmers Union. I join the thousands of farmers, ranchers, small businesses, and residents of rural Minnesota in thanking Doug for his leadership over the years and for being such a tireless advocate for Minnesota farmers.

Doug has made agriculture, advocacy, and public service his life's work. Prior to his election as State president of the Minnesota Farmers Union in 2002, Doug served in the Minnesota House of Representatives for 12 years, representing a district comprised of Big Stone, Chippewa, Lac Qui Parle, and Swift Counties in western Minnesota.

Minnesota has taken an incredibly proactive and innovative approach to energy use and sustainability. In fact, we are considered a national leader for

boosting bioenergy. Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis once called States the "laboratories of democracy," and when it comes to Minnesota being a laboratory for renewable fuels, we have Doug Peterson to thank.

While he was in the Minnesota House of Representatives, he authored the legislation that established a State-wide ethanol fuels requirement. Because of Doug's work at the State level in steering us toward energy independence, we have seen Federal renewable energy policy being modeled after the groundwork he laid in Minnesota.

In addition to writing landmark legislation and advocating on behalf of greater Minnesota, what some people may not know about Doug is that he is also an accomplished artist and former art teacher. My office in Washington even has one of Doug's paintings on loan and prominently featured. The painting is a depiction of several freshly caught fish, tessellated in shades of orange, purple, and blue. Doug called the artwork "Dead Fish," and I always joke with his members that the painting is much more attractive than the name suggests.

During my time in the Senate, I have had the great opportunity to work on two farm bills with Doug leading the Minnesota Farmers Union: the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 and the Agricultural Act of 2014. I have seen the dedication he brings to leading the discussion about how to keep agricultural producers competitive, and I will miss his guidance and friendship.

Mr. FRANKEN. Mr. President, today, on behalf of all Minnesotans, I rise to thank my good friend—and a real jewel in the crown of Minnesota agriculture—Doug Peterson, as he retires as president of the Minnesota Farmers Union after 14 years of leading that important organization.

To say family farming is important to Minnesota is an understatement. One in five jobs in our State is connected to agriculture, and as Doug often told me, when Minnesota farmers and ranchers succeed, prosperity follows.

In all, Doug spent four decades as an influential voice on farm policy, as a family farmer, a State legislator, and, since 2002, as head of the Minnesota Farmers Union. It is fair to say that a great many national, State, and local leaders have looked to Doug not only for advice and counsel, but also to publicly lead the fight on behalf of our family farmers, ranchers, and rural communities. And I have to tell you, after going through the last farm bill debate, he is one hell of a fighter, and our State and our farmers have reaped the benefits of his work many times over.

For me, as a Senator, Doug was an important mentor. He helped teach me what it takes to put crops in the ground and to get that same crop to market. He also invited me to visit farms across the State to see firsthand

the time, expense, and hard work required to raise a bushel of corn or soybeans, a ton of sugar beets, or to produce a gallon of milk. Those lessons have been important to me as I have fought for Minnesota producers in the Senate.

Doug has always known how important our farmers and ranchers are to our Nation's food security and, thus, our national security. And he worked hard to ensure that people in Minnesota and across the country knew how critical our producers are to feeding a world with a growing population.

As our Nation increasingly comes to grips with the causes and seriousness of climate change, it is important to point out that Doug was on the leading edge of Minnesota's clean energy transition for several decades. As a State legislator, he was instrumental in making Minnesota a national leader in ethanol production. As a champion for renewable energy, his priority was not only to reduce our reliance on foreign oil and to cut our use of fossil fuels, but also to create badly needed jobs and economic development in rural communities across Minnesota.

Doug has always been a tireless fighter for family farmers, and he pushed hard against the excessive concentration of foreign and corporate power in U.S. agriculture because those forces were pushing food prices up for American consumers. He knew that our Nation's network of family farms have always delivered a safe, abundant, and affordable food supply to the American people, while receiving just 18 cents of every dollar spent on food in this country. That is a pretty good deal by any measure and one that more Americans should appreciate.

So, to Doug, I say a heartfelt thank you for your years of important work, your friendship, and for teaching us all about how important Minnesota farming is to our State, to our Nation, and to the world. Your service has made a positive difference to a generation of Minnesota producers, and the work you have done will continue to serve our State well, long into the future.

I wish you and your wife, Elly, your two sons, and your entire family the best of luck in the future, and I hope you continue to thrive in your well-earned retirement.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. I thank my colleague for his statement and agree.

Doug Peterson has served the Minnesota Farmers Union for 14 years, the Minnesota State House of Representatives for 12 years, and the Minnesota public education system for 20 years. Whether it has been through writing and advocating legislation, painting on a canvas, or educating students, for nearly 40 years Doug Peterson has been leaving his mark. That is why I am proud to honor him today on his retirement from the Minnesota Farmers Union.

#### TRAIL OF TEARS NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, in honor of the National Park Service's 100th birthday year, I would like to recognize the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail, which covers nine States and thousands of miles of land and water routes.

The Trail of Tears is rooted in a painful, unfortunate time for our Nation. Following the passage of the Indian Removal Act of 1830, five tribes were forced from their homes and into what is now modern-day Oklahoma. These five major Southeast tribes consisted of Cherokee, Choctaw, Muscogee, Chickasaw, and Seminole Indians. The trail gets its name from the painful trips these individuals took across the country as disease, desertion, and death characterized many of their journeys.

Arkansas is a State full of rich history and heritage. While it is sometimes painful to recall, the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail is a critical part of that history. The National Park Service gave this trail this distinction in an effort to preserve the story of the forced migration of these Native Americans. We must learn from the mistakes of our past so we do not repeat them in the future.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO TRAVIS WOOD

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate Travis Wood, an Arkansan who is a member of the 2016 World Series Champion Chicago Cubs.

Travis was born in Little Rock, AR. He comes from an athletic family and demonstrated his potential on the baseball diamond early. He gained national notice as a member of Bryant's 15-year-old All-Stars team when he pitched a no-hitter and struck out 17 batters at the Babe Ruth World Series.

Travis played baseball at Bryant High School, where he was a three-time All-State selection and helped lead the Bryant Hornets to the State championship game in his junior season. He went on to win more accolades, including Saline County "Male Athlete of the Year" and the Arkansas Gatorade "Player of the Year" in addition to being named to the Louisville Slugger High School All-American team and the Louisville Slugger "Player of the Year" in Arkansas.

After high school, Travis began his professional baseball career when he was drafted 60th overall by the Cincinnati Reds. He made his major league debut for the Reds against the Cubs at Wrigley Field on July 1, 2010.

Wood was traded to the Cubs in 2011 and was named to the National League All-Star Team in 2013. This season, Travis was an integral part of the Cubs' bullpen, going 4-0 with a 2.95 ERA in 77 appearances.

While he's known for his impressive pitching repertoire, Travis has also had

success in the batter's box throughout his career. That was on full display in game 2 of this year's National League Division Series, when he hit a 393-foot solo homerun against the Giants and helped propel the Cubs to a 2-0 lead in the series.

Travis has continued to impress throughout his professional career, and Arkansas is extremely proud of him. We are so excited for Travis and his teammates, who were able to come back from a 3-1 series deficit to win the World Series, the first time the Chicago Cubs have done so in 108 years.

Travis Wood is a great ambassador for the Natural State, and I am pleased to recognize his achievements. Congratulations, Travis and the entire Chicago Cubs organization, on a historic World Series championship.●

#### RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS

• Mr. FRANKEN. Mr. President, today I would like to recognize the 30th anniversary of post-secondary enrollment options for high school students and the former Governor of Minnesota, Rudy Perpich, who founded this program.

Mr. Perpich was the longest serving Governor of Minnesota and a proud member of the Democratic farm and labor party in our great State. Since 1986, Minnesota's high school juniors and seniors have had the opportunity to participate in courses at the college level for dual credit and at no cost to the student or their family. The program has even grown now to allow sophomores to participate. This has made the transition between high school and college so much easier and affordable for our students. I have been honored to continue this effort in the Senate as we reformed the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Schools across the country can now invest in accelerated learning programs, including dual enrollment programs, like post-secondary enrollment options, as part of their efforts to provide students with a well-rounded education.

In 2014, more than 9,000 Minnesota students took advantage of post-secondary enrollment option courses. With the growing cost of college, it is more important than ever that we continue to champion opportunities for students to save. Today I would like to honor Governor Rudy Perpich for investing in the education of our children and working to make higher education more accessible and affordable for all students.●

##### TRIBUTE TO JULIA RATTI

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate Councilwoman Julia Ratti of Sparks on her retirement. After serving as a member of the Sparks City Council for 8 years, Councilwoman Ratti retired on November 14, 2016. It gives me great pleasure to

congratulate her on many years of hard work for the city of Sparks and her recent election to the Nevada State Senate.

As a graduate of the University of Nevada at Reno, UNR, Councilwoman Ratti is an exemplary role model who is truly devoted to the citizens of Sparks and Nevada. Before she was elected to the Sparks City Council, Councilwoman Ratti founded and served as president of Strategic Management Services, a consultant firm providing nonprofit and government services. Additionally, Councilwoman Ratti worked as an influential leader for young women as a Girl Scouts of the USA nonprofit manager and former executive.

Since her first term as councilwoman in 2008, she remained committed to helping the Sparks community by serving as a strong advocate for initiatives that helped meet the needs of the city's most vulnerable. Specifically, as chair of the city's redevelopment agency, Councilwoman Ratti focused on improving infrastructure and development in areas around Victorian Square, as well as refining recreational facilities. She also served on the Washoe County District Board of Health, Truckee Meadows Water Authority, Capital Funding Protection Committee and Oversight Committee for School Facilities, and the Sparks Legislative Team.

Councilwoman Ratti's impact on local businesses and her relentless advocacy for improving the Sparks community should serve as an example to all. Her steadfast support for the children of Sparks, as well as her entire constituency, will be remembered and missed. Councilwoman Ratti's leadership and achieved success throughout northern Nevada proves her dedication to community service, and she should be proud of her accomplishments throughout her tenure as a Sparks city councilwoman. I am grateful for her commitment to Sparks and to the great State of Nevada.

Today I ask that all of my colleagues join me in congratulating Councilwoman Ratti on his retirement, and I offer my deepest appreciation for all that she has done for Sparks and Nevada. I offer my best wishes for many fulfilling years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO RON SCHMITT

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate Councilman Ron Schmitt, of Sparks, on his retirement. After serving as a member of the Sparks City Council for 15 years, Councilman Schmitt retired on November 14, 2016. It gives me great pleasure to congratulate him on his retirement after many years of hard work and dedication to the city of Sparks.

Councilman Schmitt is an outstanding example of someone who is devoted to improving their community. Upon moving to the Silver State and living in the Sparks area for more than

two decades, Northern Nevada has greatly benefitted from Councilman Schmitt's leadership in and out of public office. Before taking on the role as city councilman in 2001, Councilman Schmitt served on the Washoe County Human Services Consortium Advisory Board as member and chair, the Sparks Planning Commission, and the Sparks Citizens Advisory Committee. Mr. Schmitt was also a member of the National League of Cities and Municipalities and once served on its board of directors.

Since his first term as city councilman, he consistently remained committed to the people of Sparks and has been a strong advocate for initiatives that meet the needs of families. Additionally, while in office, Councilman Schmitt managed RPS Consultant Enterprise, as principal, served as president of the Nevada League of Cities and Municipalities, NLCM, and was selected as the "Public Official of the Year" by the NLCM in 2005. He also dedicated much of his time to the Regional Transportation Commission Paratransit Advisory Committee and the crisis call center.

Councilman Schmitt's participation in local business and community programs led him to be a tremendous leader within local government. His unwavering support and focus to ensuring the needs of his constituency were met will be truly missed. Councilman Schmitt remains a prominent leader and will continue to advocate on behalf of the Sparks community. He exemplifies the highest standards of community service and should be proud of his long and meaningful career. I am grateful for his loyalty and commitment to Sparks and to the great State of Nevada.

Today I ask that all of my colleagues join me in congratulating Councilman Schmitt on his retirement, and I offer my deepest appreciation for all that he has done for Sparks and Nevada. I offer my best wishes for many successful and fulfilling years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JANET SNYDER

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Janet Snyder for tirelessly supporting Nevada's veterans and military families, particularly military spouses and widows. Mrs. Snyder is dedicated to giving back to the brave men and women who defend our freedom and has contributed greatly to the Las Vegas military community and to the greater good of the Silver State.

Mrs. Snyder understands the many sacrifices military families make on a daily basis. As an army wife, mother of three, grandmother of six, and great-grandmother of five, she stands as a shining example of someone who has devoted her life to the betterment of others, selflessly serving to advocate for the interests of our Nation's heroes and their families each day. Her dedication reminds us all of the importance of thanking the men and women serving this great Nation, as well as their families, for their countless sacrifices.

Since the passing of her husband of 52 years, Mrs. Snyder has provided unwavering support and care for military widows as president of several military wives clubs and support groups. In fact, Mrs. Snyder was recently installed as president of the National Society of Military Widows in October of 2016. The Silver State is grateful and honored to have a Nevadan leading this critical organization. Additionally, Mrs. Snyder is the secretary and acting treasurer of the Society of Military Widows of Southern Nevada Chapter 34 and was also the founding president from 2012 to 2015. Mrs. Snyder is also an active member of multiple religious groups. She was editor of the Military Jewish Chapel Newsletter and directed and participated in many projects with local religious leaders from Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish communities.

Mrs. Snyder is also known for her outstanding advocacy for military widows by fighting against unfair benefit adjustments that negatively impact families of deceased veterans. Specifically, she has played a pivotal role in fighting for legislation, S. 979, to reverse the offset of the Survivor Benefit Plan, SBP, and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, DIC, programs so that spouses of late military retirees fairly receive their deserved benefits without any deductions. As a cosponsor of this bill in the Senate and as a member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, I truly admire Mrs. Snyder's commitment to these families and believe she is an extraordinary role model to all Nevadans.

Mrs. Snyder's hard work has not gone unnoticed. I extend my deepest gratitude to Mrs. Snyder for her noble contributions to the Las Vegas military community. Her service to Nevada places her among the most remarkable men and women of the State, and acknowledgement of her dedication is well deserved.

I ask my colleagues and all Nevadans to join me in recognizing Mrs. Snyder and her work with veterans and their families. Her efforts are both honorable and necessary. I wish her the best of luck in all of her future endeavors.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. MATTI VAZEEN

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Dr. Matti Vazeen, an incredible ophthalmologist, for the unwavering care and support he provides to all of his patients in northern Nevada. Dr. Vazeen stands as a true example of someone who has spent many years dedicated to the Silver State.

Before settling in Nevada, Dr. Vazeen studied at Northwestern University and completed his residency from Louisiana State University in New Orleans. He established himself in Northern Nevada in 1999 and has worked in the Carson Valley area ever since. Dr. Vazeen is a well-known, prominent eye physician who specializes in serving seniors. Many of Dr. Vazeen's patients rely on his expertise and appreciate his



humility as their physician. I am both humbled and honored to acknowledge Dr. Vazeen for his outstanding work and selfless commitment to his patients in our State's capital.

Dr. Vazeen has served on several industry-related boards, such as the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery. Dr. Vazeen has also performed charitable cataract surgery in developing countries and has hosted multiple speaking seminars at the Ispahani Islamia Eye Institute and Hospital in Bangladesh. Additionally, Dr. Vazeen was a pioneer in the establishment of a teaching exchange program between the University of California, Davis and the Islamia Institute, which facilitates developmental training for medical students finishing their residencies. Dr. Vazeen's years of service and commitment to helping others is truly inspiring and praiseworthy.

I am grateful for Dr. Vazeen's dedication to the people of Nevada. He exemplifies the highest standards of leadership and should be proud of his hard work that highly benefits many Nevadans. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Vazeen, and I give my deepest appreciation for all that he has done to make Nevada a better place. I offer him my best wishes for many fulfilling years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DALE SANDSTROM

● Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Dale Sandstrom, who is retiring from the North Dakota Supreme Court after 24 years of devoted service.

Justice Sandstrom is a fifth-generation North Dakotan. Born in Grand Forks, he grew up in Fargo and graduated first from North Dakota State University and then from the University of North Dakota School of Law.

After law school, Justice Sandstrom began his career in public service. He came to Washington, DC, to work under Senator Milton R. Young, who was North Dakota's 15th Senator and, for a time, President Pro Tempore of the U.S. Senate.

Justice Sandstrom returned to North Dakota to work on the North Dakota Criminal Justice Commission. He then served for 6 years as assistant attorney general and headed the office's Consumer Fraud and Antitrust Division. In 1981, North Dakota Governor Allen I. Olson appointed Justice Sandstrom to his cabinet as the State securities commissioner.

Two years later, in 1983, Justice Sandstrom was appointed to the North Dakota Public Service Commission, a position to which he was elected in 1984 and then reelected to in 1990. During his tenure on the commission, he served two terms as its president.

In 1992, Justice Sandstrom was elected to the North Dakota Supreme Court. He was reelected to two 10-year terms in 1996 and 2006 and was a member of the court during my time as Governor of North Dakota.

Justice Sandstrom chairs the North Dakota Supreme Court's Joint Procedure Committee and the North Dakota Advisory Commission on Cameras in the Courtroom. He is also a member of the court's Joint Committee on Attorney Standards and is a past chairman of the court's Technology Committee, the North Dakota Judicial Conference, and the North Dakota Judges Association.

North Dakotans have tremendous access to justice, and the State is a leader in court technology because of Justice Sandstrom's work. In 1996, he created the court's award-winning website, and in 2011, North Dakota became the first State in the country to have its entire trial court system on an electronic record system.

Justice Sandstrom is married to Gail Hagerty, who is a judge for the North Dakota South Central Judicial District. Together, they have three children and live in Bismarck.

Throughout his life, Justice Sandstrom has distinguished himself through his example of integrity and hard work, especially during his tenure on the North Dakota Supreme Court. He has shown not only outstanding knowledge of law, but also wisdom in applying it. He has been a mentor to his law clerks, as well as the State bar.

Outside of his work on the court, Justice Sandstrom is an active member in the Bismarck community. An Eagle Scout, he remains active in scouting and received the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award for his involvement.

We honor Justice Sandstrom for his excellent work, and we celebrate his achievements. His efforts have made our State a safer and better place to live, and we commemorate him for his dedication to the people of North Dakota. The court has been well-served by his thoughtful opinions from the bench, and North Dakota will always be grateful for his service to our State.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CYRIL KOFI GUNU

● Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I recognize Cyril "Kofi" Gunu, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Kofi is a graduate of Brandon High School in Brandon, SD. He attends Augustana University in Sioux Falls, where he studies economics and political science. He is a positive and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his experience and who has been a true asset to the office.

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

#### VERMONT FEDERAL EXECUTIVE ASSOCIATION 2016 AWARDS

● Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, to commemorate Public Recognition

Week, the Vermont Federal Executive Association—VTFEA—recognized the more than 4,000 Federal employees working across the State and the good work they do every day. I would like to offer special congratulations to the 2016 Excellence in Government award winners, who have been recognized by VTFEA for their exemplary government service: Vermont Federal Team of the Year Award, The Northwest Vermont Locality Pay Committee—Brandon Ackel, Transportation Security Administration; Robert Brugman, National Credit Union Administration; Brian Johansson, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services; Kelly Larsen, Federal Aviation Administration, Alaska; Bruce McDonald, Transportation Security Administration; Sean McVey, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; Mark Nielsen, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; Jeff Ostlund, Transportation Security Administration; Corey Price, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Texas; Lisa Rees, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services; Diana Richardson, Federal Aviation Administration; Krista Scheele, Transportation Security Administration.

In November 2012, VTFEA discussed what initiatives would benefit the most Federal employees, and it didn't take long to realize that securing locality pay for Vermont was the No. 1 priority. In early 2013, VTFEA created a Locality Pay Committee, consisting of employees from six Federal agencies. Working tirelessly, the team prepared a locality pay proposal for northwest Vermont and, in December 2013, presented it to the Federal Salary Council in Washington, DC. Unfortunately, the first proposal was denied, so the following year, they tried again. Again, the proposal was denied. Not to be discouraged, the team drafted a third proposal in November 2015, and committee members traveled to Washington at their own expense to support the package and their fellow Vermonsters. At the hearing, the council approved the package, which is waiting for approval by the President's pay agent and the President. The Northwest Vermont Locality Pay Committee's tenacity, collaborative spirit, and positivity is why Vermont is being considered for locality pay. And it is because of their efforts that VTFEA chose them as Federal Team of the Year.●

#### TRIBUTE TO SETH DIASIO

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Seth DiAsio, an intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Seth is a graduate of the College of Charleston in Charleston, SC, having earned a degree in studio art. Currently, he is attending American University Washington College of Law, where he is focusing on the law of intellectual property. Seth is a dedicated worker who has been committed to getting the most out of his experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Seth DiAsio for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO TREY EDWARDS

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Trey Edwards, an intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Trey is a graduate of Tuscaloosa County High School in Tuscaloosa, AL. Currently, he is attending Auburn University where he is majoring in public administration and minoring in business administration. Trey is a dedicated worker who has been committed to getting the most out of his experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Trey Edwards for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CAITLIN HONE

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Caitlin Hone, an intern in my Rapid City, SD, office for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Caitlin is a graduate of Saint Pius X High School in Albuquerque, NM. Currently, she is attending South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, where she is majoring in civil engineering. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

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

#### TRIBUTE TO DANIEL YARBROUGH

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Daniel Yarbrough, an intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Daniel is a graduate of Samford University in Birmingham, AL, having earned a degree in political science. This spring, Daniel plans to continue serving the public by working on Capitol Hill. Daniel is a dedicated worker who has been committed to getting the most out of his experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Daniel Yarbrough for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. GREGORY FRITZ

● Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, today Dr. Gregory Fritz will be honored by the Mental Health Association of Rhode Island with the Bell Award. This award recognizes a mental health

champion whose work has helped promote the cause of mental health and improved of lives of people living with mental illness.

For over three decades, Dr. Fritz's leadership and advocacy have strengthened our Rhode Island community. He arrived in Rhode Island in 1985 to build a comprehensive pediatric psychiatry service at Hasbro Children's Hospital. Since, Dr. Fritz has become the academic director of Bradley Hospital, the director of Bradley Hasbro Children's Research Center, the director of the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Rhode Island Hospital, and the director of the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

Dr. Fritz is also a national leader in the mental health field, serving as the president of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry. He has used this platform to encourage integration of mental health services into primary care, a key strategy to improving children's access to mental health care, and ultimately, their health outcomes.

It has been my privilege to see up close Dr. Fritz's dedication and drive to improve the lives of children and adults with mental illness. A decades-long effort I led with Senator JACK REED to provide parity in Federal funding for teaching programs at children's psychiatric hospitals would not have been possible without Dr. Fritz. We hit many road bumps along the way, but Dr. Fritz did not stray from the course. He left no stone unturned—and no strategic partner uncalled—in advocating for this change. He noted, quite honestly, in an op-ed published in the Providence Journal, "I am far from dispassionate about this issue."

Dr. Fritz has displayed passion and energy for raising awareness and bringing people together to identify solutions to a range of issues, including mental health parity, addiction and recovery, and workforce training. This is so important for the communities he serves—children and young adults with mental health and substance use disorders—who too often don't have a strong advocate. Thankfully, in Rhode Island, they have Dr. Fritz.

Dr. Gregory Fritz has dedicated his career to improving the lives of children with mental illness, and many have benefited from his leadership. I offer him my congratulations on this well-deserved award, and I look forward to continuing to work alongside him.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a mes-

sage from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:35 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5332. An act to ensure that the United States promotes the meaningful participation of women in mediation and negotiation processes seeking to prevent, mitigate, or resolve violent conflict.

H.R. 5732. An act to halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people, encourage a negotiated political settlement, and hold Syrian human rights abusers accountable for their crimes.

H.R. 6297. An act to reauthorize the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 5332. An act to ensure that the United States promotes the meaningful participation of women in mediation and negotiation processes seeking to prevent, mitigate, or resolve violent conflict; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 5732. An act to halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people, encourage a negotiated political settlement, and hold Syrian human rights abusers accountable for their crimes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 2566. An act to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to ensure the integrity of voice communications and to prevent unjust or unreasonable discrimination among areas of the United States in the delivery of such communications.

H.R. 4665. An act to require the Secretary of Commerce to conduct an assessment and analysis of the outdoor recreation economy of the United States, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-7393. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fluridone; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9951-81) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7394. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Penflufen; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9952-22) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7395. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Mandestrobin; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9945-37) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7396. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Spirotetramat; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9951-80) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 25, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7397. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Review Group, Commodity Credit Corporation, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "EZ Guarantee Program and Micro Lender Program (MLP) Status" (RIN0560-A134) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 26, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7398. A communication from the Administrator of the Specialty Crops Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Oranges and Grapefruit Grown in Lower Rio Grande Valley in Texas; Relaxation of Container and Pack Requirements" (Docket No. AMS-SC-16-0021) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 25, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7399. A communication from the Administrator of the Specialty Crops Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Oranges and Grapefruit Grown in Lower Rio Grande Valley in Texas; Increased Assessment Rate" (Docket No. AMS-SC-16-0059) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7400. A communication from the Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to two (2) violations of the Antideficiency Act associated with the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) Capital Assistance for High Speed Rail Corridors and Intercity Passenger Rail Account; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-7401. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to violations of the Antideficiency Act that involved fiscal year 2012 Operations and Maintenance, Army, and was assigned case number 15-02; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-7402. A communication from the Law Enforcement Policy Analyst, Department of the Army, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Law Enforcement Reporting"

(RIN0702-AA62) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 11, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7403. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Next Generation Operational Control Systems (OCX) program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7404. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the mobilizations of select reserve units, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7405. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Department of Defense (DoD)'s Defense Industrial Base (DIB) Cybersecurity (CS) Activities" (RIN0790-AJ29) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 12, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7406. A joint communication from the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, transmitting a request relative to issuing a travel restriction on senior officials' travel to Afghanistan for the period of October 19, 2016 through December 1, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7407. A joint communication from the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, transmitting a request relative to issuing a travel restriction on senior officials' travel to Iraq for the period of October 19, 2016 through December 15, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7408. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Sale or Rental of Sexually Explicit Material on DoD Property" (RIN0790-AJ15) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 26, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7409. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Management and Mobilization of Regular and Reserve Retired Military Members" (RIN0790-AJ52) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 26, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7410. A communication from the Air Force Federal Register Public Liaison Officer, Department of the Air Force, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Administrative Claims" (RIN0701-AA79) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 26, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7411. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Organizational Charters" (RIN0790-AJ53) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 26, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7412. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Presentation of DoD-Related

Scientific and Technical Papers at Meetings" (RIN0790-AI75) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 26, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7413. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Intelligence), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the biennial Space Protection Strategy (SPS); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7414. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Admiral Cecil E. D. Haney, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7415. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of sixteen (16) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7416. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Pilot Program on Acquisition of Military Purpose Nondevelopmental Items" ((RIN0750-AI93) (DFARS Case 2016-D014)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 28, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7417. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Contiguous United States" ((RIN0750-AJ09) (DFARS Case 2016-D005)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 28, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7418. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Enhancing the Effectiveness of Independent Research and Development" ((RIN0750-AI81) (DFARS Case 2016-D002)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 28, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7419. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order 12170 on November 14, 1979, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7420. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Somalia that was declared in Executive Order 13536 on April 12, 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7421. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13712 of November 22, 2015, with respect to Burundi; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7422. A communication from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Exemptions to Facilitate Intrastate and Regional Securities Offerings" (RIN3235-AL80) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 31, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7423. A communication from the Assistant Director for Regulatory Affairs, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cuban Assets Control Regulations" (31 CFR Part 515) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 14, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7424. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendments to the Export Administration Regulations: Part 760, Reporting Requirements Optional Electronic Filing of Reports of Requests For Restrictive Trade Practice or Boycott" (RIN0694-AG92) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7425. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cuba: Revisions to License Exceptions" (RIN0694-AH12) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 26, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7426. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the Export Administration Regulations (EAR): Control of Fire Control, Laser, Imaging, and Guidance Equipment the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)" (RIN0694-AF75) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 13, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7427. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Regulations, Office of the Housing-Federal Housing Commissioner, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Retrospective Review—Improving the Previous Participation Reviews of Prospective Multifamily Housing and Healthcare Programs Participants" (RIN2502-AJ28) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 21, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7428. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulatory Capital Rules, Liquidity Coverage Ratio: Revisions to the Definition of Qualifying Master Netting Agreement and Related Definitions" (RIN3064-AE30) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 1, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7429. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance

Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Technical and Conforming Changes and Corrections to FHFA Regulations" (RIN2590-AA80) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 25, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7430. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency relative to the actions and policies of the Government of Sudan as declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 31, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7431. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to discretionary appropriations legislation; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-7432. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Response to Findings and Recommendations of the Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technical Advisory Committee during Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-7433. A communication from the Deputy Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Alabama Regulatory Program" ((SATS No. AL-079-FOR) (Docket No. OSMRE-2016-0005)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 21, 2016; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-7434. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Proposed New Listings of Substitutes; Changes of Listing Status; and Reinterpretation of Unacceptability for Closed Cell Foam Products under the Significant New Alternatives Policy Program; and Revision of Clean Air Act Section 608 Venting Prohibition for Propane" (FRL No. 9952-18-OAR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7435. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in Procurements under EPA Financial Assistance Agreements" (FRL No. 9954-30-OA) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7436. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Partial Approval and Partial Disapproval of Attainment Plan for Oakridge, Oregon PM<sub>2.5</sub> Nonattainment Area" (FRL No. 9955-32-Region 10) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7437. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air

Quality Implementation Plans; State of Colorado; Motor Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance, Clean Screen Program and the Low Emitter Index, On-Board Diagnostics, and Associated Revisions" (FRL No. 9954-16-Region 8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7438. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; Adoption of Control Techniques Guidelines for Control of Volatile Organic Compound Emissions" (FRL No. 9954-29-Region 3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7439. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; Removal of Stage II Gasoline Vapor Requirements for Gasoline Dispensing Facilities" (FRL No. 9954-18-Region 3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7440. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Authorization of State-Initiated Changes and Incorporation by Reference of Approved State Hazardous Waste Management Program" (FRL No. 9951-21-Region 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7441. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Oklahoma: Incorporation by Reference of Approved State Hazardous Waste Management Program" (FRL No. 9951-74-Region 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7442. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; North Dakota; Revisions to Air Pollution Control Rules" (FRL No. 9954-15-Region 8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7443. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "State of Kentucky Underground Injection Control (UIC) Class II Program; Primacy" (FRL No. 9953-37-OW) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 25, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7444. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clean Air Act Title V Operating Permit Program Revision; New Jersey" (FRL No. 9954-61-Region 2) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the

President of the Senate on October 25, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7445. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; State of New York, State of New Jersey and Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; Other Solid Waste Incineration Units" (FRL No. 9954-60-Region 2) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 25, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7446. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Disapproval of Prevention of Significant Deterioration for Particulate Matter Less than 2.5 Micrometers—Significant Impact Levels and Significant Monitoring Concentration" (FRL No. 9953-46-Region 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 25, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7447. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Louisiana; Prevention of Significant Deterioration Significant Monitoring Concentration for Fine Particulates" (FRL No. 9953-94-Region 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 25, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7448. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Revisions and Amendments to Regulations for Continuous Opacity Monitoring, Continuous Emissions Monitoring, and Quality Assurance Requirements for Continuous Opacity Monitors" (FRL No. 9954-40-Region 3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 25, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7449. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Delaware; Disapproval of Air Quality Implementation Plan for Nonattainment New Source Review Emissions Offset Provisions" (FRL No. 9953-90-Region 3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7450. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Texas; Infrastructure Requirements for Consultation with Government Officials, Public Notification and Prevention of Significant Deterioration and Visibility Protection for the 2008 Ozone and 2010 Nitrogen Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standards" (FRL No. 9952-76-Region 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7451. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Texas; Control of Air Pollution from Motor Vehicles, Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance" (FRL No. 9952-27-Region 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7452. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; South Dakota; Revisions to the Permitting Rules" (FRL No. 9953-92-Region 8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7453. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont; Interstate Transport of Air Pollution" (FRL No. 9953-85-Region 1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7454. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; NH; Regional Haze 5-Year Report" (FRL No. 9953-84-Region 1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7455. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; NC Infrastructure Requirements for the 2010 1-hour NO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS" (FRL No. 9954-09-Region 4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7456. A communication from the Paralegal, Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Emergency Relief Program" (RIN2132-AB13) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 6, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7457. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Use of Ozone-Depleting Substances" ((RIN0910-AH36) (Docket No. FDA-2015-N-1355)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 31, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7458. A communication from the Senior Attorney Advisor, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Right-of-Way and Real Estate" (RIN2125-AF62) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 31, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7459. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Asset Management Plans and Periodic Evaluations of Facilities Repeatedly Requiring Repair and Reconstruction Due to Emergency Events" (RIN2125-AF57) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 31, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7460. A communication from the Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Non-Federal Oil and Gas Rights" (RIN1024-AD78) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 31, 2016; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-7461. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Miscellaneous Refrigeration Products" (RIN1904-AC51) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 31, 2016; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-7462. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Technology Transfer Executive Plan 2016-2018"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-7463. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting proposed legislation entitled "Unemployment Compensation Program Integrity Act of 2016"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7464. A communication from the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, two reports relative to Medicare payments for clinical diagnostic laboratory tests; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7465. A communication from the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Medicare's Policies and Procedures Identified Almost All Improper Claims Submitted for Deceased Individuals and Recouped Almost All Improper Payments Made for These Claims for January 2013 Through October 2015"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7466. A communication from the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Medicare Improperly Paid Providers Millions of Dollars for Incarcerated Beneficiaries Who Received Services During 2013 and 2014"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7467. A communication from the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, reports relative to the use of the Express Lane Eligibility (ELE) option under Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP); to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7468. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Computation of Annual Liability Insurance (Including Self-Insurance) Settlement Recovery Threshold"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7469. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Unsuccessful Work Attempts and

Expedited Reinstatement Eligibility” (RIN0960-AH66) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 19, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7470. A communication from the Deputy Director, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicare Program; Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) and Alternative Payment Model (APM) Incentive under the Physician Fee Schedule, and Criteria for Physician-Focused Payment Models” ((RIN0938-AS69) (CMS-5517-FC)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 20, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7471. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Relief for Victims of Hurricane Matthew” (Announcement 2016-39) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7472. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Guidance Concerning Use of 2017 CSO Tables Under Section 7702” (Notice 2016-63) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7473. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “2017 Cost-of-Living Adjustments to the Internal Revenue Code Tax Tables and Other Items” (Rev. Proc. 2016-55) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7474. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicare Programs: Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment Systems and Quality Reporting Programs; Organ Procurement Organization Reporting and Communications; Transplant Outcome Measures and Documentation Requirements; Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Programs; Payment to Nonexcepted Off-Campus Provider-Based Department of a Hospital; Hospital Value-Based Purchasing (VBP) Program; Establishment of Payment Rates under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule for Nonexcepted Items and Services Furnished by an Off-Campus Provider-Based Department of a Hospital” (RIN0938-AS82) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7475. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicare Program; End-Stage Renal Disease Prospective Payment System, Coverage and Payment for Renal Dialysis Services Furnished to Individuals with Acute Kidney Injury, End-Stage Renal Disease Quality Incentive Program, Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies Competitive Bidding Program Bid Surety Bonds, State Licensure and Appeals Process

for Breach of Contract Actions, Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies Competitive Bidding Program and Fee Schedule Adjustments; Access to Care Issues for Durable Medical Equipment; and the Comprehensive End-Stage Renal Disease Care Model” (RIN0938-AS83) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7476. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Extension of the Expiration Date for State Disability Examiner Authority to Make Fully Favorable Quick Disability Determinations and Compassionate Allowance Determinations” (RIN0960-AH94) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7477. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicare and Medicaid Programs; CY 2017 Home Health Prospective Payment System Rate Update; Home Health Value-Based Purchasing Model; and Home Health Quality Reporting Requirements” ((RIN0938-AS80) (CMS-1648-F)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 1, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7478. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Treatment of Certain Interests in Corporations as Stock or Indebtedness” ((RIN1545-BN40) (TD 9790)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7479. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Regulations Concerning Excepted Benefits; Lifetime and Annual Limits; and Short-Term, Limited-Duration Insurance” ((RIN1545-BN44) (TD 9791)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 1, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7480. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, a semiannual report entitled, “Acceptance of Contributions for Defense Programs, Projects, and Activities; Defense Cooperation Account” and a semiannual listing of personal property contributed by coalition partners; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7481. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 16-086); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7482. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 16-073); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7483. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 16-063); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7484. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Depart-

ment of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the status of the Government of Cuba’s compliance with the United States-Cuba September 1994 “Joint Communiqué” and on the treatment of persons returned to Cuba in accordance with the United States-Cuba May 1995 “Joint Statement”; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7485. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2016-0142 - 2016-0160); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7486. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Independent Living Services and Centers for Independent Living” (RIN0985-AA10) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 26, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7487. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Specifications for Medical Examinations of Coal Miners” (RIN0985-AA57) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 24, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7488. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Americans With Disabilities Act Title II and Title III Regulations To Implement ADA Amendments Act of 2008” (RIN1190-AA59) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 20, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7489. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Food and Drug Administration’s annual report on the performance evaluation of FDA-approved mammography quality standards accreditation bodies; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7490. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Performance Report of the Food and Drug Administration’s Office of Combination Products for fiscal year 2015; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7491. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Food and Drug Administration’s report relative to the Eighth Review of the Backlog of Postmarketing Requirements and Postmarketing Commitments; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7492. A communication from the Chief Actuary, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the impact on premiums for individuals and families with employer-sponsored health insurance from the guaranteed issue, guaranteed renewal, and fair health insurance premiums provisions of the Affordable Care Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.



EC-7493. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Paying Benefits” (29 CFR Part 4022) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 25, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7494. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Family Violence Prevention and Services Programs” (RIN0970-AC62) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 1, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7495. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Abbreviated New Drug Applications and 505(b)(2) Applications” ((RIN0910-AF97) (Docket No. FDA-2011-N-0830)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 11, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7496. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Freedom of Information Regulations” (RIN0991-AC04) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7497. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Excepted Benefits; Lifetime and Annual Limits; and Short-Term, Limited-Duration Insurance” ((RIN0938-AS93) (CMS-9932-F)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 28, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7498. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Excepted Benefits; Lifetime and Annual Limits; and Short-Term, Limited-Duration Insurance” (RIN1210-AB75) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 31, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7499. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Low Activity Radioactive Seeds Used for Localization of Non-Palpable Lesions and Lymph Nodes Licensing Guidance” (Revision 1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 26, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7500. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Procedures for the Handling of Retaliation Complaints Under Section 1558 of the Affordable Care Act” (RIN1218-AC79) received during

adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 20, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7501. A communication from the Director of Regulatory Services, Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Student Assistance General Provisions, Federal Perkins Loan Program, Federal Family Education Loan Program, William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program, and Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant Program” (RIN1840-AD19) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7502. A communication from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Teacher Preparation Issues” (RIN1840-AD07) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 1, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7503. A communication from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Student Assistance General Provisions, Federal Perkins Loan Program, Federal Family Education Loan Program, William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program, and Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant Program” (RIN1840-AD19) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 1, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7504. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department of Defense Agency Financial Report (AFR) for fiscal year 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7505. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission’s fiscal year 2015 Agency Financial Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7506. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 21-505, “Rental Housing Late Fee Fairness Amendment Act of 2016”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7507. A communication from the Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the cost of response and recovery efforts for FEMA-3377-EM in the State of Florida having exceeded the \$5,000,000 limit for a single emergency declaration; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7508. A communication from the Chief of the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Technical Correction: New Mailing Address for the National Commodity Specialist Division, Regulations and Rulings, Office of Trade” (RIN1515-AE17) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 25, 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7509. A communication from the Deputy Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Controlled Unclassified Information” (RIN3095-AB80) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 19, 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7510. A communication from the Executive Director, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the restating of the Commission’s fiscal year 2015 balance sheet; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7511. A communication from the Chairman of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semi-annual report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2016 through September 30, 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7512. A communication from the Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Endowment’s fiscal year 2015 Federal Activities Inventory Reform (FAIR) Act submission of its commercial and inherently governmental activities; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7513. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Government Affairs Division, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board’s annual submission regarding agency compliance with the Federal Managers’ Financial Integrity Act and revised Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-123; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7514. A communication from the Acting Director, Planning and Policy Analysis, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Federal Employees’ Group Life Insurance Program: Excepted Service and Pathways Programs” (RIN3206-AM98) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 31, 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7515. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Federal Student Loan Repayment Program Calendar Year 2015”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7516. A communication from the Board Chair and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration’s Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Semiannual Management Report on the Status of Audits for the period from April 1, 2016 through September 30, 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7517. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 21-508, “Law Enforcement Career Opportunity Temporary Amendment Act of 2016”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7518. A communication from the Senior Advisor for Native Hawaiian Affairs, Office of the Secretary, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Procedures for Reestablishing a Formal Government-to-Government Relationship With the Native Hawaiian Community” (RIN1090-AB05) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 17, 2016; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-7519. A communication from the Deputy Chief of the Regulatory Coordination Division, Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Fee Schedule" (RIN1615-AC09) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 24, 2016; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7520. A communication from the Federal Liaison Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Trademark Fee Adjustment" (RIN0651-AD08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 21, 2016; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7521. A communication from the Chief of the Border Security Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of the Electronic Visa Update System (EVUS)" (RIN1651-AB08) (CBP Dec. 16-17) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 18, 2016; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7522. A communication from the Chairman, Board of Trustees, and the President, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Center's financial statements, supplemental schedules of operations, and independent auditor's report for years ended September 27, 2015, and September 28, 2014, and a report relative to the Center's schedule of expenditures of federal awards and independent auditor's reports for the year ended September 27, 2015; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-7523. A communication from the Human Resources Specialist (Executive Resources), Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Deputy Administrator, Small Business Administration, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 13, 2016; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-7524. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Government Contracting, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "HUBZone and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 Amendments" (RIN3245-AG81) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 6, 2016; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-7525. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Government Contracting, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Disaster Assistance Loan Program; Disaster Loan Credit and Collateral Requirements" (RIN3245-AG61) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 6, 2016; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-7526. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Government Contracting, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Disaster Assistance Loan Program; Disaster Loan Mitigation, Contractor Malfeasance and Secured Threshold" (RIN3245-AG78) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2016; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-7527. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA) Quarterly Report to Congress; Fourth Quarter of Fiscal Year 2016"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-7528. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA) Quarterly Report to Congress; Fourth Quarter of Fiscal Year 2016"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-7529. A communication from the Secretary of the Senate, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the receipts and expenditures of the Senate for the period from April 1, 2016 through September 30, 2016, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2016; ordered to lie on the table.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on Finance, without amendment:

S. 3470. An original bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to transfer certain funds to the Multi-employer Health Benefit Plan and the 1974 United Mine Workers of America Pension Plan, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114-374).

S. 3471. An original bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage retirement savings, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114-375).

By Mr. BARRASSO, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. 2417. A bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to allow the Indian Health Service to cover the cost of a copayment of an Indian or Alaska Native veteran receiving medical care or services from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114-376).

S. 2739. A bill to provide for equitable compensation to the Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation for the use of tribal land for the production of hydropower by the Grand Coulee Dam, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114-377).

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. COATS (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 4. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act in order to strengthen rules in case of competition for diabetic testing strips, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. 5. A bill to amend the nondiscrimination provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to protect older, longer service participants; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. COTTON):

S. 3469. A bill to reinstate reporting requirements related to United States-Hong Kong relations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 3470. An original bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to transfer certain funds to the Multi-employer Health Benefit Plan and the 1974 United Mine Workers of America Pension Plan, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Finance; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 3471. An original bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage retirement savings, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Finance; placed on the calendar.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. Res. 614. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of American Education Week; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. Res. 615. A resolution expressing support for the designation of November 16, 2016, as "American Special Hockey Day"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 375

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 375, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a reduced rate of excise tax on beer produced domestically by certain qualifying producers.

S. 386

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 386, a bill to limit the authority of States to tax certain income of employees for employment duties performed in other States.

S. 1081

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1081, a bill to end the use of body-gripping traps in the National Wildlife Refuge System.

S. 1148

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1148, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the distribution of additional residency positions, and for other purposes.

S. 1559

At the request of Mr. HELLER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1559, a bill to protect victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence from emotional and psychological trauma caused by

acts of violence or threats of violence against their pets.

S. 1808

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1808, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a Northern Border threat analysis, and for other purposes.

S. 1874

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1874, a bill to provide protections for workers with respect to their right to select or refrain from selecting representation by a labor organization.

S. 2397

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2397, a bill to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make grants to States that extend or eliminate unexpired statutes of limitation applicable to laws involving child sexual abuse.

S. 2655

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2655, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the historic rehabilitation tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 2748

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 2748, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, nursing schools, social work schools, and other programs, including physician assistant education programs, to promote education and research in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative medicine.

S. 2750

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2750, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code to extend and modify certain charitable tax provisions.

S. 2868

At the request of Mr. SCOTT, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2868, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the deferral of inclusion in gross income for capital gains reinvested in economically distressed zones.

S. 2921

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Wyoming

(Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2921, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the accountability of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to improve health care and benefits for veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 2957

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2957, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the first manned landing on the Moon.

S. 3034

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3034, a bill to prohibit the National Telecommunications and Information Administration from allowing the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority functions contract to lapse unless specifically authorized to do so by an Act of Congress.

S. 3090

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3090, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a demonstration program to provide integrated care for Medicare beneficiaries with end-stage renal disease, and for other purposes.

S. 3256

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 3256, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide assistance for developing countries to promote quality basic education and to establish the goal of all children in school and learning as an objective of the United States foreign assistance policy, and for other purposes.

S. 3353

At the request of Mr. SCOTT, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3353, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to prohibit the Internal Revenue Service from carrying out seizures relating to a structuring transaction unless the property to be seized derived from an illegal source or the funds were structured for the purpose of concealing the violation of another criminal law or regulation, to require notice and a post-seizure hearing for such seizures, and for other purposes.

S. 3390

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3390, a bill to ensure that significantly more students graduate college with the international knowledge and experience essential for success in today's global economy through the es-

tablishment of the Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Program in the Department of Education.

S. 3436

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3436, a bill to prevent proposed regulations relating to restrictions on liquidation of an interest with respect to estate, gift, and generation-skipping transfer taxes from taking effect.

S. 3462

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3462, a bill to provide for a 6-month delay in the effective date of a rule of the Department of Labor relating to income thresholds for determining overtime pay for executive, administrative, professional, outside sales, and computer employees.

S. 3464

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3464, a bill to provide incremental increases to the salary threshold for exemptions for executive, administrative, professional, outside sales, and computer employees under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 41

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 41, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to abolish the electoral college and to provide for the direct popular election of the President and Vice President of the United States.

S. CON. RES. 51

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 51, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that those who served in the bays, harbors, and territorial seas of the Republic of Vietnam during the period beginning on January 9, 1962, and ending on May 7, 1975, should be presumed to have been exposed to the toxin Agent Orange and should be eligible for all related Federal benefits that come with such presumption under the Agent Orange Act of 1991.

S. RES. 608

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 608, a resolution designating the week of September 17 through September 24, 2016, as "National Estuaries Week".

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

## SENATE RESOLUTION 614—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Ms. BALDWIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 614

Whereas November 14 through November 18, 2016, marks the 95th annual observance of American Education Week;

Whereas public schools are the backbone of the democracy of the United States, providing young people with the tools they need to maintain the precious values of freedom, civility, and equality;

Whereas, by equipping young people in the United States with both practical skills and broader intellectual abilities, public schools give young people hope for, and access to, a productive future;

Whereas people working in the field of public education, including teachers, higher education faculty and staff, paraeducators, custodians, substitute educators, bus drivers, clerical workers, food service professionals, workers in skilled trades, health and student service workers, security guards, technical employees, and librarians, work tirelessly to serve children and communities throughout the United States with care and professionalism; and

Whereas public schools are community linchpins, bringing together adults, children, educators, volunteers, business leaders, and elected officials in a common enterprise: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of American Education Week; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe American Education Week by reflecting on the positive impact of all those who work together to educate children.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 615—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF NOVEMBER 16, 2016, AS “AMERICAN SPECIAL HOCKEY DAY”

Mr. CASEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. FRANKEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 615

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly 15 percent of children in the United States have a developmental disability;

Whereas the United States needs innovative, high-quality programs that seek to create productive and independent futures for children and adults with developmental disabilities;

Whereas the American Special Hockey Association was created in 2000 to give individuals of all ages with developmental disabilities an opportunity to learn and grow by playing ice hockey;

Whereas team sports provide opportunities for children to develop independence, confidence, and fitness and the programs of the American Special Hockey Association provide the chance for individuals with disabilities

to play sports in an accessible environment so that all athletes are able to participate;

Whereas the American Special Hockey Association is the largest special hockey organization in the world with more than 54 member programs in more than 45 cities in the United States;

Whereas special hockey exists to enrich athletes with developmental disabilities and, in addition to physical hockey skills, the program helps children develop critical skills such as dependability, self-reliance, concentration, willingness to share, and personal accountability; and

Whereas “American Special Hockey Day” will help recognize the important role that special hockey plays in empowering individuals with disabilities and developing the characteristics that will help players to be more successful both on and off the ice: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of November 16, 2016, as “American Special Hockey Day”;

(2) strongly affirms the goals and purpose of special hockey; and

(3) encourages more individuals to volunteer and help create similarly innovative and beneficial programs for individuals with disabilities.

## AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5108. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Ms. HEITKAMP) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1808, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a Northern Border threat analysis, and for other purposes.

SA 5109. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Ms. AYOTTE) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1915, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to make anthrax vaccines available to emergency response providers, and for other purposes.

## TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5108. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Ms. HEITKAMP) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1808, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a Northern Border threat analysis, 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 “Northern Border Security Review Act”.

## SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

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

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives;

(E) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(F) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(2) NORTHERN BORDER.—The term “Northern Border” means the land and maritime borders between the United States and Canada.

## SEC. 3. NORTHERN BORDER THREAT ANALYSIS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the

Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a Northern Border threat analysis to the appropriate congressional committees that includes—

(1) current and potential terrorism and criminal threats posed by individuals and organized groups seeking—

(A) to enter the United States through the Northern Border; or

(B) to exploit border vulnerabilities on the Northern Border;

(2) improvements needed at and between ports of entry along the Northern Border—

(A) to prevent terrorists and instruments of terrorism from entering the United States; and

(B) to reduce criminal activity, as measured by the total flow of illegal goods, illicit drugs, and smuggled and trafficked persons moved in either direction across to the Northern Border;

(3) gaps in law, policy, cooperation between State, tribal, and local law enforcement, international agreements, or tribal agreements that hinder effective and efficient border security, counter-terrorism, anti-human smuggling and trafficking efforts, and the flow of legitimate trade along the Northern Border; and

(4) whether additional U.S. Customs and Border Protection preclearance and preinspection operations at ports of entry along the Northern Border could help prevent terrorists and instruments of terror from entering the United States.

(b) ANALYSIS REQUIREMENTS.—For the threat analysis required under subsection (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall consider and examine—

(1) technology needs and challenges;

(2) personnel needs and challenges;

(3) the role of State, tribal, and local law enforcement in general border security activities;

(4) the need for cooperation among Federal, State, tribal, local, and Canadian law enforcement entities relating to border security;

(5) the terrain, population density, and climate along the Northern Border; and

(6) the needs and challenges of Department facilities, including the physical approaches to such facilities.

(c) CLASSIFIED THREAT ANALYSIS.—To the extent possible, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit the threat analysis required under subsection (a) in unclassified form. The Secretary may submit a portion of the threat analysis in classified form if the Secretary determines that such form is appropriate for that portion.

SA 5109. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Ms. AYOTTE) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1915, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to make anthrax vaccines available to emergency response providers, 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 “First Responder Anthrax Preparedness Act”.

## SEC. 2. VOLUNTARY PRE-EVENT ANTHRAX VACCINATION PILOT PROGRAM FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROVIDERS.

(a) PILOT PROGRAM.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall carry out a pilot program to provide eligible anthrax vaccines from the Strategic National Stockpile under section 319F-2(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d-6b(a)) that will be nearing the end of

their labeled dates of use at the time such vaccines are made available to States for administration to emergency response providers who would be at high risk of exposure to anthrax if such an attack should occur and who voluntarily consent to such administration.

(2) DETERMINATION.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall determine whether an anthrax vaccine is eligible to be provided to the Secretary of Homeland Security for the pilot program described in paragraph (1) based on—

(A) a determination that the vaccine is not otherwise allotted for other purposes;

(B) a determination that the provision of the vaccine will not reduce, or otherwise adversely affect, the capability to meet projected requirements for this product during a public health emergency, including a significant reduction of available quantities of vaccine in the Strategic National Stockpile; and

(C) such other considerations as determined appropriate by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

(3) PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS.—Before implementing the pilot program required under this subsection, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall—

(A) establish a communication platform for the pilot program;

(B) develop and deliver education and training for the pilot program;

(C) conduct economic analysis of the pilot program, including a preliminary estimate of total costs and expected benefits;

(D) create a logistical platform for the anthrax vaccine request process under the pilot program;

(E) establish goals and desired outcomes for the pilot program; and

(F) establish a mechanism to reimburse the Secretary of Health and Human Services for—

(i) the costs of shipment and transportation of such vaccines provided to the Secretary of Homeland Security from the Strategic National Stockpile under such pilot program, including staff time directly supporting such shipment and transportation; and

(ii) the amount, if any, by which the warehousing costs of the Strategic National Stockpile are increased in order to operate such pilot program.

(4) LOCATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the pilot program required under this subsection, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall select not fewer than 2 nor more than 5 States for voluntary participation in the pilot program.

(B) REQUIREMENT.—Each State that participates in the pilot program under this subsection shall ensure that such participation is consistent with the All-Hazards Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan of the State developed under section 319C-1 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d-3a).

(5) GUIDANCE FOR SELECTION.—To ensure that participation in the pilot program under this subsection strategically increases State and local response readiness in the event of an anthrax release, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall provide guidance to participating States and units of local government on identifying emergency response providers who are at high risk of exposure to anthrax.

(6) DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall require that each State that participates in the pilot program under this subsection submit a written certification to the Secretary of Homeland Security stating that each

emergency response provider within the State that participates in the pilot program is provided with disclosures and educational materials designated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, which may include—

(A) materials regarding the associated benefits and risks of any vaccine provided under the pilot program, and of exposure to anthrax;

(B) additional material consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's clinical guidance; and

(C) notice that the Federal Government is not obligated to continue providing anthrax vaccine after the date on which the pilot program ends.

(7) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—Before implementing the pilot program under this subsection, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Secretary of Health and Human Services to—

(A) define the roles and responsibilities of each Department for the pilot program; and

(B) establish other performance metrics and policies for the pilot program, as appropriate.

(8) REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (c), not later than 1 year after the date on which the initial vaccines are administered under this section, and annually thereafter until 1 year after the completion of the pilot program under this section, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a report on the progress and results of the pilot program, including—

(i) a detailed tabulation of the costs to administer the program, including—

(I) total costs for management and administration;

(II) total costs to ship vaccines;

(III) total number of full-time equivalents allocated to the program; and

(IV) total costs to the Strategic National Stockpile;

(ii) the number and percentage of eligible emergency response providers, as determined by each pilot location, that volunteer to participate;

(iii) the degree to which participants complete the vaccine regimen;

(iv) the total number of doses of vaccine administered; and

(v) recommendations to improve initial and recurrent participation in the pilot program.

(B) FINAL REPORT.—The final report required under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) consider whether the pilot program required under this subsection should continue after the date described in subsection (c); and

(ii) include—

(I) an analysis of the costs and benefits of continuing the program to provide anthrax vaccines to emergency response providers;

(II) an explanation of the economic, health, and other risks and benefits of administering vaccines through the pilot program rather than post-event treatment; and

(III) in the case of a recommendation under clause (i) to continue the pilot program after the date described in subsection (c), a plan under which the pilot program could be continued.

(b) DEADLINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall begin implementing the pilot program under this section.

(c) SUNSET.—The authority to carry out the pilot program under this section shall expire on the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

## AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 16, 2016, at 3 p.m., in room SR-253 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled "Exploring Augmented Reality."

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

## NORTHERN BORDER SECURITY REVIEW ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 269, S. 1808.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1808) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a Northern Border threat analysis, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, 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 "Northern Border Security Review Act".*

### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

*In this Act:*

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives; and

(D) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) NORTHERN BORDER.—The term "Northern Border" means the land and maritime borders between the United States and Canada.

### SEC. 3. NORTHERN BORDER THREAT ANALYSIS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a Northern Border threat analysis to the appropriate congressional committees that includes—

(1) current and potential terrorism and criminal threats posed by individuals and organized groups seeking—

(A) to enter the United States through the Northern Border; or

(B) to exploit border vulnerabilities on the Northern Border;

(2) improvements needed at ports of entry along the Northern Border—

(A) to prevent terrorists and instruments of terror from entering the United States; and

(B) to reduce criminal activity, as measured by the total flow of illegal goods and illicit drugs, related to the Northern Border;

(3) improvements needed between ports of entry along the Northern Border, including the maritime borders of the Great Lakes—

(A) to prevent terrorists and instruments of terror from entering the United States; and

(B) to reduce criminal activity related to the Northern Border; and

(4) vulnerabilities in law, policy, cooperation between State, tribal, and local law enforcement, international agreements, or tribal agreements that hinder effective and efficient border security, counter-terrorism, anti-human trafficking efforts, and the flow of legitimate trade along the Northern Border.

(b) ANALYSIS REQUIREMENTS.—For the threat analysis required under subsection (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall consider and examine—

(1) technology needs and challenges;

(2) personnel needs and challenges;

(3) the role of State, tribal, and local law enforcement in general border security activities;

(4) the need for cooperation among Federal, State, tribal, local, and Canadian law enforcement entities relating to border security; and

(5) the geographic challenges of the Northern Border.

(c) CLASSIFIED THREAT ANALYSIS.—To the extent possible, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit the threat analysis required under subsection (a) in unclassified form. The Secretary may submit a portion of the threat analysis in classified form if the Secretary determines that such form is appropriate for that portion.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be withdrawn, that the Heitkamp substitute amendment be agreed to, that the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The committee-reported substitute amendment was withdrawn.

The amendment (No. 5108) 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 “Northern Border Security Review Act”.

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

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

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives;

(E) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(F) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(2) NORTHERN BORDER.—The term “Northern Border” means the land and maritime borders between the United States and Canada.

(3) IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED BETWEEN PORTS OF ENTRY ALONG THE NORTHERN BORDER, INCLUDING THE MARITIME BORDERS OF THE GREAT LAKES.—

(A) TO PREVENT TERRORISTS AND INSTRUMENTS OF TERROR FROM ENTERING THE UNITED STATES; AND

(B) TO REDUCE CRIMINAL ACTIVITY RELATED TO THE NORTHERN BORDER; AND

(C) VULNERABILITIES IN LAW, POLICY, COOPERATION BETWEEN STATE, TRIBAL, AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT, INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS, OR TRIBAL AGREEMENTS THAT HINDER EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT BORDER SECURITY, COUNTER-TERRORISM, ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING EFFORTS, AND THE FLOW OF LEGITIMATE TRADE ALONG THE NORTHERN BORDER.

(b) ANALYSIS REQUIREMENTS.—For the threat analysis required under subsection (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall consider and examine—

(1) technology needs and challenges;

(2) personnel needs and challenges;

(3) the role of State, tribal, and local law enforcement in general border security activities;

(4) the need for cooperation among Federal, State, tribal, local, and Canadian law enforcement entities relating to border security; and

(5) the geographic challenges of the Northern Border.

appropriate congressional committees that includes—

(1) current and potential terrorism and criminal threats posed by individuals and organized groups seeking—

(A) to enter the United States through the Northern Border; or

(B) to exploit border vulnerabilities on the Northern Border;

(2) improvements needed at and between ports of entry along the Northern Border—

(A) to prevent terrorists and instruments of terrorism from entering the United States; and

(B) to reduce criminal activity, as measured by the total flow of illegal goods, illicit drugs, and smuggled and trafficked persons moved in either direction across to the Northern Border;

(3) gaps in law, policy, cooperation between State, tribal, and local law enforcement, international agreements, or tribal agreements that hinder effective and efficient border security, counter-terrorism, anti-human smuggling and trafficking efforts, and the flow of legitimate trade along the Northern Border; and

(4) whether additional U.S. Customs and Border Protection preclearance and preinspection operations at ports of entry along the Northern Border could help prevent terrorists and instruments of terror from entering the United States.

(b) ANALYSIS REQUIREMENTS.—For the threat analysis required under subsection (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall consider and examine—

(1) technology needs and challenges;

(2) personnel needs and challenges;

(3) the role of State, tribal, and local law enforcement in general border security activities;

(4) the need for cooperation among Federal, State, tribal, local, and Canadian law enforcement entities relating to border security;

(5) the terrain, population density, and climate along the Northern Border; and

(6) the needs and challenges of Department facilities, including the physical approaches to such facilities.

(c) CLASSIFIED THREAT ANALYSIS.—To the extent possible, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit the threat analysis required under subsection (a) in unclassified form. The Secretary may submit a portion of the threat analysis in classified form if the Secretary determines that such form is appropriate for that portion.

The bill (S. 1808), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1808

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Northern Border Security Review Act”.

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

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

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives;

(E) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(F) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(2) NORTHERN BORDER.—The term “Northern Border” means the land and maritime borders between the United States and Canada.

#### SEC. 3. NORTHERN BORDER THREAT ANALYSIS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a Northern Border threat analysis to the appropriate congressional committees that includes—

(1) current and potential terrorism and criminal threats posed by individuals and organized groups seeking—

(A) to enter the United States through the Northern Border; or

(B) to exploit border vulnerabilities on the Northern Border;

(2) improvements needed at and between ports of entry along the Northern Border—

(A) to prevent terrorists and instruments of terrorism from entering the United States; and

(B) to reduce criminal activity, as measured by the total flow of illegal goods, illicit drugs, and smuggled and trafficked persons moved in either direction across to the Northern Border;

(3) gaps in law, policy, cooperation between State, tribal, and local law enforcement, international agreements, or tribal agreements that hinder effective and efficient border security, counter-terrorism, anti-human smuggling and trafficking efforts, and the flow of legitimate trade along the Northern Border; and

(4) whether additional U.S. Customs and Border Protection preclearance and preinspection operations at ports of entry along the Northern Border could help prevent terrorists and instruments of terror from entering the United States.

(b) ANALYSIS REQUIREMENTS.—For the threat analysis required under subsection (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall consider and examine—

(1) technology needs and challenges;

(2) personnel needs and challenges;

(3) the role of State, tribal, and local law enforcement in general border security activities;

(4) the need for cooperation among Federal, State, tribal, local, and Canadian law enforcement entities relating to border security;

(5) the terrain, population density, and climate along the Northern Border; and

(6) the needs and challenges of Department facilities, including the physical approaches to such facilities.

(c) CLASSIFIED THREAT ANALYSIS.—To the extent possible, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit the threat analysis required under subsection (a) in unclassified form. The Secretary may submit a portion of the threat analysis in classified form if the Secretary determines that such form is appropriate for that portion.

#### FIRST RESPONDER ANTHRAX PREPAREDNESS ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 458, S. 1915.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1915) to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to make anthrax vaccines and antimicrobials available to emergency response providers, and for other purposes.

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



had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment and an amendment to the title.

(Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic.)

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “First Responder Anthrax Preparedness Act”.

#### SEC. 2. VOLUNTARY PRE-EVENT ANTHRAX VACCINATION PILOT PROGRAM FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROVIDERS.

##### (a) PILOT PROGRAM.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall carry out a pilot program to provide anthrax vaccines from the strategic national stockpile under section 319F-2(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d-6b(a)) that will be nearing the end of their labeled dates of use at the time such vaccines are to be administered to emergency response providers who are at high risk of exposure to anthrax and who voluntarily consent to such administration.

(2) DURATION.—The duration of the pilot program required under paragraph (1) shall be 36 months beginning on the date on which the initial vaccines are administered.

(3) PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS.—Before implementing the pilot program under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall—

(A) establish a communication platform for the pilot program;

(B) develop and deliver education and training for the pilot program;

(C) conduct an economic analysis of the pilot program, including a preliminary estimate of total costs and expected benefits;

(D) create a logistical platform for the anthrax vaccine request process under the pilot program; and

(E) establish goals and desired outcomes for the pilot program.

(4) LOCATION.—In carrying out the pilot program under this subsection, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall select emergency response providers based in not less than 2 nor more than 5 States for participation in the pilot program.

(5) GUIDANCE FOR SELECTION.—To ensure that participation in the pilot program strategically increases State and local response readiness for an anthrax release, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall provide guidance to participating States and units of local government on identifying emergency response providers who are at high risk of exposure to anthrax.

(6) DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide to each emergency response provider who participates in the pilot program under this subsection disclosures and educational materials regarding the associated benefits and risks of any vaccine provided under the pilot program, consistent with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention clinical guidance, and of exposure to anthrax, including notice that the Federal Government is not obligated to continue providing anthrax vaccines after the pilot program has ended.

(7) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—Before implementing the pilot program under this subsection, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Secretary of Health and Human Services to—

(A) define the roles and responsibilities of each Department for the pilot program; and

(B) establish other performance metrics or policies, as appropriate.

##### (8) REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the initial vaccines are ad-

ministered under this section, and annually thereafter until 1 year after the completion of the pilot program, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a report on the progress and results of the pilot program, including—

(i) a detailed tabulation of the costs to administer the program, including—

(I) total costs for management and administration;

(II) total costs to ship vaccines; and

(III) the total number of full-time equivalents allocated to the program;

(ii) the number and percentage of eligible emergency response providers, as determined by each pilot location, that volunteer to participate;

(iii) the degree to which participants obtain the necessary vaccinations;

(iv) the total number of doses of vaccine administered; and

(v) recommendations to improve initial and recurrent participation in the pilot program.

(B) FINAL REPORT.—The final report required under subparagraph (A) shall include an analysis of the costs and benefits of continuing the program to provide anthrax vaccines to emergency response providers, an explanation of the economic, health, and other benefits of administering vaccines through the pilot program rather than post-event treatment, and a plan under which the program could be continued.

(b) DEADLINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall begin implementing the pilot program under this section.

(c) SUNSET.—The authority to carry out the pilot program under this section shall expire on the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be withdrawn, that the Ayotte substitute amendment be agreed to, that the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, that the committee-reported title amendment be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported substitute amendment was withdrawn.

The amendment (No. 5109) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “First Responder Anthrax Preparedness Act”.

#### SEC. 2. VOLUNTARY PRE-EVENT ANTHRAX VACCINATION PILOT PROGRAM FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROVIDERS.

##### (a) PILOT PROGRAM.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall carry out a pilot program to provide eligible anthrax vaccines from the Strategic National Stockpile under section 319F-2(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d-6b(a)) that will be nearing the end of their labeled dates of use at the time such vaccines are made available to States for administration to emergency response pro-

viders who would be at high risk of exposure to anthrax if such an attack should occur and who voluntarily consent to such administration.

(2) DETERMINATION.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall determine whether an anthrax vaccine is eligible to be provided to the Secretary of Homeland Security for the pilot program described in paragraph (1) based on—

(A) a determination that the vaccine is not otherwise allotted for other purposes;

(B) a determination that the provision of the vaccine will not reduce, or otherwise adversely affect, the capability to meet projected requirements for this product during a public health emergency, including a significant reduction of available quantities of vaccine in the Strategic National Stockpile; and

(C) such other considerations as determined appropriate by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

(3) PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS.—Before implementing the pilot program required under this subsection, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall—

(A) establish a communication platform for the pilot program;

(B) develop and deliver education and training for the pilot program;

(C) conduct economic analysis of the pilot program, including a preliminary estimate of total costs and expected benefits;

(D) create a logistical platform for the anthrax vaccine request process under the pilot program;

(E) establish goals and desired outcomes for the pilot program; and

(F) establish a mechanism to reimburse the Secretary of Health and Human Services for—

(i) the costs of shipment and transportation of such vaccines provided to the Secretary of Homeland Security from the Strategic National Stockpile under such pilot program, including staff time directly supporting such shipment and transportation; and

(ii) the amount, if any, by which the warehousing costs of the Strategic National Stockpile are increased in order to operate such pilot program.

##### (4) LOCATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the pilot program required under this subsection, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall select not fewer than 2 nor more than 5 States for voluntary participation in the pilot program.

(B) REQUIREMENT.—Each State that participates in the pilot program under this subsection shall ensure that such participation is consistent with the All-Hazards Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan of the State developed under section 319C-1 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d-3a).

(5) GUIDANCE FOR SELECTION.—To ensure that participation in the pilot program under this subsection strategically increases State and local response readiness in the event of an anthrax release, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall provide guidance to participating States and units of local government on identifying emergency response providers who are at high risk of exposure to anthrax.

(6) DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall require that each State that participates in the pilot program under this subsection submit a written certification to the Secretary of Homeland Security stating that each emergency response provider within the State that participates in the pilot program is provided with disclosures and educational

materials designated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, which may include—

(A) materials regarding the associated benefits and risks of any vaccine provided under the pilot program, and of exposure to anthrax;

(B) additional material consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's clinical guidance; and

(C) notice that the Federal Government is not obligated to continue providing anthrax vaccine after the date on which the pilot program ends.

(7) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—Before implementing the pilot program under this subsection, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Secretary of Health and Human Services to—

(A) define the roles and responsibilities of each Department for the pilot program; and

(B) establish other performance metrics and policies for the pilot program, as appropriate.

(8) REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (c), not later than 1 year after the date on which the initial vaccines are administered under this section, and annually thereafter until 1 year after the completion of the pilot program under this section, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a report on the progress and results of the pilot program, including—

(i) a detailed tabulation of the costs to administer the program, including—

(I) total costs for management and administration;

(II) total costs to ship vaccines;

(III) total number of full-time equivalents allocated to the program; and

(IV) total costs to the Strategic National Stockpile;

(ii) the number and percentage of eligible emergency response providers, as determined by each pilot location, that volunteer to participate;

(iii) the degree to which participants complete the vaccine regimen;

(iv) the total number of doses of vaccine administered; and

(v) recommendations to improve initial and recurrent participation in the pilot program.

(B) FINAL REPORT.—The final report required under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) consider whether the pilot program required under this subsection should continue after the date described in subsection (c); and

(ii) include—

(I) an analysis of the costs and benefits of continuing the program to provide anthrax vaccines to emergency response providers;

(II) an explanation of the economic, health, and other risks and benefits of administering vaccines through the pilot program rather than post-event treatment; and

(III) in the case of a recommendation under clause (i) to continue the pilot program after the date described in subsection (c), a plan under which the pilot program could be continued.

(b) DEADLINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall begin implementing the pilot program under this section.

(c) SUNSET.—The authority to carry out the pilot program under this section shall expire on the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

The bill (S. 1915), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1915

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “First Responder Anthrax Preparedness Act”.

#### SEC. 2. VOLUNTARY PRE-EVENT ANTHRAX VACCINATION PILOT PROGRAM FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROVIDERS.

(a) PILOT PROGRAM.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall carry out a pilot program to provide eligible anthrax vaccines from the Strategic National Stockpile under section 319F-2(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d-6b(a)) that will be nearing the end of their labeled dates of use at the time such vaccines are made available to States for administration to emergency response providers who would be at high risk of exposure to anthrax if such an attack should occur and who voluntarily consent to such administration.

(2) DETERMINATION.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall determine whether an anthrax vaccine is eligible to be provided to the Secretary of Homeland Security for the pilot program described in paragraph (1) based on—

(A) a determination that the vaccine is not otherwise allotted for other purposes;

(B) a determination that the provision of the vaccine will not reduce, or otherwise adversely affect, the capability to meet projected requirements for this product during a public health emergency, including a significant reduction of available quantities of vaccine in the Strategic National Stockpile; and

(C) such other considerations as determined appropriate by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

(3) PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS.—Before implementing the pilot program required under this subsection, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall—

(A) establish a communication platform for the pilot program;

(B) develop and deliver education and training for the pilot program;

(C) conduct economic analysis of the pilot program, including a preliminary estimate of total costs and expected benefits;

(D) create a logistical platform for the anthrax vaccine request process under the pilot program;

(E) establish goals and desired outcomes for the pilot program; and

(F) establish a mechanism to reimburse the Secretary of Health and Human Services for—

(i) the costs of shipment and transportation of such vaccines provided to the Secretary of Homeland Security from the Strategic National Stockpile under such pilot program, including staff time directly supporting such shipment and transportation; and

(ii) the amount, if any, by which the warehousing costs of the Strategic National Stockpile are increased in order to operate such pilot program.

(4) LOCATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the pilot program required under this subsection, the

Secretary of Homeland Security shall select not fewer than 2 nor more than 5 States for voluntary participation in the pilot program.

(B) REQUIREMENT.—Each State that participates in the pilot program under this subsection shall ensure that such participation is consistent with the All-Hazards Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan of the State developed under section 319C-1 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d-3a).

(5) GUIDANCE FOR SELECTION.—To ensure that participation in the pilot program under this subsection strategically increases State and local response readiness in the event of an anthrax release, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall provide guidance to participating States and units of local government on identifying emergency response providers who are at high risk of exposure to anthrax.

(6) DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall require that each State that participates in the pilot program under this subsection submit a written certification to the Secretary of Homeland Security stating that each emergency response provider within the State that participates in the pilot program is provided with disclosures and educational materials designated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, which may include—

(A) materials regarding the associated benefits and risks of any vaccine provided under the pilot program, and of exposure to anthrax;

(B) additional material consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's clinical guidance; and

(C) notice that the Federal Government is not obligated to continue providing anthrax vaccine after the date on which the pilot program ends.

(7) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—Before implementing the pilot program under this subsection, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Secretary of Health and Human Services to—

(A) define the roles and responsibilities of each Department for the pilot program; and

(B) establish other performance metrics and policies for the pilot program, as appropriate.

(8) REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (c), not later than 1 year after the date on which the initial vaccines are administered under this section, and annually thereafter until 1 year after the completion of the pilot program under this section, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a report on the progress and results of the pilot program, including—

(i) a detailed tabulation of the costs to administer the program, including—

(I) total costs for management and administration;

(II) total costs to ship vaccines;

(III) total number of full-time equivalents allocated to the program; and

(IV) total costs to the Strategic National Stockpile;

(ii) the number and percentage of eligible emergency response providers, as determined by each pilot location, that volunteer to participate;

(iii) the degree to which participants complete the vaccine regimen;

(iv) the total number of doses of vaccine administered; and

(v) recommendations to improve initial and recurrent participation in the pilot program.

(B) FINAL REPORT.—The final report required under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) consider whether the pilot program required under this subsection should continue after the date described in subsection (c); and

(ii) include—

(I) an analysis of the costs and benefits of continuing the program to provide anthrax vaccines to emergency response providers;

(II) an explanation of the economic, health, and other risks and benefits of administering vaccines through the pilot program rather than post-event treatment; and

(III) in the case of a recommendation under clause (i) to continue the pilot program after the date described in subsection (c), a plan under which the pilot program could be continued.

(b) DEADLINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall begin implementing the pilot program under this section.

(c) SUNSET.—The authority to carry out the pilot program under this section shall expire on the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

The committee-reported title amendment was agreed to, as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to make anthrax vaccines available to emergency response providers, and for other purposes.”

#### NO VETERANS CRISIS LINE CALL SHOULD GO UNANSWERED ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 5392, which was received from the House.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5392) to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve the Veterans Crisis Line.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, 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. 5392) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM TRAILS STEWARDSHIP ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 845, which was received from the House.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 845) to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to publish in the Federal Reg-

ister a strategy to significantly increase the role of volunteers and partners in National Forest System trail maintenance, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, 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. 845) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### AMENDING TITLE 49, UNITED STATES CODE, TO INCLUDE CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN IMPACTS ON COMMERCIAL SPACE LAUNCH AND REENTRY ACTIVITIES IN A NAVIGABLE AIRSPACE ANALYSIS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 6007, which was received from the House.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6007) to amend title 49, United States Code, to include consideration of certain impacts on commercial space launch and reentry activities in a navigable airspace analysis, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, 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. 6007) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### DESIGNATING OCTOBER 30, 2016, AS A NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM WORKERS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 560.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 560) designating October 30, 2016, as a national day of remembrance for nuclear weapons program workers.

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.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 560) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of September 15, 2016, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

#### NATIONAL ESTUARIES WEEK

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 608 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 608) designating the week of September 17 through September 24, 2016, as “National Estuaries Week.”

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 608) was agreed to.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of September 29, 2016, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

#### ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2016

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Thursday, November 17; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 543, S. 3110; finally, that notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, the cloture vote with respect to the motion to proceed to S. 3110 occur at noon tomorrow.

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

#### ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator MORAN.

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

The Senator from Kansas.

#### ACCOUNTABILITY AT THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I have the honor of serving with the chair on the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and I want to speak tonight about a set of issues, a circumstance that we have found ourselves in.

As you will recall, several years ago there was a national news story and our Nation was appalled to learn that Department of Veterans Affairs employees from across the country were creating secret waiting lists that stood between veterans and the care they deserved. Veterans died waiting for care because of deceptive practices at the VA. In the wake of that wrongdoing, I called for the resignation of the then-Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs. At that time, I didn't think things could get worse at the Department, but I was wrong.

In 2014, during the confirmation hearings for the current VA Secretary, Bob McDonald, he seemed to understand the urgency demanded by the American people and by their Congress to fix the problems at the Department of Veterans Affairs. In his testimony, he promised that "the seriousness of this moment demands action . . . those employees that have violated the trust of the Nation and of veterans must be, and will be, held accountable."

Now, more than 2 years later, with authorities granted by Congress and signed into law by the President, the Secretary seems to have forgotten that promise. Time and time again, the Secretary uses a talking point on accountability, stating "the VA has terminated more than 4,095 employees" since he arrived. The real number of terminations is three. Only three people have been discharged from the VA for their misconduct, and another 12 to 15 are "potential removals or demotions."

What the Secretary hasn't said is that thousands of those terminations were actually employees placed on paid leave, thereby racking up \$23 million to pay the salaries of 2,500 VA employees who weren't actually working. The opportunity for the Secretary and for the VA to hold bad actors accountable has been squandered.

The terrible part of this is that Americans have been misled. The accountability the VA created in the wake of the scandal about the fake waiting lists has generated further disappointment and scandal due to the mismanagement and manipulation. Instead of firing people, Americans are paying bad actors to do nothing or, worse yet, they have been transferred to other facilities to continue bad practices. The morale of the vast majority—a huge number—of hard-working people who work for the VA, many who are veterans themselves, has to be

harmed as they care for veterans every day and suffer in this culture of corruption.

In Kansas, my home State, we face one of the worst examples of a VA employee violating the trust of a veteran. Yet the VA seems to have no sense of urgency in holding this person accountable or committing to fixing the process that enabled this individual to do what he did.

In 2015, we learned from newspaper reports—certainly not from the VA—that a physician assistant at the Leavenworth VA hospital, Mr. Mark Wisner, had been sexually abusing veteran patients. Shortly after that news broke, the Leavenworth county prosecutors charged this individual with multiple counts of sexual assault and abuse against numerous veterans. We learned, as the story unfolded, that he had targeted vulnerable veterans suffering from PTSD. He prescribed opioids that inhibited their thinking, and he used his position to deepen the wounds of war rather than healing them.

I will share a quote from two Army veteran brothers who were patients and felt they had no choice but to continue seeking the care or lose the health care benefits they had earned. One of them said: "The fear of losing what I had earned [in benefits] versus the fear of being sexually assaulted again, I don't know which one was more important." Imagine the desperation of a veteran trying to answer that question.

Again, what is so troubling about this situation is that Mr. Wisner should never have been hired by the VA in the first place. As we add injury to insult for these veteran victims, he was not fired after he admitted the abuse. He was allowed to retire, and his voluntary retirement means he receives certain benefits that he might not otherwise received if he had actually been fired.

According to publicly available documents, Mr. Wisner indicated on his application for licensure that he had been convicted of a crime, and further information indicates the crime and convictions were lewd in nature. Yet he was hired.

It is infuriating—it is worse than infuriating—that a person with a criminal record, convicted of a lewd crime, was still hired to be at the frontlines of veteran patient care. When the VA was asked about his criminal record, they indicated that background checks are contingent upon "the position's risk level" and that physician assistant positions were considered "low risk" and didn't require an exhaustive background check.

In my view, a practitioner in patient care should be held to the highest standards of excellence and should receive an exhaustive background check. How can a position in patient care be considered low risk at the VA?

Fortunately, as I said, I serve with the Presiding Officer on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and I had the op-

portunity during one of our committee hearings last September—just a few months ago—to question Secretary McDonald about the background check process and why Mr. Wisner was hired with a known criminal background. The Secretary's response was "there was nothing in his file that suggested that there was a risk." He also suggested that I had different information than he did—than he, the Secretary, did—which is hard to believe because the documentation I was reading from, the circumstances I was describing, came directly from his own Office of Inspector General.

I have also sent the Secretary a letter with more than 20 questions about this situation, hoping I could receive substantive answers to those questions. More than 2 months passed until I received a response last week from the Under Secretary for Health. Actually, I was hoping to learn something from that response about the VA's commitment to fixing their hiring practices, not a canned answer regarding the VA's current process for background checks. Certainly, the 20 questions asked of the Secretary remain unanswered. They remain unanswered regarding why the VA's credentialing process failed to catch Mr. Wisner—a convict. Does the VA not consider lewd crimes or convictions in an applicant's file as a risk to veterans? The responses have been unacceptable. The lack of response has been unacceptable.

Also unacceptable are the circumstances surrounding Mr. Wisner's separation from the VA. Instead of an immediate termination, unbelievably, he was permitted to retire with full benefits. When the VA police received a complaint about Mr. Wisner in May of 2014, they alerted the VA inspector general. Wisner was removed from patient care and placed on paid administrative leave while the IG conducted its investigation. Some days later, in an interview with the VA inspector general's special agent, Wisner admitted he "crossed the professional line" and that he engaged in "unnecessary and inappropriate behavior of a sexual nature." Mr. Wisner made no attempt to hide his actions, stating that he "knew what he was doing to these patients was wrong and that he had no self-control."

Despite confessing to these horrible and illegal actions, Mr. Wisner continued to be an employee of the VA for 37 more days, giving him enough time to beat the VA to the punch and seeking and receiving retirement on June 28, 2014. One would think the moment a VA employee admits to violating or abusing a patient, a client, or a co-worker would be the moment their paycheck would end and they would no longer be employed; that there would be zero tolerance for such egregious conduct.

Grounds for immediate termination clearly existed from Wisner's own confessions. Yet he was able to gather all his personal documents and submit his

retirement paperwork to the VA to guarantee his retirement benefits—benefits, incidentally, that millions of veterans continue to wait for years and decades to receive.

There are so many factors about this situation that are troublesome, upsetting, and disgusting, but most importantly our veterans themselves are distraught. The VA failed to protect them from a sexual predator. They were taken advantage of and they are hurting. One victim took his own life, troubled by what happened to him.

Wisner's termination void of retirement benefits maybe would have brought a small measure of justice to the victims. Despite having more than enough justification and the authority to fire Wisner, the VA chose to do nothing, and that inaction sends a very strong and disappointing message not only to our veterans but to the VA employees who are looking to the VA to have their best interest and the best interest of patients they care for, our veterans, at heart.

Our veterans are expecting the VA to live up to the "I CARE" values created by the Secretary. Secretary McDonald announced the I CARE Program, and I can tell you that veterans in Kansas

would agree that the VA did not demonstrate integrity, commitment, advocacy, respect or excellence in these circumstances.

When given the opportunity in a hearing and in writing, the VA's top executives are unable to put at rest not just my mind but the minds of veterans back home in Kansas. Veterans deserve a heartfelt, thorough examination, a thorough explanation of what went wrong and what is now being done to make certain that it never happens again.

Our local VA folks in our State have done what they can do to reach out to veteran patients. The stories continue to grow. Veterans continue to come forward. However, this is a serious and significant incident. The serious and significant incidents require more than just outreach. They require more than just what can happen in Kansas. They require an engagement by the top leadership officials at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The VA's refusal to admit fault or commit to remedying this situation gives little confidence to Congress and, more importantly, to veterans who are being asked to trust the Department that failed to protect them. It appears

the Secretary has forgotten his promise made over 2 years ago to uphold the "seriousness of the moment," to hold those responsible for bad behavior accountable. There could be no more serious moment. There could be no more serious moment of recklessness by the VA than the abuse of a veteran by its own employees.

I yield the floor.

---

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M.  
TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:45 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, November 17, 2016, at 9:30 a.m.

---

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nomination received by the Senate:

IN THE ARMY

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

*To be colonel*

ANDREW J. WADE