

that this law enjoys widespread public support while others have faintly condemned it and worried that Western pressure could be counterproductive. Let's stop negotiating with ourselves here and tell it like it is. And it is really quite simple: this law infringes on the rights to free speech, association, and assembly. These rights are not American rights, they are human rights, and they are universally shared and universally binding. Russia acknowledged as much in myriad international commitments. And this law is just the tip of the proverbial iceberg when it comes to fundamental freedoms in Russia.

In recent days it has been fashionable to change the colors of your website or make other symbolic gestures of solidarity with Russia's LGBT community. I applaud this and have done as much myself, but let's not kid ourselves or rest on our laurels. It takes little courage to swap an avatar on Twitter or to use a coded phrase in a statement and it is going to take a lot more to change the world for the better. As important as these symbols of solidarity are, let's not confuse them with the steady and sustained activism that will be necessary to highlight human rights abuses in Russia long after the flame goes out in Sochi.

I have heard much speculation of a further crackdown in Russia after the Olympic spotlight fades, and I would note that the ongoing unrest in Ukraine is watched with great interest from Russia. While the Kremlin appears nervous at the prospects of renewed demonstrations at home or the success of any grassroots uprising on its borders, many in Moscow and St. Petersburg appear envious that the Ukrainian protests have shown staying power and the ability to pry concessions from the ruling elite. I worry that if anything could provoke a crackdown inside Russia post-Sochi, a turn of events in Ukraine could well prove that trigger and I urge the administration to double-down on its efforts to head off further violence. That is why I introduced the Global Human Rights Accountability Act, which would ensure human rights abusers from anywhere in the world are denied entry into the United States and barred from using our financial institution.

Finally, let me commend our current and outgoing ambassador to the Russian Federation, Dr. Michael McFaul, for a job well done. Dr. McFaul served with distinction in a tough post at a tough time and did a fantastic job of representing our country's openness and "can do" spirit. He will be missed.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### PURITAN BACKROOM

• Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, I wish to recognize and honor the Puritan Backroom in Manchester, a beloved New Hampshire restaurant that cele-

brates its 40th anniversary this month. The Backroom has earned its place as one of the Granite State's most popular family restaurants, serving up delicious dishes for four decades.

Today, the Backroom is part of a tradition of outstanding hospitality that dates back for nearly a century in New Hampshire's Queen City. In 1917, Arthur Pappas and Louis Canotas, who immigrated to the United States from Greece, opened an ice cream and candy shop on Hanover Street. They started a restaurant the following year, the first of several in Manchester and beyond. In 1938, Pappas and Canotas opened an ice cream stand on Daniel Webster Highway, later adding a candy shop and a restaurant. In February 1974, the Puritan Backroom served its first meal, and it is now a fourth generation family business.

There is something for everyone on the menu at the Backroom—from fresh seafood, to prime rib, to their sauté specials.

The restaurant is perhaps most famous for its fried chicken tenders, which come with duck sauce, and can be ordered in a few different ways—regular, coconut, buffalo or spicy. Or, you could get them broiled in the Backroom's special sauce. Or, you could have chicken tenders parmigiana or chicken tenders cacciatore.

For dessert, you can not beat the Backroom's homemade ice cream. On hot summer nights, it is not unusual to see customers lined up in front of the ice cream stand, eager to choose from among dozens of flavors. You will find the standard offerings—vanilla and chocolate—alongside Backroom favorites, including: Baklava, Moose Tracks, and Mudslide. Speaking of mudslides, they're also on the drink menu, and the Backroom was once recognized for being the top buyer in the Nation of Baileys Irish Cream.

The Puritan Backroom is more than just a restaurant. It is part of the heart and soul of Manchester, NH. It is a place for friends to meet and enjoy a meal. And it is a place for families to celebrate special occasions. I know that my family always looks forward to heading to the Backroom, where we know we will see familiar and friendly faces.

The family ownership, management and staff of the Backroom have made this special restaurant a true New Hampshire treasure. The Backroom sets the standard for excellence in hospitality in the Granite State, and I am so proud to join citizens across our State in congratulating the Puritan Backroom on its 40th anniversary. •

##### ASCAP'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

• Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the centennial of ASCAP, the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.

When ASCAP's founders gathered in a New York hotel 100 years ago, they could not have imagined what the fu-

ture held in store for the music industry, and the central role their organization would play in the music community. ASCAP's membership has grown to include more than ½ million songwriters, composers, and publishers. Among these are some of America's most beloved musical talents, but ASCAP is also home to thousands of lesser known musicians who inspire and delight us.

ASCAP licenses nearly 9 million musical works. The royalties ASCAP collects on behalf of its members, and the additional resources it provides, empower thousands of musicians to follow their lifelong passion for music while providing for themselves and their families. ASCAP is truly an invaluable resource both for songwriters and composers as well as the music loving community they serve.

Over the years, ASCAP has been a tireless advocate for strong intellectual property protections. It continues to be at the forefront of the movement for sensible intellectual property laws that can keep pace with changes in technology, all the while serving the interests of both music creators and consumers in the digital age.

It is critically important that both music creators and consumers have certainty about the relevant legal rules and protections. Yet, the current regulatory regime that governs ASCAP's operations may need to be updated to keep pace with innovations in how music is created, shared, and enjoyed. An updated legal regime is important not only for the musicians that make up ASCAP's membership, but also for the continued enjoyment of all their listeners among the American people. As Congress contemplates reforming our country's copyright law, it is my hope that this and other related issues will be given careful consideration.

I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing ASCAP's 100 years of tireless advocacy on behalf of songwriters, composers, and publishers, and wish them 100 more years of great music and success. •

##### REMEMBERING MICHAEL ANGELO OLIVERIO, SR.

• Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life of a dear friend and a remarkable West Virginian who was taken from us on February 5, 2014. Michael Angelo Oliverio, Sr. was a dedicated public servant, an inspiring educator and a passionate civic leader who was respected and admired by all who knew him. He led an extraordinary life that will always be remembered in the hearts of the countless individuals whose lives he touched.

The son of an Italian immigrant shepherd, Mike was born and raised in the town of Carolina in Marion County, just a few miles down the road from my hometown of Farmington. Like many other families in North Central West Virginia, our families' ancestors both originated from the same town in

Italy, San Giovanni in Fiore. Our shared heritage was truly a special aspect of our family friendship.

Mike lived a life of unprecedented success both professionally and personally. He graduated from Monongah High School, Fairmont State College, West Virginia University, and also received postgraduate education from the University of Virginia, College of St. Thomas, Minnesota, and George Washington University.

He was a tireless advocate for the disabled community, which was recognized not only in West Virginia but on a national level. As the president of the National Rehabilitation Counseling Association and also president of the National Rehabilitation Association International Advocacy Group for Persons with Disabilities, he met with Congress and Presidents Carter and Ford to promote laws for persons with disabilities.

With a heart of gold, Mike passionately served his community, his State and his country. He served for more than 10 years as the Monongalia County clerk, served as chairman of the Community Advisory Committee, and vice chairman on the national board of the American Heart Association.

Genuinely committed to improving the lives of all West Virginians, Mike helped start the Kennedy Correctional Center and founded the Ronald McDonald House. He also designed and facilitated the building of a memorial honoring fathers and President John F. Kennedy in Star City called "A Father's Love."

Additionally, he served as chairman of the Fairmont State University Board of Advisors, the Klingberg Development Center Advisory Committee, North Central West Virginia Goodwill Board, People Aware of Children Exceptional (PACE), West Virginia Italian Heritage Festival, and St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church.

During his life, Mike received many awards for his incredible works—of which he was most proud, Mike received the National Nathan Hale Award for Patriotism and the F. Ray Power Award for Administration State Director Internationally.

Promoting his family's cultural history and Italian heritage was one of Mike's greatest passions. He made West Virginia and Calabria, Italy, sister states and conducted the twinning process joining Clarksburg and San Giovanni in Fiori, Italy. He also initiated an exchange program with students from the University of Calabria and Fairmont State University. He was rightly awarded the International Award for Achievement and Humanity in Rome, Italy.

Mike took many trips to Italy throughout his life, but there was one trip in particular I know he cherished most. Dubbed "The Oliverio Boys Tour," Mike traveled to the homeland in 2009 with his three sons, Joe, Mike, and Frank; his brother, John; and his cousins, Jason, Maryn, and Nate.

During the trip they were blessed to spend time with relatives and friends in the region and experience the authentic Italian traditions, passion and food. As they walked the streets, natives knew the Americans were in town and that Mike Oliverio had brought his family. They were hosted by many of Mike's second and third cousins, including Mario Oliverio, who had recently been elected President of the Region. It was very important to him to travel around Italy together as a family and to explore their roots. I know it was a special memory he held close to his heart.

Mike was not only reputable and accomplished in his public life, but he was also an unparalleled example of a dedicated family man—a devoted husband, a proud father, and a wonderful grandfather. Much of his success he credited to his late wife, Julia, who supported him in all of his endeavors. His children are accomplished and respected throughout our state.

I will never forget a special dinner my wife, Gayle, and I shared at the Governor's Mansion in 2007 with Mike, Julia, and their family—Joe, Paula, Alyssa, Mary, Christina, Maria, Mike, Melissa, Frank, Amy, Julia, Aunt Teresa Gabriele, and a family friend, Jessica Faulkenberry. It was just two weeks before Julia lost her life to ovarian cancer and we were celebrating her birthday. I remember being touched by the love shared within their family and the strength they had in one another. You see, the Oliverios personify the power of families—working hard, supporting one another, and standing together when times get tough.

Anyone who knew Mike Oliverio can tell about his incredible ability to inspire each person he encountered to live a life of purpose. Personally, I have lost a dear friend and mentor. And although he will be forever remembered for his many years of service, he will also be remembered as a loving father, grandfather, and friend. He was truly a local legend in our State, and though he will be greatly missed, his legacy will always live on.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

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

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

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:17 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 25. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal features of the electric distribution system to the South Utah Valley Electric Service District, and for other purposes.

S. 540. An act to designate the air route traffic control center located in Nashua, New Hampshire, as the "Patricia Clark Boston Air Route Traffic Control Center".

The message further announced that the House has passed the following joint resolutions, without amendment:

S.J. Res. 28. Joint resolution providing for the appointment of John Fahey as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

S.J. Res. 29. Joint resolution providing for the appointment of Risa Lavizzo-Mourey as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 81. Concurrent resolution providing a correction in the enrollment of S. 25.

H. Con. Res. 82. Concurrent resolution providing a correction in the enrollment of S. 540.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3448. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to provide for an optional pilot program allowing certain emerging growth companies to increase the tick sizes of their stocks.

H.R. 3578. An act to establish requirements for the adoption of any new or revised requirement providing for the screening, testing, or treatment of an airman or an air traffic controller for a sleep disorder, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3448. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to provide for an optional pilot program allowing certain emerging growth companies to increase the tick sizes of their stocks; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 2024. A bill to amend chapter 1 of title 1, United States Code, with regard to the definition of "marriage" and "spouse" for Federal purposes and to ensure respect for State regulation of marriage.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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