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Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JAMES LANKFORD, a Senator from the State of Oklahoma.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, we praise You for the privilege of prayer. We confess that we often neglect this opportunity to find power in Your presence. Guide our lawmakers with Your wisdom, liberating them from doubts and uncertainties, as they remember that their times are in Your hands. May they seek directions from You as they strive to honor Your Name. Lord, undergird them with Your enabling might and help them to remember that without You their striving would be losing. Give them a steady faith, a firm hope, and a fervent charity so that they will stay within the circle of Your will.

We pray in Your mighty Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, April 18, 2016.

To the Senate:

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

appoint the Honorable JAMES LANKFORD, a Senator from the State of Oklahoma, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ORRIN G. HATCH,
President pro tempore.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

FAA REAUTHORIZATION BILL

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, Americans continue to see the difference a Republican-led Senate can make on behalf of our country. We have passed legislation to combat the prescription opioid and heroin epidemic, to provide a long-term highway funding solution, and to advance many other important issues.

Today I am hopeful we will be able to add to that record of achievement with the FAA reauthorization and airport security bill, which aims to keep Americans safe in our airports and in the skies. Recent terror attacks across the world emphasize the importance of ensuring our airports are secure, and I am pleased the bill includes a number of provisions that will help to do so. From increasing security in prescreening areas to securing international flights arriving in the United States, to ramping up measures aimed at deterring cyber security attacks, this legislation contains the most comprehensive aviation security reforms in years.

It also includes a number of passenger-friendly provisions such as refunds for lost or delayed bags and efforts to improve travel for those with disabilities. The bill accomplishes all this without raising fees or taxes on passengers and without imposing

heavy-handed regulations that threaten consumer choice.

The FAA reauthorization bill is the product of hard work and deliberation from Members on both sides of the aisle. It wouldn't have been possible without the leadership of Senator THUNE, our Commerce Committee chair, and Senator AYOTTE, the Aviation Subcommittee chair. They worked to consider amendments from both Republicans and Democrats that Members thought would make this good bill an even better one. I also thank their ranking member counterparts, Senator NELSON and Senator CANTWELL, for their efforts to advance this legislation.

Let's continue that bipartisan progress today and move the FAA reauthorization and airport security bill across the finish line. It is a win for passengers. It is a win for national security. It is another example of commonsense legislating under Republican leadership that is getting the Senate back to work.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

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

THE REPUBLICAN SENATE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I really have to smile when I hear the Republican leader with his "Senate is Back to Work" speeches. The Senate Republicans are like the guy who shows up only half the time for work and then asks for a raise. They go through the motions, but they fail to do their job.

They failed to fund opioid legislation. They failed to do anything about the water in Flint, MI. They failed to fix what everyone agrees was an error on the renewable tax credits. They have failed to address the Zika virus and on and on.

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



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Republicans used to complain all the time about meeting deadlines for doing the budget resolution, but this year they just aren't doing one. Even district court nominations supported by Republicans seem too hard for this group to accomplish. It appears the Senate will fail even to have a hearing on the President's Supreme Court nomination. It seems that Senate Republicans still need to learn how to do their job.

MERRICK GARLAND NOMINATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the Senate Republicans are making history but for all the wrong reasons. The Republicans' obstruction of President Obama's Supreme Court nominee, Merrick Garland, is the first of its kind in Senate history. Never before has the Senate categorically refused to consider a Supreme Court nominee solely because the vacancy occurred during an election year. As each day passes, the Republicans set some new mark for gridlock.

For example, in the post-World War II era, the average time between a Supreme Court nomination and the nominee's first hearing was 29 days. Today is the 33rd day since Merrick Garland's name was put forward by President Obama. Already we are 5 days past the average.

The longest a nominee has been forced to wait for a hearing was 82 days. That was President Eisenhower's nominee, Potter Stewart, who was confirmed at a later time. Republicans vow every day that there will be no hearing. So they are well on their way to eclipsing the 82-day mark.

While that achievement may earn the Republicans a slap on the back from the Koch brothers and Senator MCCONNELL—who, by the way, is the proud “guardian of gridlock,” as he says—Americans take no pleasure in this record-setting obstruction. Instead, Americans want Republicans in the Senate to do their job and give Merrick Garland a hearing.

IMMIGRATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it has been almost 3 years since the Senate passed comprehensive immigration reform. Senate Democrats worked with a handful of Republicans to craft a good, fair, comprehensive immigration reform bill that passed with strong bipartisan support. Then we watched as Speaker Boehner capitulated to the tea party radicals and refused to allow a vote on the floor. It would have passed overwhelmingly.

To his credit, President Obama saw Republicans' inertia on immigration reform and decided to act. He told us in his State of the Union Address that he was tired of waiting around for Republicans to do things, so he had to do it himself, and that is what he has done.

Using his Executive authority under existing law, he worked to fix the sys-

tem to prioritize enforcement resources on those who actually pose a threat to our national security and public safety. On November 20, 2014, President Obama ordered a series of Executive actions that increased border security and ensured greater accountability throughout our immigration system.

One aspect of President Obama's Executive actions was the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents Program. The program provided temporary deportation relief for parents of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents, if they meet three basic requirements. No. 1, they have to be in the country for at least 5 years; No. 2, they must register with the government; and No. 3, they must pass a criminal background check. Today, there are over 5 million children—all U.S. citizens—who are eligible for this program.

President Obama also expanded the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival Program, helping to protect DREAMers, the undocumented children who were brought to the United States at a very young age. To date, over 700,000 DREAMers have been protected—12,000 in Nevada alone. Not only were these Executive actions the right thing to do, they were also smart investments. Nevada will benefit from about a \$3.5 million-a-year increase in State and local tax revenues. Nevadans will see an increase in earnings of more than \$1 billion over 10 years. Together these programs will help grow America by \$230 billion over the next 10 years, but now this progress is being threatened.

Shortly after President Obama's announcement, a politically motivated lawsuit was filed by the Texas attorney general and joined by Republican Governors and attorneys—not all of them but a lot of them. The Texas attorney general won a preliminary injunction temporarily blocking both programs. This came from a single judge.

The U.S. Supreme Court agreed to consider the case and today it heard oral arguments. They were good. I thought it was an extremely sound, deliberate argument. I think the Justices—most of them—had questions that went to the heart of what the issues are, standing and other things. A decision to overturn the President's actions would put many families with U.S. citizen children at risk of deportation and prevent the Department of Homeland Security from doing its job of focusing on criminals and other threats to national security and public safety.

In Nevada alone, President Obama's Executive actions stand to help 50,000 people. Those are 50,000 Nevadans who should not be separated from their families.

The U.S. Supreme Court must do the right thing and recognize President Obama's authority. That is why I joined 38 other Senate Democrats and 186 House Democrats in filing an amicus brief with the Supreme Court,

making clear that Congress granted the Department of Homeland Security broad discretion in enforcing our country's immigration laws. What the President did was both lawful and it was necessary. He helped target limited enforcement resources. It is also what every other President since Eisenhower has done, including Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush. Instead of litigating the President's lawful actions, Republicans should work to fix the immigration system in Congress. By working with Democrats to pass immigration reform, they would render the President's Executive actions unnecessary.

I hope the Supreme Court decides in the administration's favor. I think they will, even though the Court is short a member. I hope these Executive orders are implemented to bring hard-working families out of the shadows, but our Nation would be far better off with a permanent solution. Our Nation would be far better off with a bipartisan, comprehensive overhaul of our Nation's immigration laws.

My friend the assistant minority leader has been at the forefront of these immigration issues. The DREAM Act is something he put forward 15 years ago. I admire the work he has done on this. I think he has kept this issue alive, when a lot of Republicans wanted it to go away. He has been helpful to the people of Nevada—people who don't know his name and will never ever see him, but we have 12,000 DREAMers whose lives have been changed forever, and we hope the same will happen to their parents.

Mr. President, would the Chair announce the business of the day.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

AMERICA'S SMALL BUSINESS TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2015

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 636, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 636) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes.

Pending:

McConnell (for Thune/Nelson) amendment No. 3679, in the nature of a substitute.

Thune amendment No. 3680 (to amendment No. 3679), of a perfecting nature.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The minority whip.

IMMIGRATION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, let me first thank the minority leader, Senator REID, for his kind words about the DREAM Act, which I introduced 15 years ago.

This was a piece of legislation that came about because a mother called my office in Chicago. Here was her family story.

She brought her two kids to America from Brazil. They actually started off in Korea, but they came through Brazil and came to Chicago—mother, father, and two kids. The father had the ambition of starting a church. There are a lot of Korean churches around Chicago and around the country, and his dream was to start a Korean-American Church. His dream never came true. He continued to pray and read the Bible, but he didn't work much. It was up to mom to go to work.

She went to work in a dry-cleaning establishment in Chicago. If you have been around the great city I am honored to represent and go into a dry cleaners, most of the time Korean families are running them. They are working around-the-clock, and are the hardest working people imaginable.

Mom went to work in the dry cleaners and the kids struggled because there wasn't much money coming in. One of their girls, Tereza, heard about a program in Chicago called the MERIT Music Program. It is a program that is available for low-income families of kids in public schools. The lady who left the money for it said to give them instruction in musical instruments and help them buy the instruments.

Tereza Lee heard about this when she was a little girl and decided to sign up for it and to practice the piano. Well, guess what. She turned out to be a prodigy. She was amazing. For her the MERIT Music Program was like an opening to another part of the world she had never seen. She participated in recitals. Sometimes they told me they had to give her a key to the Merit music offices because she wanted to stay and practice until late at night. It was tough for her getting through high school. She tells the story, when she was interviewed in the local press, that sometimes she didn't have a lunch to take to school or any money to buy food. She would wait until the other kids left, and she would go through the wastebasket and look for food they had left behind. That is how tough it was. But because of her skill at playing the piano, she was given an opportunity. She was accepted into the Juilliard School for music in New York and at the Manhattan School of Music conservatory to pursue the piano. She was that good.

When she and her mom started filling out the application, they reached that point where it said this: What is your nationality? What is your citizenship?

Her mom said: Tereza, I don't know. We came here on a visitor's visa way back when you were 2 years old, but I never filed any papers for you.

She said: Mom, what are we going to do?

Her mom said: We are going to call DURBIN's office.

So they called the Senate office. We looked into it. The law in the United

States was very clear for 17-year-old Tereza Lee. She had to leave the United States for 10 years and apply to come back in—leave for 10 years. She came here at the age of 2. She did not do anything wrong.

She did everything right. She finished high school, against the odds. She developed a talent, against the odds. She was accepted at one of the best music schools in America, and our law very clearly said: Leave; we don't want you. If you want to try to come back in 10 years, that is your business.

I don't think that is right. That is why 15 years ago I introduced the DREAM Act. It said: If you are one of those kids brought here under the age of 16, have finished high school, and have no serious criminal issues, we are going to give you a chance. Go to college or join the military and we will give you a path to ultimately getting to the back of the line but becoming a citizen of the United States—the DREAM Act.

When I introduced this bill to solve Tereza Lee's problem, I used to give speeches about it all around Chicago. A funny thing would happen. When I would finish the speech and go back to my car, sometimes at night, there would be somebody waiting by my car. As I got closer, it turned out to be a very young girl, usually, maybe with her friend.

They would wait to make sure no one was around. The young girl would say to me: Senator, I am one of those DREAMers. I am undocumented. My mom and dad are scared to death that they are going to be deported, and then I will be deported. I hope you can pass this.

Well, time passed. We called the bill on the floor and called it in the House. We have never been able to make it the law of the land. Sadly, the reality is that there are probably 2.5 million young people living in America who would qualify under the DREAM Act to be given a chance to become legal—2.5 million.

What happened to Tereza Lee? I have to finish that story. She ended up going to the Manhattan School of Music. Two families stepped forward—families that had befriended the Merit music program in Chicago. I know one of them well. They said: This girl is too good. We can't waste her talent. We will pay for her education.

They did so out of pocket. She did not qualify for any Federal assistance because she is undocumented. So Tereza finished school and played in Carnegie Hall. Now she is about to complete her Ph.D. in music. She is living in Brooklyn, NY. She is a mom with a little girl. She married an American musician so she is legal—finally. That is her story. Thank goodness this determined young girl stuck with it. We have to stick with it too.

The people who want to turn away these 2.5 million DREAMers ought to take a minute to meet them—just to meet them and to understand what it

is to be a young person in America going through all the challenges of adolescence and all of the challenges that might be brought to you in your community or by our family and knowing in the back of your mind that at any moment, someone can knock on the door and tell you that you have to leave this country and that you are not here legally.

They do it, and they fight every single day for a chance and a dream so that someday they will become part of the only country they have ever known. These are kids who, just like the Senate a few minutes ago, got up every day in the classroom and pledged allegiance to that flag, the only flag they have ever known. They do not view themselves as Mexican or Korean. They view themselves as Americans.

The question is this: How do we view them? Do we view them as an asset to America or do we view them as a problem—a problem that should be thrown away and deported? You are listening to the Presidential campaign. We all are. I am not going to go into detail about some of the terrible things that have been said, but I just wish some of the haters, some of the people who want to turn on these young people, would meet them. Come and meet them. Hear their stories.

I think even the hardest, coldest heart would be moved by them. Across the street—you can see it through the window—is the Supreme Court building. It was about 12 years ago that we decided to do something in the Senate that I thought was a great idea. Every 2 years, when there is a new class of Senators, we have a dinner with the Justices of the Supreme Court. We do it at their place. It is right across the street. We line up in the entryway there—the beautiful marble entryway. There are tables set up, each of us sits at a table with one of the Justices.

I can remember one of the early times I went over there. I shared the table with another Senator, Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia, a legendary Member of the Senate and former President pro tempore of the Senate. He served here for decades and carried the Constitution around in his breast pocket. In his great days he could recite poetry nonstop. He was a real believer in the Senate. He wrote the history of the Senate, one that probably will never be matched. I shared a table with him in the Supreme Court for one of these dinners.

I said: Isn't this a beautiful building?

He said: It sure is.

I said: How often do you get over here, Senator Byrd?

He said: This is my first time.

I said: You have been in the Senate for 40-plus years, and this is your first time? Why?

He said: Well, it is a separate branch of government. We must respect them. They had never asked me to come over.

Well, I see it a little differently. I go across that street because, yes, it is a separate branch of government, but it

is one that we should understand and respect, as I hope they understand and respect Congress on this side of the street. So this morning I did. I went over for an argument before the Supreme Court. There was a huge mob out in front of the Supreme Court because the case that was being considered is one that affects millions of lives in America—*Texas v. United States*.

The question is this: What are we going to do with people like Tereza Lee, whom I just described earlier. You see, what happened 6 years ago is that I joined with Republican Senator Richard Lugar of Indiana and wrote a letter to President Obama saying: If the Congress is not going to change the law to make it possible for these young people to stay in this country, would you issue an Executive order that allows them, at least on a temporary basis, to stay in the United States?

Within a year or two, the President agreed to do it. He created what is known as the DACA Program. It basically says that young people like Tereza Lee, whom I described earlier, can step forward, identify themselves to our government, submit themselves for criminal investigation, and pay a filing fee of around \$500, I believe it is. If they do, they will be given the right to stay in the United States on a temporary renewable basis for 2 years or 3 years.

That is what DACA is all about—so that young people can pursue their lives at least with the understanding that for a few years, they don't have to worry about that knock on the door. Oh, if they get a job, they have to pay their taxes. If they go to college, they are not going to get a penny from this government. We don't help them pay for their college education.

The President did it. I applauded him for doing it. So far, 700,000 young people just like Tereza Lee have signed up for protection under DACA. We estimate that the total universe of young people eligible is about 2.5 million. So the President attempted to extend the DACA Program. He said: We need to address the problem with their parents. Many of these parents have children who are U.S. citizens and legally in the United States, but they are undocumented and subject to deportation.

So the President said, in what is known as DAPA: The parents of these kids can come forward, submit themselves to a criminal background check with fingerprints and all, pay a filing fee of around \$500, and then they will be allowed, on a temporary, renewable basis, if they keep their noses clean, to work in this country.

If they are going to work in this country, they have to pay their taxes. Well, that is what the President suggested. As soon as he made these two proposals to extend DACA and to create this other program for the parents, a lawsuit was filed. It was led by the State of Texas, and 25 other States, I believe, joined. That is the case before the Supreme Court today.

Before I get into the details of that case—and I want to say a word about it on the floor this afternoon—let me say one other thing. What Senator Byrd told me about not going across the street was not only respect for that institution of the Supreme Court, but as a Senator he was basically saying that we need to respect their right to be above politics. We want to make certain that that branch of government is above politics, that they apply the law and interpret the Constitution in a nonpolitical way.

Sometimes I read their decisions and think they have gone political on us. But the goal is to make sure they are preserved from becoming political. This morning, when I went before the Supreme Court, I did not face nine Justices, only eight. Antonin Scalia, who passed away a few weeks ago, created a vacancy that has not been filled. Why has the Senate failed to fill this vacancy on the Supreme Court? Because within hours of the untimely death of Justice Scalia, the Republican leader, Senator MCCONNELL, who was here a few moments ago, announced publicly: We will not fill this vacancy on the Supreme Court.

That is important to remember. It is the first time in the history of the United States of America—the first time in the history of the Senate—that the Senate is refusing a hearing for a Presidential nominee to fill a vacancy on the Supreme Court. It has never happened before—never.

Oh, the Republicans argue: Well, if the shoe were on the other foot, I am sure you Democrats would do exactly the same thing. I call their attention to the year 1988. Republican President Ronald Reagan, with a vacancy on the Supreme Court, submitted the name of Anthony Kennedy to the Senate. A Republican President was filling a vacancy on the Supreme Court, and he submitted the name of his nominee.

The Senate, then controlled by the Democrats, gave Anthony Kennedy a hearing, a strong vote, and sent him over to the Supreme Court. So when the shoe was on the other foot, we did not play politics. But now we are. So I faced eight Justices over there as that argument was made this morning. I thought to myself: If they end up in a 4-to-4 tie—and that can happen—it will be chaos and confusion across America, with different courts and different districts having different interpretations of the same law.

How did we get into this mess? Because the Republican majority in the Senate has decided: We are not going to appoint anyone to fill this vacancy. Their argument is this: Let the American people speak to filling this vacancy in the Presidential election. Let them decide whether it will be a Democrat or a Republican President filling this vacancy.

There might be some value to that argument if President Obama, in the last election, when he was running for reelection in 2012, had been running for

a term of 3 years. You can argue then that this fourth year he was not entitled to be President. But you know what. It turns out that he was running for a 4-year term. It turns out he won by 5 million votes. It turns out that when it comes to being Commander in Chief and President of the United States, he has all the powers vested in him by the Constitution, even in the fourth year. Isn't that amazing—4 years as the President? That is what the American people decided, but only to be overruled by the Republican majority in the Senate.

Sorry, Mr. President, they say, you only get 3 years. Maybe we give you 3 years and 2 months, but you sure don't have the right to try and fill a vacancy on the Supreme Court, even though the Constitution explicitly says in article II, section 2: The President shall appoint a nominee to fill a vacancy on the Supreme Court. Their argument is that you may think you are President when it comes to the Supreme Court, but the Senate Republican majority thinks otherwise.

I sat down with Merrick Garland. He is the proposed nominee to fill this vacancy. He is chief judge of the D.C. Circuit Court, which is a high position in the judiciary. He was born in Illinois, so I come to his nomination with some prejudice, but he is an extraordinary person.

People have said: Well, why didn't the President choose a woman? Why didn't the President choose an African American? Why didn't he choose a Hispanic? Why didn't he choose someone from India? Why did he choose this man?

I think he chose him for an obvious reason: He is clearly qualified. Even Republican Senators have said nice things about him publicly. Many of them have said they refuse to even meet with him, will not even sit in the same room with him. Some have agreed to, but many have said no. Senator MCCONNELL said: I won't meet with him because he is not going to get a hearing and he is not going to get a vote.

It is time for us to fill that vacancy. It is time for us to accept our constitutional responsibility and show respect for the document we all swore to uphold and defend when we took the oath of office. It is time to fill that vacancy and put nine Justices on the Supreme Court to avoid the uncertainty, confusion, and chaos which might otherwise emerge.

I wish to say a word about the case before the Court this morning. This was a case—*United States v. Texas*—a legal challenge, as I mentioned earlier, to the President's immigration policy, filed by 26 Republican Governors. I believe this lawsuit has no legal merit. It is driven by political hostility toward President Obama and his immigration policy.

I was proud to join an amicus brief signed by 39 Senators on our side of the aisle and 186 House Democrats in support of the administration's decision

on immigration. The President is on very solid ground in this case. I am hoping and confident that the Supreme Court will rule in his favor.

As an initial matter before the case proceeds, the States that filed this lawsuit have to show they will be harmed by the President's immigration policy. Otherwise, they really don't have any standing to sue. It turns out that exactly the opposite is true. The President's policy allowing people to work here on a temporary basis under his Executive orders will create a huge benefit to the American economy.

Over the next 10 years, in the State of Texas alone—and they brought the lawsuit; at least started it—the President's immigration action would increase that State's gross domestic product by more than \$38 billion and increase the earnings of all Texas residents by \$17.5 billion. They argue that the President's immigration policy would cost the State of Texas money. It turns out that exactly the opposite is true.

Even if the States have standing to sue, the Supreme Court repeatedly has held that the Federal Government has broad authority to decide questions of immigration. Justice Anthony Kennedy, appointed earlier, wrote the opinion for the Court striking down Arizona's controversial immigration law. Listen to what he said:

A principal feature of the removal system—

Removal of people who are not eligible to be in the United States—

is the broad discretion exercised by immigration officials. . . . Discretion in the enforcement of immigration law embraces immediate human concerns. Unauthorized workers trying to support their families, for example, likely pose less danger than alien smugglers or aliens who commit a serious crime.

This administration's immigration policy is not just legal, it is smart and realistic. The President has said simply: We should prioritize. We have limited resources. We can't deport all those who are here undocumented. If we are only going to deport some, let's pick those who are a danger to the United States.

The President has focused on those who have been convicted of serious crimes or pose a threat to our security. And shouldn't he? As Commander in Chief, shouldn't that be his highest priority, to make sure anyone who is a danger to the United States is gone? He knows he can't deport all even if he wished to, so he focuses on those who may be a danger to the United States—prosecutorial discretion. The Department of Homeland Security only has enough funding to deport a small fraction of undocumented, so the President wants to focus the limited resources on those who could do us harm. That is just common sense.

At the same time, the President said that we should not waste our resources on deporting young immigrant students who grow up in this country, such as Tereza Lee, whom I mentioned

earlier, or tear apart families by deporting the parents of U.S. citizens. The President's policy is focused on deporting felons, not families—criminals, not children.

In November of 2014, President Obama established this program, DAPA, Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents. Under DAPA, undocumented immigrants who have lived in the United States for more than 5 years and have American children would be required to come forward, register with the government, pay a fee, go through a criminal background check and a national security background check, and pay their taxes.

If the government determines these parents have not committed any serious crimes and don't pose any threat, this Executive order says: On a temporary, renewable basis, they will not be targeted for deportation.

President Obama also expanded the DACA Program for children, as I mentioned earlier, at the same time. Why did he do that? Because for years Republicans in Congress have refused to consider legislation to fix our broken immigration system.

On the floor of the Senate on June 27, 2013, I joined a group of seven other Senators—four Democrats and four Republicans in total. We had worked for months to construct a bipartisan, comprehensive immigration bill. We had to give a lot. There were things in that bill which I didn't like at all and things which some of the Republican Senators didn't like, but it is the nature of legislation and compromise that that happens.

We brought the bill to the floor for a vote after a lengthy markup in the Senate Judiciary Committee, and dozens of amendments had been offered. The Senate passed comprehensive immigration reform legislation on June 27, 2013, 68 to 32—more than 2 to 1. That bill would have strengthened border security, protected American workers, and established a tough but fair path to citizenship for 11 million undocumented immigrants who were then currently living in our country.

What happened to the bill after it passed the Senate? I take you back to how laws are made and your civics course. It went across the Rotunda to the House of Representatives, which was under Republican control. The majority in the House of Representatives refused to call the bill, refused to even bring it to the floor for a debate, and refused to offer any substitute. They did nothing—nothing, despite our broken immigration system. In the face of this, the President was left with no choice.

For the good of the American people, he used the authority given him as President to try to make some reforms to our immigration system. The Center for American Progress has studied what the President proposed, and they say that over the next 10 years, if these two programs—DACA and DAPA—were

passed, the gross domestic product for my home State of Illinois would increase by \$15 billion and the earnings of Illinois residents would increase by almost \$8 billion. Could your State use that—more economic activity, more people paying taxes to the Federal Government and to your State? Virtually every State could use that.

It is unfortunate that these bills have been blocked by the Senate, and now they are trying to block them in the Supreme Court.

I see Senator CORNYN is on the floor, and I will close by telling a story about another DREAMer. I have done this quite a few times. My staff has done a lot of work on it. I thank them all for it. These stories really say a lot more than I ever could in a speech. They tell us what was at stake before the Supreme Court of the United States this morning.

This attractive young woman is Vasthy Lamadrid. Her family came to the United States from Mexico. She was 5 years old. They came here with nothing. They moved into a home with four other families, so a lot of the kids slept in the same room.

Despite their poverty, Vasthy felt safe and excelled in school. Math was her best subject. She had nearly perfect scores on standardized tests. English was tough, but then she discovered a series of books called "Goosebumps." If you have kids or grandkids, I bet you have heard of that one. She became an avid reader and mastered the English language.

By middle school, Vasthy was placed in the gifted program. That is where she discovered her love of engineering. She was a student in the Engineering Pathway at Bioscience High School, where she received the Young Entrepreneurs Award, made the principal's list every semester, and played tennis. She was an active volunteer, working with such groups as Girls For Change, CompuGirls, E-Tech, Hospice of the Valley, and St. Joseph's Hospital. Vasthy also helped younger kids in her neighborhood by tutoring them in math and tennis.

Vasthy went on to attend Arizona State University. Because she is undocumented, she didn't qualify for a penny of government assistance, and she had to pay out-of-State tuition despite the fact that she had lived her entire life in the United States, in Arizona.

Then something extraordinary happened. Counting on the generosity of the American people, Vasthy decided to crowdfund her college education. She shared her life story online and asked people to contribute to help her pay her tuition. Well, it worked. She is currently in her second year of college. In the first semester, she made the dean's list with a 3.79 GPA in the Ira Fulton School of Engineering.

Thanks to DACA—the Presidential Executive order—she is able to support herself. She has also made time to continue to volunteer for a club called

STEM Academy mentoring young children. She volunteers with the Arizona Immigration Refugee Service as an English teacher. As a result of her volunteer work, she has decided she wants to become a science teacher. Can we use more science teachers in America? You bet.

This is what she said in a letter she wrote:

DACA signifies to me a chance to show that I belong here—that inside I am an American. It represents an opportunity to show that my parents' sacrifice was worth it. I love this country and want to one day become a citizen and continue to give back to the community. I don't need that journey to become a citizen to be easily given to me, but I'd hope that the journey is fair.

Vasthy and other DREAMers have so much they can give to America.

I don't understand the Republican Party when it comes to the issue of immigration. We are a nation of immigrants. My mother was an immigrant to this country. I am a first-generation American and proud of it. It is my honor to serve and represent a great State like Illinois. I know what her journey was like. She was brought here at the age of 2 from Lithuania. I know what her early life was like as she struggled to try to make sure there was food on the table, first for her mom, sister, and brother, and then ultimately for her own family. That is my family's story, but it is a story that is repeated over and over again.

There is something in the DNA of immigrants who are willing to risk everything in this world to go to a country where they don't even speak the language because they know they will have an opportunity here, and they bring something with them. That is why they light up the scoreboard in Silicon Valley with all of these new inventions and new corporations with thousands of employees that make us an economic success in many fields. That is why we should think twice about those who condemn immigrants in this Nation of immigrants.

I am confident the Supreme Court will uphold the President's immigration actions. Then I hope, after they have done this, that the Republicans in Congress will finally decide to return to the table and work on a bipartisan basis for comprehensive immigration reform.

I yield the floor.

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

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I am always impressed with the distinguished Democratic whip and his eloquence, but he is telling the American people that we have to choose between being a nation of immigrants or a nation of laws. The fact is, we don't have to make that choice; we can be both. But we can't do it when we have a President who simply believes he can do an end run around the U.S. Constitution.

In fact, according to Pew, about 3.5 million people could claim the benefits of the President's unlawful Executive action, receiving work permits, driver's

licenses, and Social Security numbers. While we are a compassionate country, we are a nation of immigrants, that is not the kind of decision the Constitution gives to a single political actor, even if he is the President of the United States.

So there is a right way and a wrong way. And I realize the distinguished Democratic whip believes that just because they can't get what they want when they want it, the President can then resort to this end run, but thankfully that is not the view of the courts. The U.S. Federal district court in Brownsville, TX, issued an injunction against the President's Executive action. The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed that injunction, and now the Supreme Court of the United States heard arguments in the case this afternoon.

This is really more than just about immigration. This is whether, under the doctrine of separation of powers, the Constitution we have lived under for lo these many years gives the President unilateral authority without the approval of Congress, the elected representatives of the people, and in flagrant disregard for the laws that are already on the books.

The heart of the case the Court heard today is about stopping a President who said: I have a pen and I have a phone. And even though the American people have given Republicans a majority in both Houses and obviously forced the President to deal with a Republican conference to come up with consensus legislation, the President said: Forget that. I am not about trying to achieve bipartisan consensus on anything. If I don't get what I want, I am going to jam it through the system and hope the courts don't stop me. So it is not just about immigration, it is about the Constitution itself.

There are perhaps 22 different times, by my count, where the President of the United States acknowledged he didn't even have this authority. I remember in a speech he gave to La Raza, an interview he gave on Univision, the President denied he had the authority, which now, miraculously, our Democratic friends think is clear-cut under the law. How can that be? It cannot be.

I remember specifically being at a meeting where the President invited the leadership of both the House and the Senate to the White House after the 2014 election. Many may recall that leading up to that point, there had been a lot of rumors about the President issuing an Executive action, but he had not done so. I remember specifically sitting there in the White House with some of my colleagues from the House and the Senate, where then-Speaker Boehner said to the President: Please, Mr. President, don't do this. Don't poison the well. Don't make it impossible, by such a polarizing action, for us to build consensus on the building blocks of immigration reform where we could actually agree.

I remember Majority Leader McCARTHY making the same comment. I joined in and reiterated the same point. The President, defiant, told us he was going to go ahead and do it.

There are a lot of conversations people are having today across the United States. I had some of those earlier today during some visits with people who were just wondering how to explain the political environment in America today. What I tell them is that this seems unprecedented in my experience. People are so angry. People are so scared. People are frightened and worried about the next generation. And for the first time in my memory, parents are doubting whether their children will enjoy the same sorts of freedom and prosperity that we enjoy today. That is a tragedy.

My parents were part of the "greatest generation." My dad was a B-17 pilot in the Army Air Corps, even before the Air Force came into being. On his 26th bombing mission over Nazi Germany, while he was flying in the 8th Air Force out of Molesworth, England, he was shot down and captured as a prisoner of war for 4 months. Fortunately, that was toward the tail end of the war. Even though he was injured in his parachute jump—not seriously, as it turned out, although he had some disability associated with that later in life—he managed to survive that and even survived an appendectomy by a fellow prisoner of war when he had appendicitis in a POW camp. It is amazing.

I always thought my dad had nine lives. Even though he passed away at the very young age of 67, he survived countless occasions when surely he could have lost his life, including those occasions of jumping out of a burning B-17 plane over Germany and an appendectomy in a POW camp at the hands of a fellow prisoner of war.

The reason my parents and all of our parents sacrificed so much and risked so much and worked so hard is that they believed in the promise of America—the promise that exists only when the law is respected, when people in high office are bound by and obligated to and held accountable to the same laws that govern the most humble among us. That is what America is all about—a country where people, if they work hard and play by the rules, can achieve their dreams. I think that is the reason America seems so polarized today. People have sort of jumped outside the usual paradigm of political calculation where you are a liberal or you are a conservative or you are somewhere in the middle. People have sort of jumped that track, and we are seeing something entirely different on the left and on the right. I think the reason is, in part, because of a President who believes he is not bound by the Constitution and laws of the United States.

People are frightened because they have seen over the last 7 years—even though the President was stopped legislatively after the Affordable Care Act

was passed and after Dodd-Frank was passed and then stopped by the electorate giving the Republicans a majority in the House and in 2014 a majority in Senate—that this President will not be stopped by the voters. That is the determination he made, and this Executive order is exhibit 1 because he said: I don't care what the voters think. I don't care what the American people think. I don't care what the Constitution says. I don't care that what Congress says should be the law of the land. I am going to do it the way I want to do it. Frankly, that is scary stuff when you are talking about the Commander in Chief, the leader of the free world, and the sort of power that goes along with that.

Rather than heed the warning—or I would really call it the plea of leaders in the House and the Senate after the 2014 election—the President decided to go around Congress and try to essentially change the law, giving work permits to people who were illegally present in the country, giving them driver's licenses, even giving Social Security numbers to an estimated 3.5 million people. How can the President do this when Congress is deadlocked? Well, he did it. And that is a question the Supreme Court is going to have to decide.

At the time, the President called it a middle-ground approach. He is a master of rhetoric. The problem is the facts belie his words. The fact of the matter is this was a constitutional scorched-earth tactic. And more than anything else, it eroded public confidence in Congress's ability, working with the White House, to get anything constructive done in the area of immigration.

The Acting President pro tempore is, of course, from the great State of Oklahoma, and he went to school in Texas. He understands what I understand: We have a large Hispanic population in Texas—about 38 percent. But we are a very diverse State. Many people are surprised when I tell them the third most commonly spoken language in Texas today is Vietnamese—Vietnamese. Can you believe that? We also have a large Indian American population.

We are a very diverse State, and the main reason for that is we still represent that land of opportunity that America used to be, where people can come, work hard—those of modest means, with little on their backs and maybe nothing in their pockets—and achieve something and live the American dream. So I resent, I really do resent, the distinguished Senator from Illinois trying to tell us the President was only trying to do something that was good for Texas. He doesn't have a clue. In fact, if we were to follow the policy choices of the leadership in Texas, the country would be a heck of a lot better off when it comes to taking advantage of our energy resources, when it comes to taxes, reasonable regulation, and a willingness to try to ac-

commodate those who invest capital and create jobs. To me, that is the single biggest difference between where I live in Texas and what I see across our country and what is coming out of Washington, DC. There seems to be an attitude here in Washington of how many more obstacles, how many larger impediments can we place in the way of those who invest the capital and those who are creating the jobs and still expect the American dream to be alive.

Believe me, we have tested it. The Obama administration has tested it, and what it has produced is disaster. It has produced a health care system that, rather than making health care more affordable, has made it more expensive, has caused people who liked their coverage to give up their coverage only to buy something that had a deductible that has, in essence, made them self-insured. It has created stagnant wages. It has created stagnant economic growth.

There are not a lot of problems we have in this country that couldn't be mitigated, made better, if we just saw our economy growing again, instead of the sort of anemic and flatlined growth we have seen since 2008.

My predecessor in the Senate, Mr. Phil Gramm, has a Ph.D. in economics from Texas A&M University. He has made the point that, historically, what you see after a recession like the one we saw following the fiscal crisis in 2008 is a V-shape recovery. In other words, you hit the bottom and you bounce up and you grow quickly because basically you have worked the problems out of the system. But what we have seen since 2008 is a U-shaped recovery, if you could even call it that. It is pretty close to flat, where the economy is growing at less than 2 percent, which is not fast enough to keep people fully employed. And we still have—although the unemployment rate has dropped down, we still have the smallest percentage of people participating in the workforce that we have had in the last 30 years. Many people have simply given up, retired early, or made other arrangements. This is a serious matter.

The Supreme Court heard arguments today. We know there are currently eight members of the Supreme Court. I heard the distinguished Democratic whip complain about the fact that we have decided to allow the voters to choose in November the President who will make the choice to fill the Scalia vacancy. Well, the fact of the matter is, it is simply too important to allow President Obama, given his penchant for lawlessness and usurpation of constitutional authority—to give him the chance to stack the Supreme Court in favor of a Court that would likely rubberstamp his actions and those of future Presidents for the next 25 years.

The hypocrisy is rich, listening to our Democratic colleagues. These are the folks who invented the judicial filibuster. They invented the judicial fili-

buster. They did that when President George W. Bush was President. As controversial as the nomination of Clarence Thomas was, I believe he was confirmed with 52 votes—not 60 votes but 52 because nobody dreamed back then that Senate rules would allow the minority party to insist on 60 votes to confirm a President's appointee.

We know that after the election where the Democratic majority lost that majority, in a lameduck session they jammed a number of appointees onto the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals in an effort to pack that court to match the ideological picture they wanted. Again, this is the second most important court in the Nation, which they believed would be more inclined to rubberstamp the overreaching by the Obama administration.

We are all familiar with the Biden speech in 1992 when, as chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, he suggested it would be perhaps inappropriate to confirm a Presidential nominee in the waning days of that President's term.

We saw the Harry Reid speech in 2005, where he said it is the President's prerogative to appoint, but the Senate is not obligated to grant consent to that nomination. Actually, I agree with Senator REID back then, but not today, when he has taken the exact opposite approach.

Then there is Senator SCHUMER, the heir apparent to the Democratic leadership in the Senate, who said, in 2007, 18 months before George W. Bush left office: I think there ought to be a presumption against confirmation.

To listen to my Democratic colleagues complain about the decision we have made to let the voters vote for the President who is going to fill that vacancy and to watch them—well, it looks like crocodile tears to me, and it smells like hypocrisy.

As we have said, the Supreme Court of the United States heard arguments today in a case brought by the State of Texas and other States that would otherwise be compelled to grant work permits, issue driver's licenses and Social Security numbers to people illegally present in the United States who did not comply with our laws. I am confident the Court will find that the States have suffered real harm from the standpoint of the constitutional notion of standing; in other words, you have to have standing before you can sue. Basically, it means you have to show real or potential harm if the Court doesn't act. I am confident the Court will find standing.

But the Court will do one of two things. Either the Court will affirm by being split 4 to 4 or all eight Justices could write in favor of the Fifth Circuit decision to let the injunction stand or, if the Court deems that this issue needs to be held over until the Court has all nine members, after the first of the year, that is a decision the Court can make.

This is a very important issue, and I am glad the Court is taking it up. We

need to know—we need to know whether we remain a nation of laws as well as a nation of immigrants. The whole idea our Democratic colleagues have foisted on us that somehow we have to choose between those two is a false choice. It is a false choice. We are both. We aren't one or the other. America has always been made better by people who have risked coming to the United States because they weren't satisfied with what they had or where they lived, but the day we begin rewarding people who do this in disregard of the laws is the day we begin to no longer be a nation of laws, and that is a legacy and a treasure we should not squander.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

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

TAX REFORM

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I rise to discuss an issue of importance for Nebraskans and Americans all across this country; that is, the need for comprehensive tax reform.

It is no secret the current Tax Code is overly complex and outdated. Any American can tell you how frustrating it is to file a tax return. Our Tax Code is riddled with deductions, exemptions, credits, exclusions, preferences, and loopholes that make it nearly impossible for anyone without a degree in tax law to understand.

At the same time, we should recognize that some progress has been made. Thanks to the work of Chairman HATCH and members of the Senate Finance Committee, many important updates to the Tax Code were made permanent at the end of last year. In particular, increasing the deduction limit and making permanent section 179 of the Tax Code was an important step. This section allows small businesses to deduct from their taxes certain depreciable business assets. My constituents told me annual uncertainty about whether section 179 would be renewed made it very difficult for them to plan, to invest, and to grow their businesses. Making this provision permanent reduced the ambiguity that had plagued Nebraska's small business owners and operators.

Although we have made some progress in reforming the Tax Code, there is more work to do for the American people. I believe tax reform should focus on several principles, including competitiveness, simplicity, and economic growth. At nearly 40 percent, the United States has the highest combined corporate tax rate in the developed world. This is stifling job growth, hurting families, and compelling businesses to move overseas. Any comprehensive plan should seek to lower this rate to a competitive level, one that will not only encourage current businesses to stay but also incentivize new businesses to set up shop.

Another goal of comprehensive tax reform should be to simplify the Tax Code. Families and businesses spend billions of hours every year in com-

pleting their taxes. A disproportionate share of this burden is shouldered by many small businesses. Many of these are family businesses, and they don't have the resources to easily comply.

Creating a tax system that is simple and efficient will reduce administrative and compliance costs. A simple tax system will also increase transparency, allowing Americans to fill out their taxes accurately while preventing fraud and lost revenue. Perhaps most importantly, any plan to reform the Tax Code—well, it must spur economic growth. Inaction on reforming the Tax Code is delaying needed growth in GDP, jobs, and investment.

When I was first elected to the Senate, I thought my colleagues and I would immediately take up two issues to restart our economy, grow jobs, and help all American families: tax reform and reducing the overburden of government regulations. After all, it is pretty obvious these are two issues we can reform that would have a positive impact on our economy. We see regulations become ever more burdensome, and they continue to depress our economy, stifle innovation, and hurt our families.

Major tax reform has not happened. We continue to chip away, but I believe now is the time we step up and be bolder. We must make the necessary reforms to our tax system to give Americans confidence in our future. We need to help put more money back in the pockets of hardworking Americans and allow them to spend money on the goods and services they choose and that they need.

It is my hope my colleagues will join me in continuing this discussion and that this dialogue then will eventually result in action, in comprehensive tax reform that truly benefits Nebraskans and the American people.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CHINA'S ALUMINUM INDUSTRY

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, over the last few decades, China has used market-distorting subsidies and industrial policies to repeatedly prop up their own industries and rip off American jobs. Steel, tires, solar panels—the story plays out again and again. Too often China's economy is not run by the markets; it is run by government committee. So even though its own State Council has called out the problem of severe excess capacities, China clings to the same old tired and destructive policies. Today I want to address what is happening now with China's huge overcapacity of aluminum.

The amount of aluminum Chinese smelters are churning out has gone up by more than 1,200 percent in a decade

and a half. In 2000, they produced 2.5 million metric tons. In 2015 China produced 32 million metric tons. When you create a glut of aluminum production the way China has, you send the markets into turmoil and you do enormous harm to American workers.

I spoke last week at a public hearing held by the U.S. Trade Representative and the International Trade Commission about how the overproduction of steel in China is an urgent and immediate threat to steel jobs here in our country. While China's steel mills are churning out more steel than ever, American steel towns are suffering or worse. Thousands of jobs nationwide have been lost just in the last year. Even though one-third of all steel produced today has no buyer, China keeps adding and adding to the glut by producing more steel.

The same story is played out in the case of primary aluminum. There is a huge overcapacity in China that, once again, is driven by market-distorting government policies. It has unleashed a chain of events that can end in economic devastation across this country. Global aluminum prices have already plummeted, undercutting our American companies. Between the start of 2011 and this upcoming June, the lights will have gone out at nearly two-thirds of the aluminum smelters in the United States. More than 6,500 jobs—good American jobs—will have been lost. You can bet that sooner or later the damage will ripple downstream through the entire aluminum industry, which employs three-quarters of a million Americans either directly or indirectly.

In my judgment, the United States is badly in need of a safeguard against this economic tidal wave. That is why I have chosen to stand with my friend Leo Gerard, president of the United Steelworkers, and the steelworkers. They filed a petition for relief under section 201 of the Trade Act of 1974 today. Without an immediate economic bulwark, the United States is in danger of losing thousands of good family-wage jobs across our country.

It is my view that the administration should act in this case as soon as possible to defend our workers and our businesses from economic ruin. The United States and our trading partners must ramp up the pressure on China to stop overproduction, and our trade enforcers have to take on the trade cheats and use every single trade tool in the toolbox, including the ENFORCE Act, the Leveling the Playing Field Act, and the other measures my colleagues and I on the Finance Committee fought to get signed into law over the last year.

I firmly believe workers in Oregon and across this country can compete with anybody in the world, but the United States cannot afford to sit idly by and watch China's destructive policies cause our aluminum industry to be wiped out. As the steelworkers have pointed out repeatedly, enough is

enough. Leo Gerard and those steelworkers are standing up and fighting back, and I am honored to stand with them.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, in a few moments, we will be voting on ending debate on H.R. 636, and that will allow us to proceed to a vote on the bipartisan Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act of 2016. I wish to urge my colleagues to support that motion to end debate.

The legislation we are considering is not just any FAA reauthorization. This bill is the most pro-passenger and pro-security FAA reauthorization in recent history. Travelers are frustrated, and this bill contains commonsense reforms to make travel safe and secure and more passenger-friendly.

For over 2 weeks on the Senate floor now and before that in the Commerce Committee, where I serve as chairman, we have been working hard to thoughtfully develop this bill and to allow for robust debate. For instance, there are drone safety provisions in the bill, including a pilot program to deploy technology to intercept drones near airports. These provisions are obviously intended to prevent accidents like the one that happened outside the Heathrow Airport this weekend, where a drone hit an approaching plane.

We developed this provision and others in the bill through an open process that allowed every member of the committee to contribute and help write the bill. Last year, we held six hearings on topics that helped inform our bill, and at the committee markup last month alone, we accepted 57 amendments, 34 of which were sponsored by Democrats and 23 by Republicans. On the Senate floor, when it was reported out and taken up, we added 19 amendments, 10 from Democrats and 9 from Republican Senators. The resulting bill is one we can be proud of, and both sides of the aisle have commended us for our inclusive process. When there have been differences, we have been able to find ways to address or set those aside for later so the progress on the legislation could move forward.

Even at this late hour, we have worked constructively to assemble a possible managers' package of more than two dozen additional amendments that we would like to adopt by voice vote prior to final passage. Yet, even if that is not possible, I commit to those Senators whose amendments we stand prepared to accept that I will work to address their concerns as we engage with our colleagues in the House of Representatives.

Now it is time to conclude our work on the bipartisan FAA bill that I introduced a long ways back, along with my friend and ranking member, Senator BILL NELSON, and our Aviation Subcommittee leaders, Senators KELLY AYOTTE and MARIA CANTWELL.

The bill includes reforms benefiting the traveling public, and we shouldn't let them down. Let's vote yes on the motion to end debate and start moving these historic reforms forward.

As I mentioned, I have a list of 26 amendments that we would like to clear—amendments offered by both sides. It is a package we could adopt. We have a couple of objections to doing that. If the Members who have put forward those objections would be willing to release those objections, we would be able to get another 26 amendments adopted, many of which have been offered by colleagues, as I said, on both sides and many of which contain measures that I think will make the bill even stronger and make it a product we can all be proud of as it moves over to the House of Representatives. There, I hope it will receive consideration and action and ultimately end up on the President's desk.

The FAA bill is legislation we have to do on a fairly routine basis around here. This authorization will stand for about 18 months. There are a number of important considerations that need to be addressed that this bill not only acknowledges but addresses. As I mentioned, those considerations have to do with drone safety, which is an increasingly important issue in our economy and one where we need to make sure we have the right rules of the air, if you will, in place so that we preserve and ensure that safety is the No. 1 factor as we continue to see the increased research, development, and deployment of drone technologies in ways that have tremendous commercial application. As I said, it also includes a lot of passenger protections which are very consumer-friendly in terms of passengers who travel on a regular basis with the airlines. So those are things as well that we need to address in this legislation.

We enhanced the bill by amendment when it came to the floor with a couple of safety provisions that we think are critically important, particularly in light of what has happened of late with the attack in Brussels and a number of other attacks we have seen, where we have had aviation insiders involved, if you will—particularly the Metrojet airliner that crashed not that long ago and killed 224 people. There are a number of safety provisions that help address some of those concerns. As I said, we expand the TSA precheck program to limit the number of people who are in areas outside secure areas—outside the perimeter, so to speak—where they are more vulnerable to these types of attacks.

These are all included in this legislation. So from an aviation security standpoint, this bill includes the most

comprehensive security measures we will have adopted in nearly a decade. As I said before, from a passenger-friendly standpoint, according to a columnist at the Washington Post, this is one of the most passenger-friendly FAA reauthorization bills we have seen literally in a generation. So these are reasons why this bill needs to move forward.

I hope my colleagues here in the Senate, when the vote comes here in a few minutes, will cast a vote in support of ending debate and allow us to move forward to a vote on final passage, which will enable this legislation to move forward to the House of Representatives and I hope ultimately to the President so he can sign it into law and put many of these provisions in place that would be good for our country.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, today, I wish to pay tribute to Sarah Root, a young woman from Iowa who just graduated from college with perfect grades. She was devoted to her family and friends and had a bright future, but she was taken from this earth too soon.

I want to express my sympathies to Sarah's parents and acknowledge Michelle Root, Sarah's mother, who is watching today. She will be testifying tomorrow before the House Committee on the Judiciary at a hearing titled, "The Real Victims of a Reckless and Lawless Immigration Policy: Families and Survivors Speak Out on the Real Cost of This Administration's Policies."

The hearing will focus on how the Obama administration's failed immigration policies allow thousands of criminal aliens to roam free.

Michelle Root will share her personal story about the loss of her daughter and how someone in the country illegally was able to walk free and abscond from authorities after fatally hitting her daughter's vehicle on graduation night.

Sarah was 21 years old and had just graduated from Bellevue University with an interest in pursuing a career in criminal justice. In the words of her family, "she was full of life and ready to take on the world." According to a close friend of hers, Sarah was smart, outgoing, and dedicated to her friends and family. She embodied the words: "live, laugh, love."

The day Sarah graduated, she was struck by a drunk driver in the country illegally. The alleged drunk driver was Edwin Mejia, who had a blood alcohol

content of more than three times the legal limit.

The driver was charged with felony motor vehicle homicide and operating a vehicle while intoxicated on February 3.

Bail was set at \$50,000, but he was only required to put up 10 percent. So, for a mere \$5,000, the drunk driver walked out of jail and into the shadows.

This case has shed light on the breakdown between the Federal Government and State and locals. It has also been a terrible example of why the President's policies don't work, and how they are having a dire effect on American families like the Root family.

Under President Obama's Priority Enforcement Program, a person in the country illegally will only be detained or removed in a few limited circumstances. The administration hides behind these so-called "priorities" to ensure that a vast majority of people in the country are not removed. Some say that nearly 90,000 illegal immigrant criminals were released in 2015 because of this policy.

The administration's policies result in tragedies like Sarah's.

A smart young lady who had a bright future was struck by a drunk driver who entered the country illegally, and was turned over to a brother who was also in the country illegally, while awaiting his immigration court date.

After the accident, local law enforcement apparently asked the Federal government—specifically U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—to take custody of the driver, but the Federal government declined. ICE refused to place a detainer on him. An ICE spokesman stated that the agency did not lodge a detainer on the man because his arrest for felony motor vehicle homicide "did not meet ICE's enforcement priorities."

The driver made bond and absconded, never showing up for his hearings and required drug tests. It is difficult for the family to have closure since the man is nowhere to be found. It is unknown if he is still in the United States or if he has fled to his home country of Honduras.

Sarah Root is one of many victims who have been harmed or killed because of lax immigration enforcement and the notion that drunk driving isn't always a public safety threat.

Even though this tragic accident happened in the heartland of America, this is a border security problem. The driver of the vehicle that killed Sarah entered the country illegally.

Every day, people are illegally entering the country, being removed, entering again, and committing more crimes. Illegal re-entries are happening because there are no consequences. That is what happened in Kate Steinle's death. And, that is why we need to move on Kate's law.

That bill would deter people from illegally re-entering by enhancing pen-

alties and establishing new mandatory minimum sentences for certain individuals with previous felony convictions.

The Obama administration cannot continue to turn a blind eye to drunk drivers, sanctuary communities, and people who ignore our laws, overstay their visas, or cross the border time and again.

I am still waiting for answers from the Obama administration on this case, and many more. There are many unanswered questions.

How many more people have to die? How many more women and young people are going to be taken from their families and friends?

Things have got to change. The President must rethink his policies and must find a way to ensure that criminal immigrants are taken off the streets. The Obama administration should try enforcing the law, instead of its priorities, for the sake of the American people.

I want to wish Michelle Root the best of luck while she is in Washington this week, and send my thoughts to her father who is trying to find justice back home.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COATS). The Senator from Ohio.

Mrs. ERNST. Mr. President, I rise today to echo the sentiments shared by our senior Senator from Iowa, CHUCK GRASSLEY. Tomorrow morning, one of my constituents, Michelle Root, will be testifying before the House Judiciary Committee about the loss of her beautiful young daughter, Sarah Root. As a mother of three daughters myself, I cannot begin to fathom the pain and anguish Mrs. Root is experiencing.

Earlier this year, 21-year-old Sarah Root was killed by a drunk driver. That driver, Edwin Mejia, was allegedly drag racing with a blood alcohol level more than three times the legal limit when he crashed into the back of Sarah's vehicle.

Edwin Mejia is also an illegal immigrant. After causing the death of an American citizen and being charged with motor vehicle homicide, one would think he would clearly meet U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's so-called enforcement priorities. But no, citing the administration's November 2014 memo on immigration enforcement priorities, ICE declined to lodge a detainer and take custody of Mejia. During a recent Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee hearing, ICE Director Sarah Saldana actually suggested that ICE neglected to issue a detainer because at the time they were contacted, Sarah Root was seriously injured, not dead.

How twisted and convoluted has our immigration system become that an illegal immigrant who, while driving drunk and drag racing, hits and either seriously injures or kills an American citizen is not considered a priority for deportation?

In fact, only after a floor speech, multiple letters, and hearing questions

from Senators from Nebraska and Iowa, as well as media attention and concerns raised by the Root family, did ICE finally acknowledge that they should have taken Mejia into custody. It should not take all of those actions for ICE to determine that an illegal immigrant who kills an American citizen should be removed from our country.

Tragically, after ICE declined to file a detainer against Mejia, he posted a \$5,000 bond, was released, and has since disappeared. This is so despite the fact that he had a history of skipping court dates related to prior driving offenses.

A few weeks ago, I spoke with Sarah's dad, who told me that before they could even lay their daughter to rest, Mejia was released. This is truly an injustice, and we must do everything we can to ensure that we get answers in this case and prevent a similar tragedy from being replicated elsewhere.

While America has been and always will be a nation of immigrants, we are also a nation of laws. It is a privilege to live in this country, and anyone who comes here illegally and harms our citizens should without question constitute a priority for removal. For ICE to decide otherwise is baffling.

In recognition of their clear mistake, they have since listed Mejia on their "most wanted" list and acknowledged they should have taken him into custody.

The photograph of Sarah behind me was taken as she celebrated her graduation from Bellevue University with a 4.0 GPA and a bachelor's degree in criminal investigations and prepared to begin a bright future. The next day, she was killed.

While nothing can bring Sarah back, her family and friends deserve clear answers as to why Mejia was allowed to flee. This tragedy further underscores the administration's failed immigration enforcement priorities and should serve to spur renewed discussion about their so-called priorities.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

FILLING THE SUPREME COURT VACANCY

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, there are a lot of people in this country who work very, very hard. We are known in this country as a people who work hard.

Montanans are no exception. We have some of the hardest working folks I know who live in that great State. Whether it is a farmer preparing the spring crop or a fishing guide preparing for the upcoming tourist season, my constituents know what a long day's work looks like. In fact, many of my constituents work two jobs so they can put food on the table and a roof over their head and can save for their kid's college education. These folks don't wake up in the morning and say: Hey, I think I will take the year off and just sit it out.

That is why it is no surprise that when I went home for the March recess, Montanans were overwhelmingly disgusted with the majority's decision to refuse to do their job. Constituent after constituent asked me what the heck we were doing back here. Local editorial boards even chimed in.

The Billings Gazette, my State's largest newspaper, tore the majority to shreds, saying that those who crow about making Washington work better are intentionally sabotaging the system, making it work worse.

The Montana Standard, in "Butte, America," accused Senators of "shirking their constitutional responsibilities" and denounced their tactics as "a pretty shoddy way to do business."

If that wasn't enough, the Bozeman Daily Chronicle described the crusade as "nothing but an abdication of responsibility and another example of the kind of playground-level obstruction that has soured so many Americans on Congress and contributed to the divisive meltdown in the race to the GOP nomination for President."

Now here we are. It has been 33 days since Judge Garland was nominated to the Supreme Court—33 days and counting. Yet there are no hearings in sight, no chance for the American people to have their voices heard through their elected representatives, no chance to ask tough questions of the nominee.

This week we will hear the majority leader talk about regular order with respect to appropriations bills. But if regular order is good enough for appropriations bills, it is good enough for a Supreme Court nomination.

The bottom line is this. The American people are as frustrated as I am. They are fed up with the obstructionism, and they want Congress to do its job.

So let's have a hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee, and then let's have a vote in the Senate. As the Montana Standard says, anything less than that is "a pretty shoddy way to do business."

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. 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.

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, in about 8 minutes we are going to start the vote on a motion for cloture, moving forward on the FAA bill. We have had a lot of debate about this. It passed with very little objection in the Commerce Committee. We have a package of 26 amendments, all of which have been cleared. We hope that can go as a separate amendment, almost like a managers' package. They are all non-controversial.

I am quite encouraged that we are making a number of reforms in the

FAA that I have spoken about at length and that the chairman of the committee, Senator THUNE, has spoken about at length. It is a good bill. Its previous adoption on a motion for cloture was something like 94 to 4. So you see where we are going.

Then we will get into conference with the House, although it is my understanding they have not passed their bill. They passed it out of committee, but they have some controversial things. Hopefully, they will get it out, and we will be able to come to terms and get this reauthorization of the FAA, which we had to extend in a short-term reauthorization, because the clock is ticking. So I just wanted to share that with the Senate.

PROTECTING THE MANATEE

Now, Mr. President, since we have some time and no Senator is seeking recognition, I want to tell the Presiding Officer about a creature we have in Florida. We have lots of interesting creatures. There are things that come in that are like alien species, such as the Burmese python that they estimate—the Superintendent of Everglades National Park has estimated that there may be as many as 150,000. They got one 15-foot female, and she had 54 eggs in her. So you see how prolific they are.

You cannot find them. The only way you can really find them is if there is a cold snap, because they will come out of the water, out of the river of grass where they are so exquisitely camouflaged. In a cold snap, they will come out of the water and up to the tree islands. Of course, you have seen some of those monsters—18 footers.

Well, they had another critter that we have, because in Florida we do have alligators. Lo and behold, you may have seen this alligator. This alligator was 800 pounds and 15 feet long. He had been in a lake that was created in a cattle pasture, and he had been eating cows, so he had plenty of food. Well, this alligator, of course, is a critter that is native to Florida. It is the crocodile that is imported.

You can tell the difference between an alligator and a crocodile because the alligator has a rounded snout and the crocodile has a pointed one. All of this is to tell you we have another critter that is the most loveable critter, and we have had it on the endangered list. This is the animal called the manatee; some people call it a sea cow.

These adorable creatures breathe air but live in the water. They have little flippers and a big body. Of course, they have these lovable faces. They have been endangered primarily because of boat propellers cutting them up. So we have had a serious effort at reducing the speeds of boats to a slow idle in manatee areas to protect them.

They also get bothered by cold water. When there is a cold snap, they will migrate to warmer water. Pollution is another cause of the manatee being endangered.

There has been a comeback. Around 20 years ago, there were only 1,200 of

them in the world. That population has grown upward to 6,000.

Here is the point: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service wants to take them off the endangered list and put them into a lesser category. Those of us who want to protect these critters don't want them to come off the endangered list. If I had thought enough in advance, I would have brought a picture of a manatee. They are the most loveable critters. You can get in the water, you can swim with them, and you can feed them. When you feed them a pellet of food, they nibble like a horse nibbles sugar out of your hand—all of this under water.

They are the most adorable critters. They love to be rubbed on their tummies. They love fresh water. In a brackish water system, where you can take a fresh water hose, they will come up and just drink the water, and then they will roll over so you can spray them underneath their flippers.

Thank goodness they have rebounded, but there is a lot more to rebound. So, I wanted to share our crusade—our efforts to try to keep the manatee on the endangered list and to protect them.

I yield the floor.

AMENDMENT NO. 3680

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, amendment No. 3680 is agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3679, AS AMENDED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, amendment No. 3679, as amended, is agreed to.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Calendar No. 55, H.R. 636, an act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes.

Mitch McConnell, Daniel Coats, Lamar Alexander, Bob Corker, Roger F. Wicker, Orrin G. Hatch, Thom Tillis, John Hoeven, Kelly Ayotte, John Thune, Mike Rounds, Roy Blunt, John Cornyn, Pat Roberts, John Barrasso, Johnny Isakson, James M. Inhofe.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on H.R. 636, as amended, an act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator

from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

Mr. DURBN. I announce that the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) is necessarily absent.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 89, nays 5, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 46 Leg.]

YEAS—89

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

NAYS—5

Boxer	Portman	Rubio
Lee	Risch	

NOT VOTING—6

Blunt	Cruz	Sanders
Crapo	Flake	Toomey

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. On this vote, the yeas are 89, the nays are 5.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Hawaii.

UNITED STATES V. TEXAS

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, today the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in *United States v. Texas*. This case is a challenge to President Obama's Executive actions to prioritize U.S. immigration enforcement.

In 2012, the President used his legal authority to establish the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program, or DACA. DACA has given nearly 700,000 undocumented young people the opportunity to come out of the shadows to pursue their dreams through education and jobs.

In 2014, again acting within existing legal authority, the President announced an expansion of the successful DACA Program. He also created a new Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents Program, or DAPA. DAPA allows the undocumented parents of U.S.-born and legal permanent resident children, the majority of whom are U.S. citizens, to

stay in this country with their families.

Together, the expanded DACA and DAPA were expected to enable nearly 5 million people to come out of the shadows without fear of deportation. Unfortunately, Texas and 25 other States have challenged the President's authority to issue these Executive orders, resulting in the Supreme Court hearing today.

Hundreds of DREAMers, Muslim students, and activists from California, New York, New Jersey, and elsewhere rallied on the Supreme Court steps this morning. I spoke with them and heard their stories and their hopes that the Supreme Court would make the right decision in support of the President and the millions of DACA and DAPA families. Many carried signs and stickers that read "Keep families together." Keeping families together is at the crux of the President's Executive orders—families like that of Gabriela Andrade, who, as a teenager, fled violence in Brazil and settled in Texas before coming to Hawaii. While Gabriela's sister and parents were granted visas through a lottery system, Gabriela fell through the cracks. Until President Obama announced the DACA Program, she lived in fear of being separated from her entire family. She said:

DACA pulled me out of limbo and gave me a life again. It allowed me to go back to school to pursue a bachelor's degree in political science, to volunteer with several local organizations.

Today, Gabriela is an advocate for DREAMers like herself. President Obama's DAPA and expanded DACA Programs would help thousands of families like Gabriela's who want to stay together and be contributing members of our communities without the daily fear of deportation. To tear undocumented parents away from their children and put these U.S.-born children in foster care is unconscionable. To deport people who were brought here when they were very young—to essentially tear them away from the United States, the only home and country they have known—is also unconscionable.

These young people would be facing insurmountable odds, and I can certainly relate to some of the challenges they face. When I was almost 8 years old, my mother, brothers, and I legally immigrated to the United States. When we first arrived in Hawaii, we certainly struggled. I had to navigate the public school system without speaking a word of English. My mother worked low-paying jobs with no job security, and we struggled to make ends meet. But we took strength in being together as a family.

However, in addition to facing the kind of challenges my whole family faced when we first arrived in this country, DACA and DAPA families live in constant fear that they will be ripped apart through deportation. These families and children have been

living in limbo for over a year while the legal challenges work their way through the system, through the courts.

In addition, *United States v. Texas* is also pushing DREAMers who are eligible for the original DACA Program, which is not being challenged, further into the shadows.

Singai Masiya, who heads the Aloha DREAM Team in my home State and is a DREAMer himself, told my office that DACA-eligible people in Hawaii stopped applying for DACA. Why? They are afraid that if the Court rules against President Obama's Executive actions, their application information will be used to deport them. This is a real fear in our communities.

United States v. Texas not only affects the lives of the more than 7,000 DACA- and DAPA-eligible Hawaii residents, it affects our economy. Over 10 years, DACA, DAPA, and expanded DACA are projected to provide a \$276 million cumulative increase in Hawaii's State gross domestic product. The Center for American Progress also projects that, over 10 years, DACA, DAPA, and DACA expansion would provide a \$136 million increase in the combined earnings of Hawaii's residents. However, in order to see these economic benefits, the Justices of the Supreme Court must rule on the side of DREAMers and the DAPA families. My hope is that the Supreme Court rules that the President is well within his legal authority in expanding DACA and DAPA and allows these Executive actions to be implemented.

I note, however, that Executive actions, important as they are, are not enough. The President himself has called on Congress to fix our broken immigration system so that 11 million undocumented people in our country can come out of the shadows and live and work openly.

It has been almost 3 years since the Senate passed bipartisan, comprehensive immigration reform. I call upon Congress to do our jobs and enact fair, humane, and sensible immigration reform—recognizing that we are, indeed, a country of immigrants. That fact is at the very root of our strength as a nation.

Mr. President, I yield back.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, at 12 noon on Tuesday, April 19, the Senate vote on passage of H.R. 636, as amended; further, that following the disposition of H.R. 636, as amended, the Senate resume

consideration of S. 2012, the Energy Modernization Act, as under the previous order; that following disposition of S. 2012, as amended, if amended, but not prior to Wednesday, April 20, the cloture motion with respect to the motion to proceed to H.R. 2028 be withdrawn and the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 2028, the energy and water appropriations bill.

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

BUDGET ACT ENFORCEMENT DETAILS

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015, Public Law 114-74, included an instruction to the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget to file allocations, aggregates, and budgetary levels in the Senate after April 15, 2016. Today, I wish to submit the required filing found in that act.

Specifically, section 102 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 requires the chairman to file: No. 1, an allocation for fiscal year 2017 for the Committee on Appropriations; No. 2, an allocation for fiscal years 2017, 2017 through 2021, and 2017 through 2026 for committees other than the Committee on Appropriations; No. 3, aggregate spending levels for fiscal year 2017; No. 4, aggregate revenue levels for fiscal years 2017, 2017 through 2021, and 2017 through 2026; and No. 5, aggregate levels of outlays and revenue for fiscal years 2017, 2017 through 2021, and 2017 through 2026 for Social Security.

The figures included in this filing are consistent with the discretionary spending limits set forth in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 and the most recent baseline from the Congressional Budget Office, CBO. CBO's last baseline was released on March 24, 2016.

In addition to the update for enforceable limits above, section 102(c) of the act allows for the matter contained in subtitles A and B of title IV of S. Con. Res. 11, the fiscal year 2016 congressional budget resolution, to be updated by 1 fiscal year. Pursuant to this authority, all reserve funds available to the Senate in title IV of last year's budget resolution are updated and available for use.

For purposes of enforcing the Senate's pay-as-you-go rule, which is found in section 201 of S. Con. Res. 21, the fiscal year 2008 congressional budget resolution, I am resetting the Senate's scorecard to zero for all fiscal years.

All years in the accompanying tables are fiscal years.

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

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

ALLOCATION OF SPENDING AUTHORITY TO SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017—PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT OF 1974 AND SECTION 102 OF THE BIPARTISAN BUDGET ACT OF 1974

	(\$ Billions)	
	Budget Authority	Outlays
Appropriations:		
Revised Security Category Discretionary Budget Authority ¹	551.068	n/a
Revised Nonsecurity Category Discretionary Budget Authority ¹	518.531	n/a
General Purpose Outlays ¹	n/a	1,181.800
Memo:		
Subtotal	1,069.599	1,181.800
on-budget	1,064.120	1,176.252
off-budget	5.479	5.548
Mandatory	1,018.836	1,006.323

¹ The allocation will be adjusted following the reporting of bills, offering of amendments, or submission of conference reports that qualify for adjustments to the discretionary spending limits as outlined in section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ALLOCATION OF SPENDING AUTHORITY TO SENATE COMMITTEES OTHER THAN APPROPRIATIONS—PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT OF 1974 AND SECTION 102 OF THE BIPARTISAN BUDGET ACT OF 2015

	(\$ Billions)		
	2017	2017–2021	2017–2026
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry			
Budget Authority	133.326	654.992	1,326.950
Outlays	121.522	602.813	1,227.781
Armed Services			
Budget Authority	162.573	866.345	1,881.840
Outlays	162.554	862.324	1,878.407
Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs			
Budget Authority	23.973	114.120	214.810
Outlays	1.767	–6.607	–44.043
Commerce, Science, and Transportation			
Budget Authority	19.605	97.564	200.873
Outlays	14.226	78.209	153.228
Energy and Natural Resources			
Budget Authority	4.033	22.689	45.474
Outlays	3.875	23.019	46.064
Environment and Public Works			
Budget Authority	45.086	220.077	424.157
Outlays	2.593	12.994	25.832
Finance			
Budget Authority	2,276.978	13,076.286	31,139.783
Outlays	2,261.358	13,047.872	31,097.877
Foreign Relations			
Budget Authority	36.313	163.870	312.459
Outlays	30.758	149.512	296.865
Homeland Security and Government Affairs			
Budget Authority	139.899	743.132	1,605.694
Outlays	138.184	730.863	1,571.460
Judiciary			
Budget Authority	30.054	90.554	164.524
Outlays	16.069	94.016	171.897
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions			
Budget Authority	17.155	91.885	180.246
Outlays	15.792	90.782	186.736
Rules and Administration			
Budget Authority	0.065	0.332	0.664
Outlays	0.036	0.200	0.429
Intelligence			
Budget Authority	0.514	2.570	5.140
Outlays	0.514	2.570	5.140
Veterans' Affairs			
Budget Authority	102.652	550.283	1,227.001
Outlays	108.093	557.484	1,233.278
Indian Affairs			
Budget Authority	0.469	2.053	4.484
Outlays	0.829	3.038	5.263
Small Business			
Budget Authority	0.000	0.000	0.000
Outlays	0.000	0.000	0.000
Unassigned to Committee			
Budget Authority	–844.465	–4,648.714	–10,722.295
Outlays	–835.231	–4,607.534	–10,646.215
TOTAL			
Budget Authority	2,148.230	12,048.038	28,011.804

ALLOCATION OF SPENDING AUTHORITY TO SENATE COMMITTEES OTHER THAN APPROPRIATIONS—PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT OF 1974 AND SECTION 102 OF THE BIPARTISAN BUDGET ACT OF 2015—Continued

	(\$ Billions)		
	2017	2017–2021	2017–2026
Outlays	2,042.939	11,641.555	27,209.999

Includes entitlements funded in annual appropriations acts.

BUDGET AGGREGATES—PURSUANT TO SECTION 311 OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT OF 1974 AND SECTION 102 OF THE BIPARTISAN BUDGET ACT OF 2015

	(\$ Billions)		
	2017	2017–2021	2017–2026
Spending:			
Budget Authority	3,212.350	N.A.	N.A.
Outlays	3,219.191	N.A.	N.A.
Revenue:	2,681.976	14,498.308	32,350.752

N.A.= Not Applicable.

SOCIAL SECURITY LEVELS—PURSUANT TO SECTION 311 OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT OF 1974 AND SECTION 102 OF THE BIPARTISAN BUDGET ACT OF 2015

	(\$ Billions)		
	2017	2017–2021	2017–2026
Outlays	805.365	4,609.710	11,047.979
Revenue	826.094	4,438.985	9,738.619

PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARD FOR THE SENATE

	(\$ Billions)	
	Balances	
Fiscal Years 2016 through 2021		0
Fiscal Years 2016 through 2026		0

CALLING FOR RENEWED ATTENTION TO BOKO HARAM

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, today I wish to bring renewed attention to the continued violence perpetrated by Boko Haram against women and children.

It has now been 2 years since the horrific kidnapping of 279 school girls in Nigeria. In the aftermath of this brazen attack, Senator MIKULSKI and I, joined by the other women in the Senate, strongly advocated for the imposition of sanctions on Boko Haram, and the international community responded by doing just that. We were grateful for Secretary Kerry's swift action to get this done at the United Nations, and Boko Haram is now subject to a complete asset freeze, travel ban, and arms embargo.

In addition, the Senate unanimously passed legislation that I authored to require a comprehensive, 5-year strategy to combat Boko Haram at the end of last year. Next week, I am sending a letter signed by many of the cosponsors of this legislation to our colleagues in the House of Representatives, urging them to take up this important measure.

Nevertheless, Boko Haram has continued to wage its relentless war on innocent civilians in Nigeria and throughout the Lake Chad Basin since it declared its allegiance to ISIS last year. More women and more girls have been kidnapped. Although some of the

captives have escaped, most are still lost, likely subjected to forced marriages, religious conversions, sexual trafficking, slavery, and possibly forced to carry out suicide bombings on behalf of Boko Haram.

According to UNICEF, 39 out of 89 Boko Haram suicide bombings in 2015 were carried out by women, and the number of children involved in suicide bombings increased tenfold in just one year. The fact that children are being used as weapons in Boko Haram's terror campaign speaks to the inhumanity and total disregard for life that is at the core of this terrorist group's perverse ideology. As Boko Haram increasingly relies upon women and children to carry out its attacks, survivors who have lived through such unimaginable ordeals are often met with suspicion when they return to their communities. Such marginalization extends their suffering.

In a letter to Nigeria's bishops, Pope Francis wrote: "Do not grow tired of doing what is right." He urged: "Go forward on the way of peace. Accompany the victims! Come to the aid of the poor! Teach the youth!" I could not agree more. We must keep fighting to ensure that all Nigerians can live in peace and that young girls everywhere can pursue an education without fear of violence or intimidation.

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I am pleased to recognize that Saturday, April 16, 2016, was National Healthcare Decisions Day. National Healthcare Decisions Day exists to inspire, educate, and empower the public and providers about the importance of advance care planning. Started by a Richmond attorney as a local grassroots initiative in Virginia, NHDD became an annual event in 2008, and today it is recognized across all 50 States. Faith-based groups, doctors and nurses, hospitals, patients, and caregivers alike are engaged in these efforts. NHDD is an opportunity for all Americans to discuss their preferences and goals with family and friends—and this starts with filling out an advance directive.

In the last year, we have made real progress in giving Americans access to the clear, consistent, and concise information they need to make critical health care decisions, and there is a growing awareness of the need to transform advanced care, both among providers and families.

In my own State of Virginia, the general assembly recently designated April as Advance Care Planning Month. Around the Commonwealth, Virginians are innovating and creating new models of care to provide patients with the tools and support to make their own advanced care decisions. For example, the Richmond Academy of Medicine's Honoring Choices Initiative is a partnership with three major health care

systems working to adopt nationally recognized best practices and adapting them to the needs of patients, families, doctors, and hospitals in central Virginia. On the ground, Virginians are holding dozens of events this month to encourage individuals to fill out an advance directive.

This year has been a significant one at the national level as well. For the first time, Medicare providers are being compensated for spending time with their patients to discuss their health care decisions. And I am pleased that the bipartisan Care Planning Act, which I introduced again this last year with Senator ISAKSON, has gained more support than ever, including from nearly 90 health and senior advocacy groups. The purpose of the Care Planning Act is to align the care people want with the level of care they get. It doesn't limit choices; it works to make sure people are made fully aware of the broad range of choices they have. The growing support for this legislation demonstrates just how far the conversation around advance care planning has come. While physician reimbursement is an important first step, the Care Planning Act provides a strong, bipartisan foundation for Congress as we consider how to further empower patients to make informed choices about their own care.

I am working to advance this conversation wherever I can. For example, Senator ISAKSON and I are coauthors of the Finance Committee's bipartisan chronic care working group, and we are looking at a broad range of policies so that chronically ill patients receive the highest quality care at all stages of illness, especially towards the end of life. We are not going to pass the Care Planning Act in full as a part of that process, but I see this process as a real way to move the ball forward. While this process remains a work in progress, I am hopeful that we will be able to get some of these bipartisan provisions done.

I know how important this is not just from my time serving as a Governor and as a Senator but through the eyes of a loved one who struggled with these issues. My own mother suffered from Alzheimer's disease for 10 years, and for 9 of those years, she couldn't speak. My father, sister, and I found grappling with the challenges of caring for her difficult. The difficulty was greater because, when she was first diagnosed, my family didn't take the opportunity to talk in an honest and fully informed way with her and her health care providers about the full array of health care options available or about what her priorities would be during the final years of her life.

Care planning is a subject that most people do their best to avoid, but on National Healthcare Decisions Day, I urge all Americans to fill out an advance directive and to have these conversations. I also urge my fellow policymakers to continue engaging in this dialogue to improve advanced care

planning at all levels—Federal, State, local—so that at the end of the day, we are empowering Americans and their loved ones.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JAMES WAGNER

• Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, today I am honored to recognize in the RECORD James W. Wagner, a leader at the helm of one of Georgia's great institutions of higher education, Emory University.

After 13 years as president of Emory University, Mr. Wagner will soon be stepping down from his position. I feel I would be remiss if I did not mark some of his achievements at Emory here in the RECORD, as the success of Emory University and its students has made a difference to our Nation.

Emory University's reputation as a private research university that has led in academic, research, and health care eminence extends far beyond its beautiful campus, which is headquartered in the beautiful Druid Hills neighborhood of Atlanta, GA. President Wagner has enhanced the school's reputation, recruiting a world-class and diverse community of scholars and researchers who have secured an increased number of appointments to national academies and an increased amount of external research funding that added up to more than \$570 million in 2015.

President Wagner guided the Emory community in developing the university's first vision statement, which established the foundation for a 10-year strategic plan focused on strengthening faculty distinction, ensuring the highest student quality, enhancing the student experience, and exploring new frontiers in science and technology.

President Wagner also led a fundraising campaign that resulted in the investment of \$1.7 billion in support of the university's initiatives in teaching, research, scholarship, patient care, and social action.

In short, President Wagner has advanced all aspects of the university's mission through the innovative design and construction of a number of new facilities to support health sciences research, science education, residential life, library resources, and patient care.

I hope that President Wagner and I will remain in touch wherever his next step takes him, and I wish him and his wife, Debbie, the very best. •

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.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1670. An act to direct the Architect of the Capitol to place in the United States Capitol a chair honoring American Prisoners of War/Missing in Action.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

At 3:04 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. 2666. An act to prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from regulating the rates charged for broadband Internet access service.

H.R. 3340. An act to place the Financial Stability Oversight Council and the Office of Financial Research under the regular appropriations process, to provide for certain quarterly reporting and public notice and comment requirements for the Office of Financial Research, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3791. An act to raise the consolidated assets threshold under the small bank holding company policy statement, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3340. An act to place the Financial Stability Oversight Council and the Office of Financial Research under the regular appropriations process, to provide for certain quarterly reporting and public notice and comment requirements for the Office of Financial Research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 3791. An act to raise the consolidated assets threshold under the small bank holding company policy statement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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-5111. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Acephinocyl; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9944-34) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5112. A communication from the Chief of the Planning and Regulatory Affairs Branch, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Grant Program" (RIN0584-AE07) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 6, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5113. A communication from the Associate General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 6, 2016; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5114. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General David D. Halverson, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5115. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Mark S. Bowman, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5116. 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 Based on the 2015 Missile Technology Control Regime Plenary Agreements" (RIN0694-AG77) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 6, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5117. A communication from the President and Chief Executive Officer, Securities Investor Protection Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Order Approving the Determination of the Board of Directors of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation not to Adjust for Inflation the Standard Maximum Cash Advance Amount and Notice of the Standard Maximum Cash Advance Amount" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 6, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5118. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Findings of Failure to Submit State Implementation Plans Required for Attainment of the 2010 1-Hour Primary Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS)" (FRL No. 9944-88-OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5119. 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; New York; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference" (FRL No. 9935-51-Region 2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5120. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Rule

to List the Tanzanian DPS of African Coelacanth (*Latimeria chalumnae*) as Threatened Under the Endangered Species Act" (RIN0648-XD681) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5121. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Applications of Bioassay for Radioiodine" (Regulatory Guide 8.20, Revision 2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5122. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Bioassay at Uranium Mills" (Regulatory Guide 8.22, Revision 2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5123. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Rule to List Eleven Distinct Population Segments of the Green Sea Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) as Endangered or Threatened and Revision of Current Listings Under the Endangered Species Act" (RIN0648-XB089) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5124. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Applications of Bioassay for Uranium" (Regulatory Guide 8.11, Revision 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5125. A communication from the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report of the Fish and Wildlife Service on reasonably identifiable expenditures for the conservation of endangered and threatened species for fiscal year 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5126. A communication from the Acting Commissioner of the Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the Administration's fiscal year 2015 Competitive Sourcing efforts; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5127. 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 Workers' Compensation Offset from Age 65 to Full Retirement Age—Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act." (RIN0960-AH65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 6, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5128. 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 2016-0032 - 2016-0054); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5129. A communication from the Executive Analyst (Political), Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Administrator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services,

Department of Health and Human Services, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5130. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Transportation's fiscal year 2015 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5131. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "District of Columbia Agencies' Compliance with Fiscal Year 2015 Small Business Enterprise Expenditure Goals"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5132. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Management Alert to the Department of Housing and Community Development Regarding the Housing Production Trust Fund"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5133. A communication from the Chief Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the District of Columbia Family Court Act; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5134. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Special Diabetes Program for Indians 2014 Report to Congress, Changing the Course of Diabetes: Turning Hope into Reality"; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-5135. A communication from the Supervisory Human Resources Specialist, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, six (6) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Justice, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5136. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Agency, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of AH-7921 into Schedule I" (Docket No. DEA-432) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5137. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pacific Halibut Fisheries; Catch Sharing Plan" (RIN0648-BF75) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 6, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5138. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2015-6537)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5139. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-1047)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5140. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2012-0187)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5141. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2016-5036)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5142. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2015-3983)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5143. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2016-5038)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5144. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; BAE Systems (Operations) Limited Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2015-4212)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5145. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Weatherly Aircraft Company Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2016-5422)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5146. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Honeywell International Inc. (Type Certificate previously held by AlliedSignal Inc., Garrett Turbine Engine Company) Turbofan Engines" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2015-2208)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5147. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation (Sikorsky) Helicopters" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2015-3942)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April

13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5148. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class D Airspace; Bartow, FL" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2016-4239)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5149. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class D and Class E Airspace, and Amendment of Class E Airspace; Lake City, FL" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2015-4010)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5150. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Wilmington, OH" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2015-7486)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5151. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Rapid City, SD" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2015-7492)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5152. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace for the following Michigan Towns; Alpena, MI; and Muskegon, MI" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2015-7483)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5153. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Standard for Architectural Glazing Materials" (CPSC Docket No. CPSC-2012-0049) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 6, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5154. A communication from the Chairman of the Office of Proceedings, Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revised Procedural Schedule in Stand-Alone Cases" (RIN2140-AB26) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 6, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5155. A communication from the Staff Attorney, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Glazing Standards" (RIN2130-AC43) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5156. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to a vacancy for the position of Assistant Secretary

for Aviation and International Affairs, received in the office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5157. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Administrator, Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 13, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-147. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas urging the federal government to require the use of sound science in evaluating crop protection chemistries and nutrients; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 6045

Whereas, Agriculture is crucial to the continued production of food, feed, fiber and energy to meet both domestic and global demand; and

Whereas, In the United States, the agriculture and value-added industries and businesses utilize precision farming equipment, crop protection chemistries, genetic engineering or enhancement, agricultural nutrients and other modern technologies. Such advanced practices protect the safety of the public and reduce environmental and natural resource impacts, while increasing yields, improving profitability and ensuring an abundant, affordable and wholesome food supply; and

Whereas, Agricultural production systems and crop protection are among the most studied and highly regulated of all industries, at both the state and federal levels. The use of sound science should be the bedrock of our nation's regulatory scheme for the agriculture and food production industries, as these industries are critical to the economic vitality of Kansas and the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas: That we support the use of sound science to study and regulate modern agricultural technologies such as crop protection chemistries and genetically engineered or enhanced traits and nutrients; and be it further

Resolved, That we oppose legislative or regulatory action at any level that may result in unnecessary restrictions on the use of modern agricultural technologies.

POM-148. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas urging the President of the United States to obey the United States Constitution and declare that the detention facility at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay will remain; to the Committee on Armed Services.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5024

Whereas, The President of the United States, Barack Obama, has threatened to move the terrorist detainees currently held at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay to Fort Leavenworth without regard to the wishes or the safety of the people of Kansas; and

Whereas, The President has threatened to close the detention facility at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay; and

Whereas, The threat of the transfer has been underscored by visits to Fort Leaven-

worth by officials of his Administration, preparing for the threatened transfer; and

Whereas, Many detainees that have been released have continued to fight against this country and its allies; and

Whereas, This President and others have insisted that the mere existence of the detention facility at Guantanamo has inflamed terrorists around the world and aided in their recruitments; and

Whereas, Transferring the detainees to Fort Leavenworth will only transfer the ire of terrorists worldwide from Guantanamo to Fort Leavenworth; and

Whereas, This President has a demonstrated willingness to violate American law; and

Whereas, This President has said that he will go around the Congress to accomplish his agenda; and

Whereas, Closing the Naval Station at Guantanamo has been high on this President's agenda since before he was first elected; and

Whereas, The President has continually sought to weaken our standing in the world; and

Whereas, The terrorists have demonstrated an ability and willingness to conduct attacks in America, in furtherance of their savage war against America; and

Whereas, Detonating large bombs in civilian communities in the vicinity of Fort Leavenworth would be exactly the sort of demonstration that the terrorists would try; and

Whereas, Fort Leavenworth does not have the necessary facilities to hold and care for the detainees and would, for example, be forced to transport them through the city of Leavenworth to access medical care, thereby presenting additional soft, tempting targets for attacks; and

Whereas, The surrounding community does not have the law enforcement, emergency response resources or the physical capability to harden potential civilian targets in the surrounding area. Transferring detainees to Fort Leavenworth represents a predictable, direct and unnecessarily high risk to American citizens in the vicinity of Fort Leavenworth; and

Whereas, The Naval Station at Guantanamo is a high security facility designed to both house high risk detainees and be secure from attack by external forces. This facility has not been the object of an external terrorist attack and, if it had been attacked, it would not have represented a threat to American civilians or communities; and

Whereas, The intentional placement of detainees on American soil, physically within an American community, would unnecessarily and intentionally put American citizens at much greater risk. It follows that any move by the President or other members of the Federal, State or local government to move the detainees to Fort Leavenworth would mean intentionally and knowingly placing American citizens at greater risk, in violation of the government's sworn oath to support and defend them against enemies, foreign or domestic; and

Whereas, Officers from over one hundred countries attend classes at Fort Leavenworth; and

Whereas, Many of these officers would not bring their families nor be permitted by their countries to attend, if the detainees were transferred to Fort Leavenworth, thereby hurting the local economy; and

Whereas, These officers and their families represent an important bond and link among our nations. Their loss will not just affect the local economy, but would potentially have grave impacts on our future ability to effectively and successfully find peaceful solutions to international problems: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein, That the Legislature of the State of Kansas urges the President of the United States to obey the Constitution of the United States and the laws of this country, the people of which have placed him in a position of great trust and responsibility and depend upon him to ensure that the laws be upheld and that their security be maintained; and be it further

Resolved, That the President must declare that the detention facility at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay will remain, and that the detainees will continue to be held there, until said detainees are given proper, lawful disposition, in accordance with the Laws of War and the best interests of the safety of the people of the United States and their allies.

POM-149. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urging the United States Congress to modernize the federal cap on the locally set Passenger Facility Charges user fee by setting it at \$8.50 and adjusting it periodically to offset the impacts of inflation; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 261

Whereas, In 2010, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's public use airports supported approximately 304,000 jobs, generated \$9.2 billion in annual payroll and produced \$23.6 billion in annual economic activities; and

Whereas, In 1990, the Congress of the United States authorized Passenger Facility Charges (PFCs), local user fees collected for every boarded passenger, to help airports of all sizes meet their capital needs to finance Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) approved projects such as terminals, parking and multimodal projects that enhance safety, security, capacity, noise reduction or increase air carrier competition; and

Whereas, PFCs are locally determined fees collected at the point of sale, which do not affect Federal expenditures; and

Whereas, The PFC cap was last raised in 2000 when Congress set it at \$4.50; and

Whereas, Inflation has eroded the buying power of PFCs by approximately one-half since then due to rising construction costs; and

Whereas, There is a growing recognition of the need for infrastructure finance and funding to keep pace with inflation and action for doing so such as the act of November 25, 2014 (P.L. 974, No. 89) in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and

Whereas, Modernizing the PFC cap to \$8.50 now and indexing it for inflation would restore its original purchasing power and provide local communities with the ability to set their individual PFC user fees based on locally determined needs for ensuring the safety and security of their airports; and

Whereas, Over the next five years, airports will require more than \$75 billion to improve infrastructure to prevent passenger delays and congestion; and

Whereas, Direct Federal funding through the FAA Airport Improvement Program has declined 10% over the past six years and covers only a fraction of the total infrastructure projects required to upgrade and maintain the world-class aviation system: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress of the United States to modernize the Federal cap on the locally set PFC user fee by setting it at \$8.50 and adjusting it periodically to offset the impacts of inflation; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution to be sent to the President of the United States, the presiding officers of each house of

Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

POM-150. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho urging the United States Congress to ensure the continued appropriation of watercraft inspection station funding in the fiscal year 2017 budget to significantly enhance aquatic invasive species prevention efforts and to implement the intent of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 104

Whereas, maintaining a healthy suite of economic, environmental and social ecosystem services in aquatic systems is integral to the quality of life in the State of Idaho; and

Whereas, healthy aquatic habitats provide clean drinking water, flood control, transportation, recreation, purification of human and industrial wastes, power generation, habitat for native plants and animals, production of fish and other foods, marketable goods and cultural benefits; and

Whereas, Dreissenid mussels, specifically quagga mussels (*Dreissena rostriformis bugensis*) and zebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*), are aquatic invasive species that cause irreparable ecological damage to many waters in the United States; and

Whereas, Dreissenids have not yet been detected in the Pacific Northwest. The estimated annual cost to address established populations of Dreissenids in the Pacific Northwest Economic Region is almost \$0.5 billion annually; and

Whereas, the Water Resources Reform and Development Act was signed in June 2014. Section 1039 of the act authorizes \$20 million for Columbia River Basin watercraft inspection stations to prevent introduction of Dreissenid mussels and other aquatic invasive species through the Secretary of the Army; and

Whereas, the fiscal year 2016 budget for the United States Army Corps of Engineers includes \$4 million in funding for watercraft inspection stations as authorized by the Water Resources Reform and Development Act, and the State of Idaho and Pacific Northwest Economic Region are grateful for the Corps' recognition of the severity of the threat of aquatic invasive species to the region and dedication to assist the region in enhancing prevention efforts: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-third Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Representatives concurring therein, that we respectfully request that Congress ensure the continued appropriation of these funds in the fiscal year 2017 budget to significantly enhance aquatic invasive species prevention efforts and to implement the intent of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Army, the Secretary of the Interior, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Congress, and the congressional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the United States.

POM-151. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Ohio encouraging the President of the United States, the United States Congress, and the United States Office of Management and Budget to support plans to upgrade the Soo Locks at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan,

and encourage the United States Army Corps of Engineers to take expeditious action in preparing an Economic Reevaluation Report; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NUMBER 263

Whereas, The Soo Locks at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, are of the utmost importance to Ohio and play a critical role in the nation's economy and security. Each year, approximately 10,000 Great Lakes vessels, carrying 80 million tons of iron ore, coal, grain, and other cargo, safely and efficiently traverse the locks; and

Whereas, Nearly 80% of all domestic iron ore, the primary material used to manufacture steel, travels from mines in Minnesota and Michigan's Upper Peninsula through the Soo Locks to steel producers in Ohio; and

Whereas, Only one of the four Soo Locks, the Poe Lock, is large enough to accommodate the modern vessels that commonly traverse the Great Lakes. 70% of cargo is carried on these large ships that can only pass through the Poe Lock, and the remaining cargo must pass through the smaller MacArthur Lock. The 100-year-old Davis and Sabin Locks are rarely used as they are the smallest locks and cannot accommodate large modern vessels; and

Whereas, The continued reliance on only the Poe Lock poses a serious risk to national security and the economies of not only the State of Ohio, but also the entire country. A long-term outage of the Poe Lock due to lock failure or a terrorist attack could cripple the economy and disrupt steel production in the United States. It is estimated that a 30-day outage of the Poe Lock would result in economic losses of \$160 million; and

Whereas, Upgrades to the Soo Locks are needed to ensure national security and unfettered commerce through the Great Lakes. The United States Army Corps of Engineers acknowledges that the Soo Locks are a single point of failure for the Great Lakes Navigation System; and

Whereas, The United States Congress has authorized the construction of a second Poe-sized lock, but a study that contains crucial errors is preventing the construction from proceeding: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the 131st General Assembly of the State of Ohio, encourage the President and the Congress of the United States and the United States Office of Management and Budget to support plans to upgrade the Soo Locks at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan; and be it further

Resolved, That we encourage the United States Army Corps of Engineers to take expeditious action in acknowledging the national security need for maintaining the Great Lakes Navigation System in addition to properly accounting for the limitation of transportation resources if a lock outage occurs in the preparation of an Economic Reevaluation Report; and be it further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Ohio congressional delegation, the Director of the United States Office of Management and Budget, and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works.

POM-152. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming urging the United States Congress to seek removal of the gray wolf and grizzly bear populations from listing under the Endangered Species Act and to assist in funding programs and

services for gray wolf and grizzly bear management; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4

Whereas, gray wolf and grizzly bear predation on livestock and big game species is resulting in economic losses in the state of Wyoming; and

Whereas, the cost to manage gray wolves and grizzly bears and to compensate individuals and entities for damage caused by these species is significantly greater than can be sustained through existing budgets of the responsible state and federal agencies; and

Whereas, gray wolf and grizzly bear populations are recovered and these species should therefore be removed from the list of experimental nonessential population, endangered species or threatened species in Wyoming in order for the state to effectively manage these species; and

Whereas, federal funding is essential to assist the state in compensating individuals and entities for losses caused by gray wolves and grizzly bears now and after the date these species are removed from the list of experimental nonessential population, endangered species or threatened species in Wyoming; and

Whereas, such federal support in compensating individuals and entities for losses will increase acceptance of these wildlife species in Wyoming and continue the healthy and self-sustaining populations of gray wolves and grizzly bears in the state: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the Members of the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1. That the Wyoming legislature calls on Congress and the United States Fish and Wildlife Services to speedily seek removal of the gray wolf and grizzly bear populations from the list of experimental nonessential population, endangered species or threatened species in Wyoming, by all means available.

Section 2. That the Wyoming legislature calls on Congress to immediately and fully fund all necessary programs and services for gray wolf and grizzly bear management, particularly programs and services to compensate individuals and entities for losses caused by these wildlife species.

Section 3. That the Wyoming legislature calls on Congress to assist in funding the necessary programs and services indicated in section 2 of this resolution after the date the gray wolf and grizzly bear populations are removed from the list of experimental nonessential population, endangered species of threatened species in Wyoming.

Section 4. That the Secretary of State of Wyoming transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, to the Wyoming Congressional Delegation and to the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

POM-153. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Michigan supporting the recommendations of the Chicago Area Waterway System Advisory Committee to prevent Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 12

Whereas, The Chicago Area Waterway System serves as a pathway for aquatic invasive species to move between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins. Zebra mussels and other species spread from the Great Lakes to the Mississippi River and its tributaries through this man-made connection. Now, Asian carp are on the brink of using this same route to invade the Great Lakes from the Mississippi River basin; and

Whereas, Asian carp continue to migrate upstream and are now within a day's swim of Lake Michigan. In the last year, juvenile Asian carp have moved 66 miles closer to Lake Michigan, leaving them only 76 miles from the Great Lakes. While electrical barriers currently stand in their way, new research indicates that those barriers may not be effective at stopping small fish; and

Whereas, The impacts of Asian carp to the ecosystems and economies of the Great Lakes states and local communities will be catastrophic. Invasive species established in the Great Lakes already cost the region more than \$100 million per year. Asian carp could add dramatically to this cost if they move through the Chicago area into the Great Lakes. These carp are voracious filter feeders and could out-compete the native fish of the Great Lakes, threatening a \$7 billion sport and commercial fishery. History has demonstrated that, once established, aquatic invasive species like Asian carp are nearly impossible to eradicate; and

Whereas, The Chicago Area Waterway System Advisory Committee was formed in May 2014 with the goal of reaching consensus on a set of recommendations for elected and appointed local, state, and federal officials and the public on short- and long-term measures to prevent Asian carp and other aquatic invasive species from moving between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins through the Chicago Area Waterway System; and

Whereas, The diverse, 32-member advisory committee reached consensus in a letter to the President of the United States on a specific system of control points to prevent the two-way interbasin transfer of aquatic invasive species. It also reached consensus on supporting immediate actions at the Brandon Road Lock and Dam in Joliet, Illinois, to prevent the risk of Asian carp from migrating upstream while the system of control points is evaluated as a long-term solution for all aquatic invasive species; and

Whereas, The best long-term solution will prevent Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes while preserving as much as possible the current uses of the Chicago area waterways. Options that would change shipping on these waterways should only be pursued after all other options have been exhausted; and

Whereas, The costs of preventing Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes are substantially lower than the costs to the ecosystems and economies of the Great Lakes states if Asian carp were to become established: now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we support the Chicago Area Waterway System Advisory Committee recommendations to implement immediate control technologies at Brandon Road Lock and Dam in Joliet, Illinois, and to further investigate the specific system of control points for long-term movement of aquatic invasive species into and out of the Great Lakes; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, and the Commanding General and Chief of Engineers of the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

POM-154. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan memorializing the United States Congress to take actions necessary to help families enduring mental health crisis; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 169

Whereas, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, mental illness is defined as "health conditions that are characterized by alterations in thinking, mood, or behavior (or some combination thereof) associated with distress and/or impaired function." The National Institute of Mental Health states, "while mental disorders are common in the United States, the burden of illness is particularly concentrated among those who experience disability due to serious mental illness (SMI)"; and

Whereas, Laws, regulations, and misinterpretations frequently shut out families attempting to get effective and appropriate treatment for their loved ones in a mental health crisis. In a given year, approximately ten million Americans endure serious mental illness, such as schizophrenia, major depression, or bipolar disorder. Approximately four million Americans battle with serious mental illness do not receive treatment in a given year; and

Whereas, Families struggling with mental illness must also grapple with the likelihood that their loved one will end up in jail or prison where there is virtually no mental health treatment. There are ten times more individuals with serious mental illness in jails and prisons than in state psychiatric hospitals. Moreover, federal laws and billing policies restrict the ability of persons on Medicaid to receive high-quality inpatient and outpatient mental health treatment; and

Whereas, Current spending needs to be more focused on the most effective services and most severe mental illnesses. Passage of federal legislation like the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act of 2015 (H.R. 2646), sponsored by United States Congressman Tim Murphy of Pennsylvania, would be a positive first step. The bill would create a new Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders to coordinate funding between agencies, collect increased data on treatment outcomes, and drive evidence-based care: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to take actions necessary to help families enduring mental health crisis; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-155. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho urging the United States Congress to restructure the United States Postal Service in a way that would reopen shuttered mail processing plants throughout the nation and provide acceptable delivery times; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 105

Whereas, the mail processing function of the post office in Pocatello, Idaho, was closed on or about April 19, 2015; and

Whereas, Brian Sperry, the regional spokesman for the United States Postal Service (USPS) stated that the impacts would be that stamped "First-Class Mail" would take between two and three days to reach its destination; and

Whereas, mail delivery in eastern Idaho is now significantly delayed, with delays ranging from a few days up to a few weeks; and

Whereas, USPS has already closed or suspended services in many locations nationwide, including in Twin Falls, Idaho, and is considering closing more; and

Whereas, USPS can provide better delivery times while still cutting substantive costs by

restructuring its pre-funding for retirement benefits: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-third Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Representatives concurring therein, that Congress should pass legislation that would direct USPS to restructure their budget priorities, rethink their administrative model, make appropriate budget cuts if necessary, focus on customer service and acceptable delivery times, and reopen shuttered mail processing plants throughout the United States; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of this Congress, and the congressional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the United States.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. KIRK, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2806. An original bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114-237).

By Mr. COCHRAN, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Special Report entitled "Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2017" (Rept. No. 114-238).

By Mr. ALEXANDER, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 185. A bill to create a limited population pathway for approval of certain antibacterial drugs.

S. 1622. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to devices.

S. 2700. A bill to update the authorizing provisions relating to the workforces of the National Institutes of Health and the Food and Drug Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 2713. A bill to provide for the implementation of a Precision Medicine Initiative.

S. 2742. A bill to amend title IV of the Public Health Service Act regarding the national research institutes, and for other purposes.

S. 2745. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to promote the inclusion of minorities in clinical research, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. HATCH for the Committee on Finance.

* Andrew LaMont Eanes, of Kansas, to be Deputy Commissioner of Social Security for the term expiring January 19, 2019.

* Vik Edwin Stoll, of Missouri, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

* Elizabeth Ann Copeland, of Texas, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

* Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to

respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

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. KIRK:

S. 2806. An original bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

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

S. 2807. A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to require State approval before the Secretary of the Interior restricts access to waters under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service for recreational or commercial fishing; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 2808. A bill to amend the John F. Kennedy Center Act to authorize appropriations for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. PORTMAN:

S. 2809. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to preserve taxpayers' rights to administrative appeal of deficiency determinations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MURPHY:

S. 2810. A bill to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act to assist small cheese producers; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

S. 2811. A bill to authorize the award of the Distinguished Service Cross to Chaplain (First Lieutenant) Joseph Verbis Lafleur for acts of valor during World War II; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. VITTER, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. AYOTTE):

S. 2812. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize and improve the Small Business Innovation Research Program and the Small Business Technology Transfer Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 2813. A bill to amend title 4 of the United States Code to limit the extent to which States may tax the compensation earned by nonresident telecommuters and other multi-State workers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ENZI, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COATS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. ERNST, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. HATCH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KIRK, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEE, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. VITTER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SCOTT, and Mr. SASSE):

S.J. Res. 33. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule

submitted by the Department of Labor relating to the definition of the term "fiduciary" and the conflict of interest rule with respect to retirement investment advice; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 134

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 134, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to exclude industrial hemp from the definition of marijuana, and for other purposes.

S. 256

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 256, a bill to amend the definition of "homeless person" under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to include certain homeless children and youth, and for other purposes.

S. 849

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 849, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for systematic data collection and analysis and epidemiological research regarding Multiple Sclerosis (MS), Parkinson's disease, and other neurological diseases.

S. 901

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

S. 979

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 979, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 996

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 996, a bill to facilitate nationwide availability of volunteer income tax assistance for low-income and underserved populations, and for other purposes.

S. 1059

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1059, a bill to provide Dreamer

students with access to student financial aid.

S. 1060

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1060, a bill to improve the Federal Pell Grant program, and for other purposes.

S. 1062

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1062, a bill to improve the Federal Pell Grant program, and for other purposes.

S. 1559

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) 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. 1661

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1661, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to preserve consumer and employer access to licensed independent insurance producers.

S. 1760

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1760, a bill to prevent gun trafficking.

S. 2147

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2147, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to participant votes on the suspension of benefits under multi-employer plans in critical and declining status.

S. 2242

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2242, a bill to repeal section 3003 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. "Buck" McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015.

S. 2292

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2292, a bill to reform laws relating to small public housing agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 2332

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2332, a bill to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a permanent background check system.

S. 2348

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Alabama

(Mr. SESSIONS) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2348, a bill to implement the use of Rapid DNA instruments to inform decisions about pretrial release or detention and their conditions, to solve and prevent violent crimes and other crimes, to exonerate the innocent, to prevent DNA analysis backlogs, and for other purposes.

S. 2427

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

S. 2473

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2473, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to provide veterans the option of using an alternative appeals process to more quickly determine claims for disability compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 2478

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2478, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to provide for the purchase of paper United States savings bonds with tax refunds.

S. 2502

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2502, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to ensure that retirement investors receive advice in their best interests, and for other purposes.

S. 2577

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2577, a bill to protect crime victims' rights, to eliminate the substantial backlog of DNA and other forensic evidence samples to improve and expand the forensic science testing capacity of Federal, State, and local crime laboratories, to increase research and development of new testing technologies, to develop new training programs regarding the collection and use of forensic evidence, to provide post-conviction testing of DNA evidence to exonerate the innocent, to support accreditation efforts of forensic science laboratories and medical examiner offices, to address training and equipment needs, to improve the performance of counsel in State capital cases, and for other purposes.

S. 2659

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2659, a bill to reaffirm that the Envi-

ronmental Protection Agency cannot regulate vehicles used solely for competition, and for other purposes.

S. 2675

At the request of Mr. NELSON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2675, a bill to provide for the adjustment of the debts of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and for other purposes.

S. 2676

At the request of Mr. NELSON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2676, a bill to provide for the adjustment of the debts of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and for other purposes.

S. 2707

At the request of Mr. SCOTT, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2707, a bill to require the Secretary of Labor to nullify the proposed rule regarding defining and delimiting the exemptions for executive, administrative, professional, outside sales, and computer employees, to require the Secretary of Labor to conduct a full and complete economic analysis with improved economic data on small businesses, non-profit employers, Medicare or Medicaid dependent health care providers, and small governmental jurisdictions, and all other employers, and minimize the impact on such employers, before promulgating any substantially similar rule, and to provide a rule of construction regarding the salary threshold exemption under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and for other purposes.

S. 2708

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2708, a bill to provide for the admission to the United States of up to 10,000 Syrian religious minorities as refugees of special humanitarian concern in each of the fiscal years 2016 through 2020.

S. 2712

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) were added as cosponsors of S. 2712, a bill to restore amounts improperly withheld for tax purposes from severance payments to individuals who retired or separated from service in the Armed Forces for combat-related injuries, and for other purposes.

S. 2724

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2724, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, with respect to the judicial review of agency interpretations of statutory and regulatory provisions.

S. 2740

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2740, a bill to prohibit the transfer or release of individuals detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to state sponsors of terrorism.

S. 2750

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) 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. 2780

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2780, a bill to amend section 1034 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 to strengthen the certification requirements relating to the transfer or release of detainees at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

S.J. RES. 28

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 28, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Secretary of Agriculture relating to inspection of fish of the order Siluriformes.

S. RES. 426

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 426, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States should support and protect the right of women working in developing countries to safe workplaces, free from gender-based violence, reprisals, and intimidation.

AMENDMENT NO. 3265

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3265 intended to be proposed to S. 2012, an original bill to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the United States, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3798. Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3679 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. NELSON)) to the bill H.R. 636, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3798. Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to

amendment SA 3679 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. NELSON)) to the bill H.R. 636, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in subtitle A of title II, insert the following:

SEC. _____ . COLLABORATION BETWEEN FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION AND DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ON UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS.

(a) COLLABORATION BETWEEN FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION IN DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration and the Secretary of Defense shall collaborate on developing ground-based sense and avoid (GBSAA) and airborne sense and avoid (ABSAA) capabilities for unmanned aircraft systems (UAS).

(2) ELEMENTS.—The collaboration required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) Sharing information and technology on safely integrating unmanned aircraft systems and manned aircraft in the national airspace system.

(B) Building upon Air Force and Department of Defense experience to inform the Federal Aviation Administration's development of civil standards, policies, and procedures for integrating unmanned aircraft systems in the national airspace system.

(C) Assisting in the development of best practices for unmanned aircraft airworthiness certification, development of airborne and ground-based sense and avoid capabilities for unmanned aircraft systems, and research and development on unmanned aircraft systems, especially with respect to matters involving human factors, information assurance, and security.

(b) PARTICIPATION BY FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION IN DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ACTIVITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may participate and provide assistance for participation in test and evaluation efforts of the Department of Defense, including the Air Force, relating to ground-based sense and avoid and airborne sense and avoid capabilities for unmanned aircraft systems.

(2) PARTICIPATION THROUGH CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE AND TEST SITES.—Participation under paragraph (1) may include provision of assistance through the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Center of Excellence and Unmanned Aircraft Systems Test Sites.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 18, 2016, following the first

vote at 5:30 p.m., in room S-216 of the Capitol.

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

NOTICE: REGISTRATION OF MASS MAILINGS

The filing date for the 2016 first quarter Mass Mailing report is Monday, April 25, 2016. An electronic option is available on Webster that will allow forms to be submitted via a fillable pdf document. If your office did no mass mailings during this period, please submit a form that states "none."

Mass mailing registrations or negative reports can be submitted electronically or delivered to the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-7116.

The Senate Office of Public Records is open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. For further information, please contact the Senate Office of Public Records at (202) 224-0322.

APPOINTMENTS

The Acting President pro tempore. The Chair announces, on behalf of the Democratic leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 114-140, the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the Evidence-Based Policymaking Commission: Robert Groves of the District of Columbia (data privacy), Jeffrey Liebman of Massachusetts (researcher), and Kim Wallin of Nevada (experienced program administrator).

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2016

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 19; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business for 1 hour, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each; further, that following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 636; finally, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:36 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, April 19, 2016, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

SUSAN FAYE BEARD, OF MARYLAND, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, VICE GREGORY H. FRIEDMAN, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MARY BETH LEONARD, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE AFRICAN UNION, WITH THE RANK AND STATUS OF AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY.

LAWRENCE ROBERT SILVERMAN, OF MASSACHUSETTS, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE STATE OF KUWAIT.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

SUSAN S. GIBSON, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE. (NEW POSITION)

IN THE ARMY

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

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. KENNETH D. JONES

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

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. ARLAN M. DEBLEICK

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

To be brigadier general

COL. RODNEY L. FAULK

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

To be major

NILSON OROZCOOVIDO

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

PIERRE E. SAINTFLEUR

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 50:

To be vice admiral

VICE ADM. FRED M. MIDGETTE