United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 114th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 162 WASHINGTON, MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2016 No. 63

House of Representatives

The House met at 11:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WHITFIELD).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 25, 2016.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ED WHITFIELD to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Reverend William Gurnee, St. Pius X Catholic Church, Bowie, Maryland, offered the following prayer:

Gracious Lord, as the gift of new life surrounds us in nature, we turn with gratitude for the people of this Nation and those who represent them.

Send Your spirit of right judgment upon the Members of this body so that they may guard the dignity of the poor and protect the opportunity for all to succeed.

Give them courage, give them fortitude, and give them, above all else, the knowledge that they have served their country well.

We humbly ask all this in Your Holy Name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR OF COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Chair of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; which was read and, without objection, referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE,
Washington, DC, April 21, 2016.

Hon. PAUL RYAN,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives, The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: On April 20, 2016, pursuant to section 3307 of Title 40, United States Code, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure met in open session to consider two resolutions included in the General Services Administration's Capital Investment and Leasing Programs.

The Committee continues to work to reduce the cost of federal property and leases. The two resolutions considered for alteration projects address serious health and life safety issues and will consolidate agencies out of leased space into owned space reducing the costs to the taxpayer. The amounts authorized are consistent with existing funding. In total, these resolutions represent more than $27 million in avoided lease costs.

I have enclosed copies of the resolutions adopted by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on April 20, 2016.

Sincerely.

BILL SHUSTER,
Chairman.

Enclosures.

AMENDED COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

ALTERATION—EDWARD J. SCHWARTZ FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE, SAN DIEGO, CA

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for the design and construction for the reconfiguration and alteration of space in the Edward J, Schwartz Federal Building-Courthouse to backfill vacant space resulting from the opening of the San Diego Courthouse in FY2013, allowing federal tenants to reduce their overall footprint, the relocation of childcare operations currently housed in leased space, and correcting life safety and security deficiencies at an additional design and review cost of $5,795,000, an estimated additional construction cost of $49,800,000 and an additional management and inspection cost of $5,250,000 for an additional total estimated project cost of $60,845,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution. This resolution amends the resolution adopted by the Committee on September 17, 2014 related to prospectus PCA–0167–SD14.

Provided, that the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

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AMENDED PROSPECTUS - ALTERATION
EDWARD J. SCHWARTZ FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
SAN DIEGO, CA

Prospectus Number: PCA-0167-SD16
Congressional District: 53

FY2016 Project Summary

Through amended prospectus, the General Services Administration (GSA) proposes design and construction for the reconfiguration and alteration of space in the Edward J. Schwartz Federal Building-Courthouse (FB-CT) to backfill vacancy resulting from the opening of the San Diego Courthouse in FY2013. In addition to recapturing vacant space, the project allows federal tenants to reduce their overall footprint by consolidating their operations in federal space, relocate childcare operations currently housed in leased space, and correct significant life safety and security deficiencies in the facility. Approximately 94,000 rentable square feet will be reconfigured, allowing the Government to release costly leased space reducing the Government's rental payment to the private sector by approximately $2,723,000 annually.

This prospectus amends Prospectus No. PCA-0167-SD14, to reflect scope changes since the submission of the FY2014 prospectus and to complete work that was not previously approved or funded in FY 2014. Of the $61,136,000 requested in FY14, GSA received approval for a portion of the proposed project request and apportioned $19,729,000 of funding as part of its FY2014 Major Repair and Alteration Expenditure Plan.

FY2016 Committee Approval and Appropriation Requested

(Design, ECC and M&I).....$60,845,000

Major Work Items

Interior construction; security, electrical, fire protection and plumbing systems upgrades; exterior construction

Project Budget

Design and Review (FY 2014)	$1,997,317
Additional Design and Review	5,795,000
Estimated Construction Cost (ECC) (FY 2014)	16,042,940
Additional ECC	49,800,000
Management and Inspection (M&I) (FY 2014)	1,688,743
Additional M&I	5,250,000
Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC)*	**$80,574,000**

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for alterations above the standard normally provided by the GSA.

AMENDED PROSPECTUS - ALTERATION
EDWARD J. SCHWARTZ FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
SAN DIEGO, CA

Prospectus Number: PCA-0167-SD16
Congressional District: 53

Schedule	Start	End
Design and Construction	FY2016	FY2020

Building

The 895,247 gross square foot (rsf) Edward J. Schwartz Federal Building and US Courthouse, at 880 Front Street in downtown San Diego, was built in 1973. It consists of two adjacent structures: a six-story federal office wing, a five-story court wing, and underground parking and basement offices. The building's two wings share an upper basement and are connected by a bridge between the fifth and sixth floors.

Tenant Agencies

Judiciary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Probation; U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Treasury Department, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, GSA, and Childcare.

Proposed Project

Approximately 67,000 RSF of vacant space will be built out for backfill occupancy by the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), the U.S. Coast Guard, Probation, Grand Jury, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Two public restrooms will be remodeled for compliance with the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standard (ABAAS). Security upgrades, including hardening on several facades and the installation of bollards and an anti-ram barrier at the entrance to the garage will be undertaken. Building system upgrades including new automatic transfer switches, a new electric fire pump, new domestic water shut-off valves, a new emergency generator and new quick response fire sprinkler heads will be installed. Precast concrete panels on the south elevation of the building's office wing will be cleaned and sealed. Approximately 13,000 rsf of space will also be built out for a childcare center currently housed in leased space. In addition, approximately 5,000 rsf of vacant storage will be returned to parking for government vehicles in the upper basement and 10,000 rsf of basement space will be prepared for tenant occupancy.

GSA PBS

AMENDED PROSPECTUS - ALTERATION
EDWARD J. SCHWARTZ FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
SAN DIEGO, CA

Prospectus Number: PCA-0167-SD16
Congressional District: 53

Major Work Items

Plumbing Upgrade/ABAAS	$1,511,000
Blast Mitigation	3,452,000
Site Security Upgrade	1,300,000
Fire Protection Upgrade	1,372,000
Electrical Upgrade	4,623,000
Interior Construction	37,132,000
Exterior Construction	410,000
Total ECC	**$49,800,000**

Justification

In FY2014, GSA submitted Prospectus Number PCA-0167-SD14, proposing a $61,136,000 repair and alteration project to alter vacant space, consolidate multiple agencies, and upgrade building systems. In the absence of full funding for the FY2014 Capital Investment and Leasing Program, GSA's FY2014 Expenditure Plan for Major Repairs and Alterations Program funded the project at $19,729,000. The Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works and the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure approved the reduced scope and funding. This amended prospectus allows GSA to accomplish scope that was not funded in FY2014 and to undertake additional scope items including conversion of vacant storage space, childcare and consolidate multiple agencies.

The project will allow GSA to backfill approximately 94,000 rsf vacated by certain District Court Judges and staff, and the Court clerk's operations when they moved to the new San Diego Courthouse in FY2013 as well as additional space vacated by the Internal Revenue Service when they relocated to Courthouse.

Currently the building does not meet blast and security standards. In addition, failure to repair or replace the outdated and inefficient building systems will cause operating costs to continue to increase and would likely lead to costly system failures. Further deterioration of the building's systems will make it difficult to backfill the space vacated by tenants that relocated to the San Diego Courthouse Annex.

Summary of Energy Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to requirements of the Facilities Standards for the Public Buildings Service and will implement strategies to meet the Guiding Principles for High Performance and Sustainable Buildings. GSA encourages design opportunities to increase energy and water efficiency above the minimum performance criteria.

GSA PBS

AMENDED PROSPECTUS - ALTERATION
EDWARD J. SCHWARTZ FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
SAN DIEGO, CA

Prospectus Number: PCA-0167-SD16
Congressional District: 53

Prior Appropriations

Prior Appropriations			
Public Law	**Fiscal Year**	**Amount**	**Purpose**
113-76	2014	$19,729,000	Design and Construction
Appropriations to Date		**$19,729,00**	

Prior Committee Approvals

Prior Committee Approvals			
Committee	**Date**	**Amount**	**Purpose**
House T&I	9/17/2014	$19,729,000	Design = $1,997,317 ECC = $16,042,940 M&I = $1,688,743 (ICE consolidation and backfill)
Senate EPW	9/18/2014	$19,729,000	Design = $1,997,317 ECC = $16,042,940 M&I = $1,688,743 (ICE consolidation and additional building improvements)
Approvals to Date		**$19,729,000**	

AMENDED PROSPECTUS - ALTERATION
EDWARD J. SCHWARTZ FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
SAN DIEGO, CA

Prospectus Number: PCA-0167-SD16
Congressional District: 53

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

New Construction.....$282,604,000
Alteration.....$262,434,000
Leasing.....$487,736,000

The 30-year, present value cost of alteration is $20,170,000 less than the cost of new construction with an equivalent annual cost advantages of $1,152,000.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

GSA PBS

AMENDED PROSPECTUS - ALTERATION
EDWARD J. SCHWARTZ FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
SAN DIEGO, CA

Prospectus Number: PCA-0167-SD16
Congressional District: 53

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on February 2, 2015

Recommended: _____
Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

April 2016

Housing Plan
Edward J. Schwartz FB-CT

PCA-0167-SD16
San Diego, CA

	Current						Proposed					
	Personnel		Usable Square Feet (USF)[1]				Personnel		Usable Square Feet (USF)			
	Office	**Total**	**Office**	**Storage**	**Special**	**Total**	**Office**	**Total**	**Office**	**Storage**	**Special**	**Total**
GSA Leased Locations												
401 West A Street												
Executive Office For Immigration Review	35	35	4,079	-	9,500	13,579	-	-	-	-	-	-
475 West Broadway												
Childcare	15	15	450	-	8,813	9,263	-	-	-	-	-	-
101 West Broadway												
Probation	175	175	43,955	-	-	43,955	-	-	24,955	-	-	24,955
610 West Ash												
Environmental Protection Agency	11	11	3,973	-	-	3,973	-	-	-	-	-	-
495 La Tortuga												
Probation	-	-	8,495	-	1,600	10,095	-	-	-	-	-	-
303 "H" Street												
Probation	-	-	13,365	-	-	13,365	-	-	7,500	-	-	7,500
Subtotal (GSA Leased Locations):	**236**	**236**	**74,317**	**-**	**19,913**	**94,230**	**-**	**-**	**32,455**	**-**	**-**	**32,455**
Edward J. Schwartz FB-CT												
Senate	2	2	788	-	266	1,054	2	2	788	-	266	1,054
Court of Appeals	10	10	-	-	6,180	6,180	10	10	-	-	6,180	6,180
Circuit Library	3	3	4,920	134	1,733	6,787	3	3	4,920	134	1,733	6,787
District Court	45	45	22,130	-	69,532	91,662	12	12	15,616	-	49,064	64,680
Magistrate Court	25	25	2,536	-	19,050	21,586	25	25	6,514	-	20,469	26,983
District Court Clerk	3	3	182	-	168	350	-	-	182	-	168	350
Grand Jury	3	3	1,686	-	1,748	3,434	3	3	1,536	-	1,535	3,071
Probation		-	-	-	-	-	95	95	17,853	450	1,550	19,853
DHS-Immigration and Customs Enforcement	500	500	68,320	2,500	15,452	86,272	500	500	68,320	2,500	15,452	86,272
Federal Protective Service	25	25	3,512	195	1,163	4,870	25	25	3,512	195	1,163	4,870
DHS-Customs & Border Protection	6	6	287	-	234	521	3	3	521	-	-	521
GSA FAS Telecommunications Facilities	1	1	562	-	-	562	1	1	562	-	-	562
Federal Bureau of Investigation	1	1	153	-	-	153	1	1	153	-	-	153
GSA - FAS, All Other	1	1	201	-	-	201	1	1	201	-	-	201
Internal Revenue Service	27	27	5,824	387	-	6,211	27	27	5,824	387	-	6,211
Office Of U.S. Attorneys (1)	373	373	104,611	3,944	13,213	121,768	373	373	104,611	3,944	13,213	121,768
Treasury IG for Tax Administration (TIGTA)	5	5	499		200	699	5	5	499	-	200	699
US Marshals Service	52	52	10,331	4,429	19,831	34,591	51	51	11,187	1,575	20,939	33,701
US Tax Court	3	3	128	-	434	562	5	5	144	-	2,194	2,338
US Trustee	19	19	4,679		2,184	6,863	19	19	4,679	-	2,184	6,863
Environmental Protection Agency	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	11	3,623	-	350	3,973
Executive Office For Immigration Review	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	36	7,189	-	11,400	18,589

April 2016

Housing Plan
Edward J. Schwartz FB-CT

PCA-0167-SD16
San Diego, CA

	Current						Proposed					
	Personnel		Usable Square Feet (USF)[1]				Personnel		Usable Square Feet (USF)			
	Office	**Total**	**Office**	**Storage**	**Special**	**Total**	**Office**	**Total**	**Office**	**Storage**	**Special**	**Total**
National Labor Relations Board	8	8	2,165	302	250	2,717	8	8	2,165	302	250	2,717
Joint Use*	-	-	13,972	326	5,173	19,471	-	-	13,972	326	15,317	29,615
Vacant space**			51,130	1,942	4,138	57,210	-	-	24,383	981	350	25,714
Subtotal:	**1,112**	**1,112**	**298,616**	**14,159**	**160,949**	**473,724**	**1,216**	**1,216**	**298,953**	**10,794**	**163,977**	**473,724**

* Joint use space is not occcupied by tenant agencies and includes such things as Food Preperation, Snack bar, Credit Union and Childcare Center.

** Proposed vacancy is made up of small pockets throughout the building (including basement) and will be filled over time.

Office Utilization Rate [2]		
	Current	Proposed
Building Office Tenants (excluding Judiciary, Congress, and agencies with less than 10 employees)	134	136
All Building Office Tenants (including Judiciary, Congress, and agencies with less than 10 employees)	174	176

Current Office UR excludes 23,460 usf of office support space. Proposed Office UR 24,998 usf of office support space.

Current Office UR excludes 51,130 USF of vacant and 54,447 usf of office support space. Proposed Office UR excludes 24,383 of vacant and 60,405 usf of office support space

Total Building USF Rate [3]		
	Current	Proposed
Building Tenants (excluding Judiciary, Congress, and agencies with less than 10 employees)	254	269
All Building Tenants (including Judiciary, Congress, and agencies with less than 10 employees)	375	368

Special Space	
ADP	1,797
Child care	9,976
Conference	18,898
Courtroom	39,046
Food Service	5,327
Holding Cell	13,486
Judicial Chambers	36,102
Judicial Hearing	10,833
Laboratory	2,126
Law Enforcement Legal, Communication	4,043
Mail Rooms	268
Physical Fitness	2,356
Restroom	7,059
Sally Port, USMS	5,135
SCIF	1,050
Secured Circulation	3,890

NOTES:

[1] USF means the portion of the building available for use by a tenant's personnel and furnishings and space available jointly to the occupants of the building.

[5] Office Utilization Rate = total office space available for office personnel. UR calculation excludes office support space USF.

April 2016

Housing Plan
Edward J. Schwartz FB-CT

PCA-0167-SD16
San Diego, CA

	Current						Proposed					
	Personnel		Usable Square Feet (USF)[1]				Personnel		Usable Square Feet (USF)			
	Office	**Total**	**Office**	**Storage**	**Special**	**Total**	**Office**	**Total**	**Office**	**Storage**	**Special**	**Total**
Secured Elevator												1,130
Telephone Room												767
Vaults												688
Total:												**163,977**

[6] Total Building USF Rate = total building USF (office, storage, special) available for all building occupants (office, and non-office personnel).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

ALTERATION—DISTRICT COURTHOUSE, PENSACOLA, FL

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a repair and alteration project to remediate mold, eliminate water infiltration, replace the building facade, and undertake system and site upgrades at the Pensacola District Courthouse located at 1 North Palafox Street in Pensacola, Florida at a design cost of $2,673,000, an estimated construction cost of $25,259,000 and a management and inspection cost of $2,849,000 for a total estimated project cost of $30,781,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided, that the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

GSA PBS

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
DISTRICT COURTHOUSE
PENSACOLA, FL

Prospectus Number: PFL-2245-PE15
Congressional District: 1

FY 2016 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a repair and alteration project to remediate mold, eliminate water infiltration, replace the building facade, and undertake system and site upgrades at the Pensacola District Courthouse located at 1 North Palafox Street in Pensacola, FL (the "District Courthouse").

The District Courthouse is a leased facility that was constructed on land owned by the City of Pensacola and made available to GSA's selected developer pursuant to a Ground Lease. It was constructed for use by the Courts and leased by GSA since 1997. The firm term of the current space lease between GSA and the owner of the courthouse, Palafox Street Associates, LP, expires on July 31, 2017 (the "Courthouse Lease"). GSA has an unconditional right to accept an irrevocable Offer of Donation from the City of Pensacola to take fee simple ownership of the site and improvements at the end of the current 20-year Courthouse Lease term. GSA plans to acquire ownership of the site and improvements by accepting the Offer of Donation, thereby taking ownership from the City of Pensacola upon expiration of the initial term of the Courthouse Lease.

FY 2016 Committee Approval Requested

(Design, Construction, Management and Inspection) $30,781,000

FY 2016 Appropriation Requested[1] $0

Major Work Items

Exterior construction; interior construction; mold abatement; roof replacement; heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC)/mechanical, life safety/emergency and plumbing systems upgrades; site work; security upgrades; demolition.

Project Budget

Design $2,673,000
Estimated Construction Cost (ECC) $25,259,000
Management and Inspection (M&I) $2,849,000

[1] Although no funds are being requested in this prospectus, approval of the prospectus is needed for this repair and alteration project. Concurrently, GSA will request approval to reprogram previously appropriated project funds to pay for this proposed repair and alteration project.

GSA PBS

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
DISTRICT COURTHOUSE
PENSACOLA, FL

Prospectus Number: PFL-2245-PE15
Congressional District: 1

Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC)*.....$30,781,000

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for tenant improvements above the standard normally provided by the GSA.

Schedule	Start	End
Design	FY 2016	FY 2016
Construction	FY 2016	FY 2018

Building

The District Courthouse in Pensacola is a five-story leased building built for use by the Federal judiciary and occupied in August 1997 under a 20-year, below-prospectus lease (including two options of 5 additional years each). The building is owned by GSA's current Lessor, Palafox Street Associates, and was constructed on land owned by the City of Pensacola pursuant to a Ground Lease between the City of Pensacola and the building's developer. The ground lease agreement is coterminous with the Courthouse Lease. This Court's function in this building is in conjunction with the court and court-related functions housed in the federally owned Winston E. Arnow U.S. Courthouse, located at 100 N. Palafox Street. The Arnow Courthouse is 79,840 rentable square feet (RSF) and provides 5 inside parking spaces and 22 outside surface parking spaces.

The Courthouse Lease expires on July 31, 2017. Upon expiration of the Courthouse Lease, GSA has the right, through an Offer of Donation provided from the City of Pensacola, to assume ownership of the underlying land and improvements. With the end of the current lease term nearing, GSA plans to accept the donation, enabling the Government to take ownership of the District Courthouse land and improvements from the City, at no cost.

Tenant Agencies

Judiciary, U.S. Department of Justice Office of the U.S Attorney, U.S. Department of Justice - Marshals Service, U.S. Congress Senate, GSA

Proposed Project

GSA proposes alterations to the District Courthouse that will correct the water intrusion issues in the building by replacing the building's facade, installing a new standing seam metal roof system, repairing structural damage to the building caused by the water

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
DISTRICT COURTHOUSE
PENSACOLA, FL

Prospectus Number: PFL-2245-PE15
Congressional District: 1

intrusion, and completely abating the presence of mold created by the water intrusion. The new building envelope will be weathertight and meet the State of Florida hurricane requirements. GSA will also install a new security blast protection system to the exterior during the facade repairs consistent with current security standards. Interior finishes throughout the building damaged by the water intrusion will also be repaired or replaced. In addition, the project will modernize the outdated fire safety system and the heating ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) system by adding additional variable air volume boxes and a new building automation system to better control the interior humidity. The restrooms in the building will also be upgraded, including the installation of floor drains, replacement of wall finishes, and Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standard compliant unisex restrooms will be installed on each floor. Grounds and approaches will be repaired after facade demolition and replacement. Parking will be repaved and waterproofing and drainage will be installed on the site.

Major Work Items

Superstructure/Exterior Repairs	$9,750,000
Interior Construction & Finishes	5,090,000
HVAC Upgrades	2,181,000
Mold Abatement	2,078,000
Roof Replacement	1,485,000
Fire Protection Upgrades	1,327,000
Electrical Upgrades	1,308,000
Plumbing Upgrades	798,000
Site Repairs/Improvements	760,000
Demolition	482,000
Total ECC	**$25,259,000**

Justification

The existing leased District Courthouse has experienced water intrusion issues dating back to initial occupancy. GSA under the Courthouse Lease is responsible for all maintenance and capital improvements, and has made numerous repairs over the term of the lease to attempt to resolve these issues. However, the selective repairs have not been able to adequately correct the building deficiencies, and water intrusion issues persisted. GSA identified significant water intrusion and mold issues in 2014, and, as a result, GSA is pursuing a comprehensive solution. Due primarily to the health-related concerns reported by building occupants, and the limited ability to move occupants within the building during the proposed renovation without disrupting agency missions, GSA

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
DISTRICT COURTHOUSE
PENSACOLA, FL

Prospectus Number: PFL-2245-PE15
Congressional District: 1

relocated all building tenants out of the leased District Courthouse and into a 14,946 rentable square foot lease in June 2015 and the Arnow Courthouse. The 1 N. Palafox Street courthouse is currently vacant and will remain so for the duration of the renovation project.

Summary of Energy Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to requirements of the Facilities Standards for the Public Buildings Service and will implement strategies to meet the Guiding Principles for High Performance and Sustainable Buildings. GSA encourages design opportunities to increase energy and water efficiency above the minimum performance criteria.

Prior Appropriations
N/A

Prior Committee Approvals
N/A

Prior Prospectus-Level Projects in Building (past 10 years):
N/A

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

Alteration: $56,120,271
New Construction: $53,371,076
Lease $100,838,333

GSA has determined that taking ownership of the courthouse and executing the repair and alterations project identified in this prospectus is the most efficient means of housing the U.S. District Courts in Pensacola, FL. The 30-year, present value cost of alteration is $2,749,195 more than the cost of new construction with an equivalent annual cost disadvantage of $147,610, and $44,718,062 less than the cost of a lease with an equivalent annual cost advantage of $2,548,623. At this time, the GSA Federal Building Fund has the necessary funds available to support the limited alteration of the District Courthouse allowing for re-occupancy of the District Courthouse. Utilizing existing Federal Building Fund resources, the Alteration alternative also provides a long-term housing solution for building occupants more quickly than the New Construction alternative.

GSA PBS

PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
DISTRICT COURTHOUSE
PENSACOLA, FL

Prospectus Number: PFL-2245-PE15
Congressional District: 1

Recommendation

ALTERATION

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on March 31, 2016

Recommended: _____
Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: _____
Administrator, General Services Administration

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the House stands adjourned until noon tomorrow for morning hour debate.

There was no objection.

Thereupon (at 11 o'clock and 33 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, April 26, 2016, at noon for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5132. A letter from the Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a report entitled, ''Evaluation of the TRICARE Program: Access, Cost, and Quality'' for Fiscal Year 2016, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1073 note; Public Law 104-106, Sec. 717(c); (110 Stat. 376); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5133. A letter from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's Major final rule — Business Conduct Standards for Security-Based Swap Dealers and Major Security-Based Swap Participants [Release No.: 34-77617; File No.: S7-25-11] (RIN: 3235-AL10) received April 20, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

5134. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Rhode Island; Infrastructure State Implementation Plan Requirements for Particle Matter, Ozone, Lead, Nitrogen Dioxide and Sulfur Dioxide [EPA-R01-OAR-2015-0402; FRL-9945-13-Region 1] received April 15, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5135. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Amendments Related to: Tier 3 Motor Vehicle Emission and Fuel Standards and 40 CRF Part 80 [EPA-HQ-OAR-2011-0135; FRL-9941-85-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AS36) received April 15, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5136. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Air Plan Approval; Vermont; Stage I Vapor Recovery Requirements [EPA-R01-OAR-2015-0243; A-1-FRL-9945-12-Region 1] received April 15, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5137. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Cyprodinil; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2015-0180; FRL-9943-85] received April 15, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5138. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Louisiana; Revisions to the State Implementation Plan; Fee Regulations [EPA-R06-OAR-2016-0132; FRL-9945-09-Region 6] received April 15, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5139. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Promulgation of State Implementation Plan Revisions; Infrastructure Requirements for 2008 Lead, 2008 Ozone, 2010 NO2, 2010 SO2, and 2012 PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Montana [EPA-R08-OAR-2013-0556; FRL-9945-14-Region 8] received April 15, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5140. A letter from the Congressional Relations, Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, transmitting the FY 2015 No FEAR Act report, pursuant to Public Law 107-174, 203(a); (116 Stat. 569); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5141. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Financial Assistance and Social Services Programs; Burial Assistance [167A2100DD/AAKC001030/A0A501010.999900 253G] (RIN: 1076-AF29) received April 21, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5142. A letter from the Regulations Specialist, Office of Subsistence Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's direct final rule — Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; Rural Determinations, Nonrural List [Docket No.: FWS-R7-SM-2015-0156; FXRS12610700000-156-FF07J00000; FBMS#4500086366] (RIN: 1018-BA82) received April 21, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5143. A letter from the Regulations Specialist, Office of Subsistence Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's affirmation of direct final rule — Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; Rural Determinations, Nonrural List [Docket No.: FWS-R7-SM-2015-0156; FXRS12610700000-156-FF07J00000; FBMS#4500087231] (RIN: 1018-BA82) received April 21, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5144. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Recovery and State Grants, Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Louisiana Black Bear From the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Removal of Similarity-of-Appearance Protections for the American Black Bear [Docket No.: FWS-R4-ES-2015-0014; FXES11130900000C2-167-FF09E32000] (RIN: 1018-BA44) received April 21, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5145. A letter from the Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Migratory Bird Hunting; Final Frameworks for Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-MB-2015-0034] [FF09M21200-167-FXMB1231099BPP0] (RIN: 1018-BA70) received April 21, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5146. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Inseason Adjustment to the 2016 Gulf of Alaska Pollock and Pacific Cod Total Allowable Catch Amounts [Docket No.: 140918791-4999-02] (RIN: 0648-XE383) received April 21, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5147. A letter from the Regulations Specialist, Office of Subsistence Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska; Rural Determination Process [Docket No.: FWS-R7-SM-2014-0063; FXRS12610700000-156-FF07J00000; FBMS#4500086287] (RIN:1018-BA62) received April 21, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5148. A letter from the Acting Unified Listing Team Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Species Status for the Big Sandy Crayfish and Endangered Species Status for the Guyandotte River Crayfish [Docket No.: FWS-R5-ES-2015-0015; 4500030113] (RIN: 1018-BA85) received April 21, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5149. A letter from the Acting Unified Listing Team Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for the New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse [Docket No.: FWS-R2-ES-2013-0014] [4500030114] (RIN: 1018-AZ32) received April 21, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5150. A letter from the Acting Unified Listing Team Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation and Nondesignation of Critical Habitat on Molokai, Lanai, Maui, and Kahoolawe for 135 Species [Docket No.: FWS-R1-ES-2015-0071; 4500030114] (RIN: 1018-AZ25) received April 21, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5151. A letter from the Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Harvest Regulations for Migratory Birds in Alaska During the 2016 Season [Docket No.: FWS-R7-MB-2015-0158] [FF09M21200-156-FXMB1231099BPP0] (RIN: 1018-BB10) received April 21, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. BISHOP of Utah: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 87. A bill to modify the boundary of the Shiloh National Military Park located in Tennessee and Mississippi, to establish Parker's Crossroads Battlefield as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114–516). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3070. A bill to clarify that for purposes of all Federal laws governing marine fisheries management, the landward boundary of the exclusive economic zone between areas south of Montauk, New York, and Point Judith, Rhode Island, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114–517). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 1684. A bill to amend the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to impose penalties and provide for the recovery of removal costs and damages in connection with certain discharges of oil from foreign offshore units, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114–518). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BRADY of Texas: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 4923. A bill to establish a process for the submission and consideration of petitions for temporary duty suspensions and reductions, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114–519, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. CHAFFETZ: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform H.R. 4359. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that Federal employees may not be placed on administrative leave for more than 14 days during any year for misconduct or poor performance, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114–520). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. CHAFFETZ: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform H.R. 4639. A bill to reauthorize the Office of Special Counsel, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide modifications to authorities relating to the Office of Special Counsel, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114–521). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. CHAFFETZ: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 4901. A bill to reauthorize the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act, and for other purposes (Rept. 114–522). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Rules discharged from further consideration. H.R. 4923 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mrs. LOWEY (for herself, Ms. DELAURO, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ):

H.R. 5044. A bill making supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2016 to respond to Zika virus; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina (for herself and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY):

H.R. 5045. A bill to impose a moratorium on the implementation of a proposed Medicare local coverage determination on lower limb prostheses; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SENSENBRENNER (for himself, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. FORBES, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, and Mr. GUINTA):

H.R. 5046. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize the Attorney General to make grants to assist State and local governments in addressing the national epidemic of opioid abuse, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia (for himself, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. CRAMER, and Mrs. RADEWAGEN):

H.R. 5047. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Labor to provide information to veterans and members of the Armed Forces about articulation agreements between institutions of higher learning, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

208. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, relative to House Resolution No. 236, requesting the Congress of the United States call a convention of the states to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

209. Also, a memorial of the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, relative to House Joint Resolution No. 507, supporting the creation of a long-term energy plan that addresses the long-term energy needs of the state; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Science, Space, and Technology.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mrs. LOWEY:

H.R. 5044.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: ''No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law. . . .'' In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: ''The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States . . .'' Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

By Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina:

H.R. 5045.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3: ''to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.''

By Mr. SENSENBRENNER:

H.R. 5046.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia:

H.R. 5047.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 12 of the United States Constitution which states that Congress shall have the power ''To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years.''

Article I, Section 8, Clause 13 of the United States Constitution which states that Congress shall have the power ''To provide and maintain a Navy.''

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14 of the United States Constitution which states that Congress shall have the power ''To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces.''

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution which states that Congress shall have the power ''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.''

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 224: Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 379: Ms. MCSALLY.
H.R. 494: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas.
H.R. 539: Mr. RUSSELL, Mr. KATKO, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and Mr. FOSTER.
H.R. 980: Mr. YOUNG of Iowa, Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia, and Mr. WEBER of Texas.
H.R. 1198: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 1199: Mr. POMPEO.
H.R. 1209: Ms. LOFGREN and Mr. ROSS.
H.R. 1608: Ms. FRANKEL of Florida and Mr. LAMALFA.
H.R. 1706: Mr. HUFFMAN and Ms. JUDY CHU of California.
H.R. 1718: Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. DOLD, Mr. BARR, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H.R. 1818: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. RUIZ, and Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 1859: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 1911: Mr. GRAYSON.
H.R. 2274: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. RUIZ.
H.R. 2417: Mr. GIBSON and Mr. ROSS.
H.R. 2461: Mr. COLLINS of New York.

H.R. 2663: Mr. FATTAH.
H.R. 2713: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 2726: Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. MOORE, Mr. PEARCE, and Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 2901: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 2902: Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois and Mr. RUIZ.
H.R. 3012: Mr. STEWART.
H.R. 3237: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 3280: Mr. POLIS.
H.R. 3326: Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. REICHERT, and Mr. SHUSTER.
H.R. 3643: Mr. RICE of South Carolina.
H.R. 3863: Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 3870: Mr. SABLAN, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. O'ROURKE, Mr. KILMER, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Ms. GRAHAM, Ms. MOORE, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. HAHN, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. PETERSON.
H.R. 4027: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 4212: Mr. KATKO and Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 4223: Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 4247: Mr. KING of New York and Mr. COFFMAN.
H.R. 4277: Mr. DEFAZIO and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 4501: Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 4554: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 4585: Mr. PALLONE and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 4625: Mr. PITTS, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 4636: Mr. RUSSELL.
H.R. 4729: Mr. SWALWELL of California.
H.R. 4768: Mr. LUETKEMEYER and Mr. MEADOWS.
H.R. 4820: Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. FINCHER, Mrs. BLACK, and Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee.
H.R. 4830: Ms. GABBARD.
H.R. 4880: Mr. BYRNE and Mr. FORBES.
H.R. 4904: Mr. RICE of South Carolina and Mr. FARENTHOLD.
H.R. 4917: Mr. BRIDENSTINE.
H.R. 4923: Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mrs. WALORSKI, Ms. MCSALLY, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.
H.R. 4939: Mr. LEWIS.
H.R. 4955: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4992: Mr. NUNES, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. ADERHOLT, and Mr. GUTHRIE.
H.R. 5001: Mr. FARENTHOLD.
H.R. 5035: Mr. POMPEO.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

58. The SPEAKER presented a petition of Mr. Gregory D. Watson, a citizen of Austin, TX, relative to urging Congress to propose, for ratification by special conventions held within the individual states, an amendment to the United States Constitution which would allow the voters to petition for a nationwide referendum to either sustain or nullify any federal law enacted by Congress within the past year; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 114th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 162 WASHINGTON, MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2016 No. 63

Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, our hearts rejoice with every remembrance of You. Make us eager to do Your bidding and worthy of Your generous mercy. We thank You that You hear and answer our prayers, providing us with the privilege of entering Your throne room whenever we desire.

Today, inspire our lawmakers with Your wisdom, infusing them with the steadiness of purpose that glorifies You. Give them power to follow after goodness, striving passionately to please You in their thoughts, words, and deeds. Lord, bless all their undertakings and cause them to prosper.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). The majority leader is recognized.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 1206 AND H.R. 4885

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I understand there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1206) to prohibit the hiring of additional Internal Revenue Service employees until the Secretary of the Treasury certifies that no employee of the Internal Revenue Service has a seriously delinquent tax debt.

A bill (H.R. 4885) to require that user fees collected by the Internal Revenue Service be deposited into the general fund of the Treasury.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bills will be placed on the calendar en bloc.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS BILL

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, the top Democrat on the Appropriations Committee recently said that the energy security and water infrastructure funding legislation before us marks an ''excellent kickoff'' to the appropriations process.

This is the first bill of the ''Appropriations Committee to come to the floor,'' she said, and ''it signals that we are ready to do regular order.'' I share Senator MIKULSKI's sentiment. It has been good to see colleagues working across the aisle expressing an interest and working cooperatively this appropriations season because we know continued cooperation will be essential to a successful appropriations process.

We have seen plenty of positive signs in the Appropriations Committee already. The committee has already approved one-third of the 12 funding bills on a bipartisan basis. With continued cooperation, we will have an opportunity to pass the first of these bills on the floor this week. The energy security and water infrastructure funding legislation before us is the result of many hours of hard work and research. It will reduce wasteful spending, it will bolster national security, and by advancing priorities like public safety, waterway infrastructure, economic development, and energy innovation it will impact all 50 of our States.

This excellent kickoff to the appropriations season enjoys bipartisan support. It advanced out of committee by a unanimous vote. It represents yet another example of what is possible in a Senate that is back to work. I thank the subcommittee chairman, Senator ALEXANDER, for working with Ranking Member FEINSTEIN to move this important bill out of committee. Let's continue our work today to get one step closer to passage.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic Leader is recognized.

COMMENDING THE PRESIDING OFFICER

Mr. REID. Madam President, I commented to my able assistant who is at my desk with me, Bill Dauster—I have always—whenever the Presiding Officer says the Pledge of Allegiance, I am amazed at how she stands at attention. It brings back her old military mind, I am sure. Very impressive.

FBI INVESTIGATION

Mr. REID. Madam President, as each day passes, the senior Senator from Iowa further distinguishes himself as the most political and partisan Judiciary Committee chairman in history. Last Friday, Senator GRASSLEY took his political partisanship to a new low when he encouraged the FBI to join the political crusade against Secretary Hillary Clinton.

The Senator from Iowa is confused about the role of the FBI. By law, the FBI is obligated to do its job and conduct an independent review for everything it has to work on free from political interference.

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

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It is wrong for any Senator, especially the chairman of the Judiciary Committee who deals with these issues day after day, to urge the selective leaking of any Federal investigation. The FBI is not in the business of disclosing information to appease political operatives, but according to press reports, that is just the sort of thing the Republican Judiciary Committee has done.

Remember, there has been a lot of speculation that under Chairman GRASSLEY's leadership the personal information of a Clinton staffer was leaked to the press, including payroll records and a Social Security number, but urging a leak of the FBI investigation for political purposes was not the only thing Senator GRASSLEY said. The Senator from Iowa was asked what he thought was the worst change in Congress during his tenure. He responded that the increasing partisanship was disappointing to him.

The audacity and even the hypocrisy of that statement is staggering. Senator GRASSLEY decries partisanship, while he denies a hearing and a vote to an eminently qualified Supreme Court nominee. For what? No one has a good answer on that. The Senator from Iowa complains of partisanship, even as he uses the Judiciary Committee to wage a political war against Secretary Clinton and her staff.

Under the guise of oversight, Senator GRASSLEY has been wasting taxpayer dollars trying to besmirch Hillary Clinton's good name. This has been going on for years. The Senator's singular focus on Secretary Clinton borders on an obsession. Senator GRASSLEY has written dozens of letters containing hundreds of requests. He has held hearings. He has issued press releases. What have he and his committee achieved? Nothing. All the chairman has done is waste taxpayer dollars.

The Judiciary Committee chairman is so desperate to legitimize his attacks against Hillary Clinton he is willing to encourage a selective leak of a Federal investigation by, of all people, the FBI.

All this in an effort to award the Presidential nomination to Donald Trump. I agree in one respect with Senator GRASSLEY. Partisanship in this Chamber is awful. It is paralyzing the Senate and is preventing us from doing our constitutional duties, but much of this is the handiwork of the Judiciary Committee and Senator GRASSLEY.

I ask the Chair to announce the business of the day.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 4 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

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

CHILD POISONINGS FROM LAUNDRY PODS

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to use articles as examples relevant to the subject of my speech.

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

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, I rise today to speak about the rapid rise in child poisonings caused by single-use laundry products. Earlier today, we had an update on the number and severity of these poisonings from the American Academy of Pediatrics. It was in an indepth study just published in their journal, Pediatrics.

The news is not very good, because in 2013 and 2014 that academy reports that there were over 22,000 child exposures to laundry products, resulting in the deaths of at least two children due to the chemicals in these pods, and many others have faced serious injury, with at least 17 children in that time period going into comas because of exposure to these chemicals.

What am I talking about? This is a laundry pod. It is very colorful on the outside, and it smells very good. It is quite soft. Its texture, particularly to the touch of an infant—an infant's hand and face—is very soft and reassuring. The problem is that if it gets into an infant's hand, where is it going to end up? It is going to end up in their mouth, and these packages are soluble. So, naturally, the plastic exterior is going to dissolve, and all of these chemicals are going to end up in the child's digestive system.

As a result of these pods, we have had two children die, and we had 22,000 child exposures in that 2-year period the study covers, with 17 children going into comas. Others have suffered seizures or internal burns to their lips, mouths, and the esophagus. If it gets into their esophagus and burns, then you have a problem.

Now, what we have been advocating, Senator DURBIN and I, in our legislation is to make them as safe as possible and to get the Consumer Product Safety Commission involved in these things. This Senator has met with the industry. Let me show you some of the things in which, indeed, they have made progress.

This is a detergent pod package, and in order to get in it—and this pod came in this packaging—you have to tear it open. That is one good thing. They have designed this container so that it would be very difficult to get into. Even I am having difficulty getting into it. The pods would be in this container—something that would be child proof.

They designed this container. This has one of those slide bars, such as on a plastic sealant freezer package, where you have to push down on it and apply pressure in order to get the slide that unzips the seal. That is also a good thing.

But let me show you what the industry is resistant to doing. Children are naturally attracted to colorful candy. Here shown on this chart are a variety of candies, such as gummy bears, but among all of these are interspersed some of these pods. This is one. This is another. This is another, and this is another—not unlike the colors on this pod. So if we don't have the packaging preventing the child from getting to this pod, then we are going to have a problem, which is why we lost two children and 17 others went into comas in the last 2 years.

Now, a lot of people like these products, and so does the Nelson family. They serve a very useful purpose. At the same time, we need to make them as safe as possible. So why not just remove the color from the package and make it less attractive to the child.

Last year, Senator DURBIN and I introduced legislation that would require better labeling, more child-resistant packaging and safer chemical formulations for these single-use laundry pod products. The bill has been referred to our Commerce Committee, and as the ranking member of that committee, I am going to talk again to Senator THUNE, who is the chairman of the committee, to see if we can get the committee to take up the bill as soon as possible.

Earlier this year, we were able to get both the House and the Senate to pass legislation requiring childproof packaging for bottles of liquid nicotine, some of which had injured children and, in some cases, resulted in death as well and had poisoned thousands of others. If we could get that done in a bipartisan manner, which we did and that is now law, then there is no reason why we can't, in a bipartisan way, address the issue posed by this problem. Keeping children safe is not a partisan issue. It is just common sense.

In the interim, we want to encourage the manufacturers to keep working on new standards to reduce the poisonings. We appreciate very much the efforts at things such as this and this. That is helpful. Last week, one manufacturer announced plans to put many of the laundry pods they sell into new, more child-resistant packaging. They also announced a public education campaign urging parents to keep laundry pods away from their children. That is certainly helpful. But at the same time, we need to keep working to make these pods less attractive to children and, perhaps more

importantly, make the chemicals inside these less toxic so that when a child does get hold of one and it goes into their mouth, it is not going to turn into tragedy.

I thank the American Academy of Pediatrics for their very important study, and I look forward to working with our colleagues to put an end to the accidental deaths and poisonings that we see as a result of these attractive products.

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

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

TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam President, on Sunday, during a joint press conference in Hannover, Germany, with Chancellor Angela Merkel, the President of the United States said this:

> And with respect to Congress and the Trans-Pacific Partnership—

That is the big 5,000-page trade agreement the President is trying to move through Congress—

> I think after the primary season is over—

After the primary season is over—

> the politics settle down a little bit in Congress, and we'll be in a position to start moving forward. Because I know that we had a majority of members in the past who were in favor of this deal. Otherwise we wouldn't have gotten the authority for me to go ahead and fast track the agreement. But I think we all know that elections can sometimes make things a little more challenging, and people take positions, in part, to protect themselves from attacks during the course of election seasons.

I would suggest the American people should be very uneasy about their President making such a statement as that. We have already heard that there are plans by a number of forces and interest groups to try to slip this TPP through after the election in a lame-duck congressional session.

Why would that be the case? Well, the President says it right here: The American people are uneasy about it. They are not for this. Support for it is sinking. Elections are turning on it. And it does not need to become law.

I am firmly opposed to this agreement. I believe it is bad for our country. It bothers me that if it is such a good deal, why don't they bring it forward? Why don't we have a debate here while elections are on? Why aren't people willing to go home and explain to their constituents how and why they voted the way they did and how and why they believe the way they do? What is wrong with that? Why wait until after, when things settle down a little bit, in the President's words, when people can't be held accountable by their constituents for the votes they cast or they think they may be able to slide away afterward?

I don't like this. I don't think it is the right thing to do. I think it is arrogant. What the President is fundamentally saying and what a lot of these special interest groups are saying is, well, we know you in Congress are so smart, and we know the President is smart. But, the people out here, they don't understand how smart we all are, and we just need to get this done, and so we will have this trade agreement. But we understand you probably shouldn't do it right now while elections are going on because, well, you might get your clock cleaned. They might vote you out of office. So we will see if we can't work up a way to pass it sometime in the future.

The President has made it clear that he intends to continue to push through this 5,544-page trade agreement that the American people don't want. Polls show consistent disapproval of the TPP. A March poll by Americans for Limited Government found that 51 percent of Americans did not know anything about it. I would say at least 50 percent of the Members of Congress don't know much about it. It is more than 5,000 pages. I have probably spent more time on it than the vast majority have, and it is rather difficult to read. No wonder the American people say they don't know a lot about it. But of those who claim to be familiar with it, 58 percent oppose it. There are a lot of reasons for this, and we will talk about it more.

Today, U.S. Trade Representative Michael Froman announced that they are beginning the 13th round of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership—TTIP, they call it—with the European Union in New York. So this is the second part of the fast-track. The fast-track guarantees a fast vote—without amendments, without the option to filibuster, on the floor of the Senate for less than 2 days, and you get an up-or-down vote. That is what fast-track does.

So we will have the Pacific agreement probably coming up first, and then we will have the TTIP, the Atlantic agreement, and then there is a third one, the Trade in Services Agreement. All of these are huge trade agreements, unlike anything we have seen before, creating in the Pacific an international trade union similar to the beginning of the European Union that Britain is trying to get out of. I think we should be very dubious about that.

How is the trade agreement faring in Europe? How about Germany, which is probably one of the leading trading countries in Europe? A poll by the Bertelsmann Foundation, a nonprofit organization that studies domestic and international politics, found that only 17 percent of Germans feel that TTIP—the transatlantic partnership—would be a good deal even though less than 2 years ago it had a 55-percent positive rating. This study found that the more people learn about the agreement, the more they oppose it. The same thing is happening in the United States, in my opinion.

The President has referred to the TPP as the ''most progressive trade deal in history.'' Its chapters create new labor and environmental provisions that the public really knows nothing about.

Even the economic data the White House promotes as proving the validity of the TPP, if we look at it carefully, we can see that their own report and study that they cite the most—that signing the agreement will decrease the rate of American manufacturing jobs by 120,000. How is this good for America? By their own study, we are going to lose 120,000 manufacturing jobs that we would have maintained had we not signed the agreement. Another study by Tufts University said the country will lose 400,000 jobs. We are going to go into the differences in the studies, we are going to see the assumptions utilized in the model the President cites, and we are going to see that the assumptions they made are not reasonable. They are extreme assumptions—assumptions that would never occur in the next 15 years as they assume they will occur. No wonder they can justify positive numbers with those kinds of assumptions.

I think all of us have to begin to reveal—and the American people need to be more alert—how bad this international agreement really is, how it will not positively affect the lives of most Americans. It is just not going to do so.

We will look at how the Korean trade deal that I supported in 2011 came nowhere close to being beneficial to the United States. In 2011, when President Obama signed the deal, the President said that it would increase American exports by $10 billion to South Korea. I thought that was a good thing. It sounded pretty good, but their estimates were way off.

The model that experts used to study the Korean trade deal is the same one they are using to study the TPP, and so we have a pretty good test: Did we increase exports by $10 billion each year to South Korea, as the model suggested? Well, their imports to us increased by $12 billion, and as of last year, we only increased our exports to Korea by less than a couple of hundred million dollars more than in 2011. So we didn't get any increase at all—virtually none. They had a huge increase to us, and our trade deficit with our allies and friends in South Korea increased 280 percent. This is a serious matter.

The same thing happened: They used this same computer model when we signed the agreement with China in 2000. We then had a little less than $70 billion in trade deficit with China. They assumed our exports to China would grow at the same rate as China's exports to the United States would grow. Did that happen? No. What is the

trade deficit with China today? Pushing $400 billion. Our trade deficit went up 6 percent again last year.

So who is right here: The American people, who are worried about their jobs, their wages, their incomes, or the experts who promised all these grand things if we would just sign these agreements and everybody is going to be better off for it? I think the American people are the ones who have been proven right by this data.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to have 1 additional minute.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam President, the President does not need to be threatening our allies in Britain about the decision of their own people on whether to exit from the European Union. They are not happy with how things are going in the European Union. A lot of people are concerned about it. It is heading toward a close vote. The people of the United Kingdom can make their own decision without hearing advice or threats from the President of the United States. I don't blame them for being offended by it. This is certainly not an acceptable position for the President to take.

Madam President, I appreciate the opportunity to share these remarks. I want to push back from the President's recent statements about this trade agreement, how he plans to move it through when people aren't watching. I also think Congress needs to speak and assert that we affirm the right of the people of the UK to decide whether to remain in the European Union.

I thank the Chair.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

F–35 JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, I rise today in support of the F–35 Joint Strike Fighter. I have previously addressed this body on the progress of the F–35 program and its importance to our national defense. On one of those occasions, I stated that this weapons system provides the capabilities we need to protect our freedoms and those of our allies. That statement resonates even more today as the international security landscape grows even more precarious.

When the F–35 program started over 20 years ago, the strategic backdrop for the program of record was significantly different than it is today. The Cold War had recently drawn to a close, and the menace of Islamic extremists, rogue states, and nonstate actors was just beginning to surface. Today, these groups pose the most salient threat to our national security—and we all know it. To find examples of their deviant behavior, look no further than the headlines of today's papers.

In Eastern Europe, Putin's invasion of a sovereign nation threatens not only the security of the Ukrainian people but also tests the resolve of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization—perhaps our country's most important defense alliance.

In the Middle East, Iran grows more emboldened with its ballistic missile tests, rattling a region already on the verge of violent conflict. And none of this is to mention the metastasis of ISIS in Iraq and a seemingly endless civil war in Syria.

In Asia, the North Korean regime constantly threatens South Korea with war. Meanwhile, tensions over territorial waters in the South China Sea grow more strained, escalating the possibility of conflict between China and our Asian allies. All the while, China continues to leverage its economic largesse to build highly advanced weapons systems.

I believe many Members of this body would agree that the dangers facing our country today are more immediate and far-reaching than they were just 20 years ago.

As threats to our national security proliferate across the globe, we need a next-generation weapon system of unparalleled capability. We need a strike fighter powerful enough to deter the aggression of our foes. We need an aircraft that can penetrate advanced enemy air defenses and neutralize targets on the ground. In short, we need the F–35.

In fact, we need the F–35 today more than ever. Even so, there are those who seek to reduce or delay the number of F–35s being produced. I strongly advise against this action. Reducing procurement numbers for the F–35 will only make the aircraft more expensive in the long run.

To ensure that our country continues to dominate airpower for decades to come, we must stay the course and resist the urge to cut aircraft. That is why I believe we must increase, not decrease, the number of F–35s scheduled for production.

Recently, several of my colleagues, led by Senators CORNYN and SHAHEEN, sent a letter to the Armed Services Committee and the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee in both the House and the Senate. Their letter was clear: The need for the F–35 in today's environment is crucial. Therefore, the committees of jurisdiction should not follow the President's budget reduction plan but should maintain the program of record.

I realize the frustrations that many of my colleagues have with the acquisition process of the Department of Defense. During the first two decades of the F–35's journey, the Joint Strike Fighter Program Office experienced its fair share of setbacks, broken promises, missteps, and faulty leadership decisions—decisions made by both government leaders and industry partners. Even from within the Pentagon itself, we have heard the title of ''acquisition malpractice'' bestowed upon this program at the highest levels after the Nunn-McCurdy breach for cost growth.

Time and again, my much esteemed colleague, the senior Senator from Arizona, has pointed out these shortfalls and missteps. I echo his frustrations and stress the need for an acquisition and sustainment strategy that focuses on delivering and sustaining the most available, capable, and affordable weapon systems for the warfighter.

Nevertheless, we must recognize that reducing procurement numbers for the F–35 will only put an unnecessary strain on our Armed Forces. Given the dangerous state of global affairs, now is not the time to hamstring our military's capabilities.

Amid the many criticisms of the F–35 program, I wish to call attention to its successes. In terms of both capability and performance, the F–35 program has made tremendous strides. On the affordability front, the price of each F–35 has dropped dramatically over the past 5 years to under $100 million per aircraft. This trend is expected to continue for at least the next 5 years in order to achieve a flyaway cost of $85 million per aircraft by 2019.

In an affordability and capability sense, the F–35 is a bargain, but in addition to being a bargain, the F–35 is also an indispensable asset to our defense arsenal. The F–35 has the ability to destroy some of the most advanced air-to-air and air-to-ground systems in existence today. Many of these systems are being developed by the Russians and the Chinese. The F–35's stealth technology, advanced sensors, and weapons allow it to defeat those integrated air-defense environments. That is to our advantage, no question about it.

Currently, even the most advanced versions of the F–16 and F/A–18 would be hard-pressed to defeat such threats alone. That is why we need the F–35. With the F–35, we can maintain our ability to strike any target anywhere in the world.

The F–35 is not only a tremendous strike aircraft, but it is also a war-winning dogfighter. In fact, when facing legacy aircraft such as the F–16 and F/A–18 in air-to-air combat scenarios, the F–35 consistently wins these engagements. The aircraft's combination of stealth, maneuverability, and superior battlespace awareness allows the F–35 to enter the fight against legacy aircraft with a great advantage. If you ask our Marine, Navy, and Air Force pilots flying this aircraft today, they will tell you what they told me: This is the best fighter aircraft they have ever flown and the plane they want to take into battle above all others.

This conclusion is shared not just by American pilots who have flown the aircraft, but also by our allies who have chosen to purchase the F–35 out of a wide variety of aircraft that are currently available in other countries as well.

As the Israeli Defense Minister recently said, ''I'm very happy that we'll

know how to preserve the qualitative military edge of the Israeli Defense Forces and of the Israeli Air Force through acquisition of this important plane.''

Military might is useful only if three things occur: One, the capability is present to counter and engage the threat; two, the capacity and numbers are present for all of the threats; and three, those in power have the resolve to use them to protect the sovereignty of our Nation and its citizens.

The current demand on our military requires every ounce of capability made available by advanced weapon systems and, just as important, the numbers needed to counter threats the globe over.

Consider how in the past we chose to reduce the number of F–22 advanced fighters made available to combatant commanders. Originally, the program of record for the F–22 was 750 aircraft, yet we procured only 195. Today, the demand for the F–22 and its capabilities dwarfs the available jets in the inventory. In hindsight, we should have bought 1,000.

Similar situations have also occurred with the B–2 bomber, the C–17 transport, and numerous other aircraft. The lesson is clear: The program of record for 1,763 F–35 A models for the Air Force and 680 B and C models for the Navy and Marine Corps have to materialize and be realized. The committees of jurisdiction should also insist to the Department that the F–35 Joint Program Office also acquire the spare parts needed to sustain the numbers and accelerate that purchase to ensure that F–35s are sustained at the level of readiness demanded by the current world dynamic. As the old adage goes, if we do not learn from history, then we are doomed to repeat it.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 2028, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2028) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Alexander/Feinstein amendment No. 3801, in the nature of a substitute.

Alexander amendment No. 3804 (to amendment No. 3801), to modify provisions relating to Nuclear Regulatory Commission fees.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

GAO REPORT

Mr. COATS. Madam President, it is the beginning of the appropriations season here in Washington. I am glad we are doing that. We are a little bit ahead of schedule from past experiences, although we haven't been doing appropriations bills during my second term in the Senate. I am glad we are doing them because that is really what we are here for.

For those listening, this is for when Congress determines how we spend taxpayer money. There are a number of people in the gallery today—they are all taxpayers—wondering: Where does this money that is sent to Washington go?

When Hoosiers from Indiana send their hard-earned tax dollars to Washington to be spent by the Federal Government, they expect their elected leaders to be good stewards of their resources. After all, they worked hard to earn this money. Before they get their net paycheck, their taxes are deducted and sent to Washington. They have every right to expect us to be good stewards.

It is no wonder taxpayers are furious with Washington when the Federal Government wastes the money they work so hard to make. When they hear about or read about some of the ludicrous ways we spend their money or the wasteful ways we spend their money, they have every reason to be concerned and to be angry.

Clearly, there are essential functions the Federal Government has to undertake, but we can't continue to ignore the fact that our national debt has now passed $19 trillion. Borrowing money in order to pay for expenditures and then having obligations to pay that money back, along with interest rates, puts us in a very deep hole that we have talked about a lot, but we have not done what is necessary to address this continued plunge into debt.

Seemingly every day, we see examples of mismanagement and wasteful spending in Washington, which is one of the reasons I give my weekly ''Waste of the Week'' addresses. I have come to the floor now more than 40 times in this Congress to talk about documented cases of waste, fraud, and abuse within the Federal Government. It is not something made up but documented abuses by, generally, the Government Accountability Office, whose job is to examine how we spend our money and to publicize how that money is spent.

Now we have racked up nearly $160 billion of documented waste, fraud, and abuse. This has included the ridiculous, such as Federal grant spending on rabbit massages, as well as the serious, such as double-dipping in the Social Security Disability Insurance funds.

While many Americans struggle every day to pay their mortgage or to put food on the table, it is infuriating that the Federal Government is wasting money renting empty warehouses or funding a study to determine if being ''hangry'' is a real thing.

I talked about the word ''hangry'' in one of my speeches several weeks ago. ''Hangry'' is a modification of the words hungry and angry. A considerable amount of taxpayer money was spent on a study to determine if a person gets angrier with their spouse when he or she is hungry and so they coined the word ''hangry.'' It refers to someone who is hungry, and because they are hungry, they get a little anxious or a little difficult to live with. This study determined and came to the conclusion that, yes, if you are hungry, you tend to be a little bit angry and you tend to take it out on the person nearest to you, who is usually your spouse.

I think any of us could have come up with that conclusion without spending $400,000 or so in order to determine that that is the case. The word ''hangry'' has now been added to Webster's dictionary. You can look it up. How can we spend $400,000 of the taxpayer's money to do this study when people are having trouble paying their bills, their mortgage, or saving money so they can send their kids to school? This is the kind of thing that infuriates the American people. This is the kind of thing that has put our approval ratings in single digits. This is the kind of thing that causes people to say that Washington needs to be shaken up. Why do we keep taking the American people's hard-earned tax dollars and spending them on things like this?

Many Americans struggle every day to put food on the table and pay their mortgage. It is infuriating to them that the Federal Government is wasting money doing these kind of things. Eliminating this wasteful spending can go a long way to restoring trust in Washington, and it needs to start now. That is why, as I said, the studies by the government's only watchdog agency, the Government Accountability Office, are so important to the work we do here.

The GAO, or the Government Accountability Office, just released its ''2016 Annual Report'' on additional opportunities to reduce fragmentation, overlap, and duplication. The GAO report presents 92 new actions we can take—either the Congress or the administration—to improve government efficiency and effectiveness to achieve cost savings. This report and some of its findings include programs I already talked about, such as the failed advanced technology vehicles program I highlighted last week. Unfortunately, in an amendment I offered here on the floor, we came up short with a vote of 48 to 49, but we raised the awareness of a program that is sitting on nearly $4 billion of unspent money. Of the five proposals that were released—money

was released on these five proposals—two of the companies have already gone bankrupt. Instead of sitting on $4 billion worth of additional money that we had to award, we simply said: Look, we have wasted $500 million in this program. Why don't we take that $4 billion and use it for a better purpose, like returning it to the taxpayer. If not that, we could have returned that money to the taxpayer or used the money to offset something essential, such as work that prolongs life and brings better health at NIH or perhaps put the money towards something else that is needed, such as infrastructure, but, unfortunately, we came up one vote short of a majority.

I am looking forward to exploring ways in which we can use examples in our continued efforts through ''Waste of the Week.'' We are looking at several things. We know the IRS is paying billions in fraudulent refunds to criminals who steal people's IDs over the Internet, or whatever method they use, and then file for IRS returns. We are looking at consolidating programs that are scattered across 22 different Federal agencies and have all kinds of duplications or selling unused Federal property, which could save billions of dollars a year. The list doesn't end. It just continues.

I will be coming down here week after week. I will have another ''Waste of the Week'' later this week. Exposing the waste, fraud, and abuse is only the first step that the administration and Congress must take. According to this report, the actions Congress has already taken—and Congress ought to be commended for this—by using GAO's recommendations over the past 5 years has saved $56 billion. That is not small change.

I have documented another $160 billion worth of savings in the last 40 speeches—not million, billion. There is still plenty left to do.

In 2010, I asked Hoosiers to send me to Washington to rein in the Federal Government's runaway spending. Whether it is through my continued ''Waste of the Week'' speeches, legislation, or highlighting reports like the GAO report, as I am doing today, I will continue to pour every ounce of effort I have into doing as much as I can to reduce wasteful government spending.

We will be back later this week with speech No. 41 of ''Waste of the Week.'' Hopefully, we can continue to alert this Congress and this government to the hard-earned money that is being wasted and could be used for much better purposes.

With that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. 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.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I am here to join Senator MERKLEY in offering amendment No. 3812 regarding funding for wind energy research.

This is a straightforward amendment. It simply restores funding for wind energy research to the amount provided for just last year—$95.4 million.

The underlying bill provides $80 million, so the Merkley-Grassley amendment will increase funding by just $15.4 million. These additional funds will come from within the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program, so we can see there is no cost to this amendment from the bottom line of the bill. It does not raise overall spending levels. It simply redirects $15 million from other renewable and efficiency programs to wind energy research.

This funding will allow the Department of Energy to continue the advancement of wind technologies and innovations. These advances have greatly increased the competitiveness of wind and facilitated rapid growth in wind energy across the country.

In Iowa, wind energy now accounts for more than 30 percent of the State's total electricity supply. Wind supported 88,000 jobs in 2015, an increase of 20 percent from the previous year. Wind was also the No. 1 source of new generating capacity in 2015—greater than natural gas and solar.

Some of my colleagues oppose wind energy and Federal policies that support this clean and renewable energy. They argue we shouldn't pick winners or that wind is a mature industry. Don't kid yourself. Wind, while nearly mature, is just an infant compared to the Federal dollars and incentives provided for fossil and nuclear energy.

It is quite amusing to me that some of the strongest opponents of wind energy in this body are the biggest proponents of other much more costly programs for mature, traditional energy sources. For example, the 100-year-old oil and gas industry continues to benefit from tax preferences that benefit only their industry that result in the loss of more than $4 billion annually in tax revenue.

Nuclear energy is another great example. The first nuclear powerplant came online in the United States in 1958. That was 58 years ago. Nuclear received special tax treatment, including—would you believe it—a production tax credit. Nuclear also benefits from Price-Anderson Federal liability insurance that Congress provided as a temporary measure way back in 1958. This temporary measure—can you believe it—has been renewed through 2025. Nuclear energy has also received more than $74 billion in Federal research and development dollars since 1950. This bill includes over $1 billion for nuclear research. This is an increase of $71 million, or 7.3 percent, over fiscal year 2016 for wind energy research. We are just asking for the same amount of money appropriated for next year as this year.

Fossil energy research and development is another one I can point out, which is allocated $632 million in this bill, equal to the 2016 levels. Even prominent conservative advocacy groups have called for the nuclear and fossil fuel energy funds to be cut or eliminated altogether.

Again, this amendment will simply provide level funding for wind energy research by providing an additional $15 million. This is not new money, so there is no score by the CBO. I urge my colleagues to support the Merkley-Grassley amendment.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 10 minutes on another subject as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

STATE OF OUR POLITICAL DISCOURSE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I recently gave a speech to the Midwest Political Science Undergraduate Research Conference, which was held at Wartburg College in Waverly, IA. It dealt with the current state of our political discourse and what we should all do as Americans to try and elevate that political discourse.

The election-year rhetoric is already heating up in the Senate, so I think it is appropriate to share with the Senate what I told these political science students and their professors.

This is an election year, so there is a lot of talk about how Americans have voted and will vote, as well as which Americans will vote and which ones will not vote. There is something that is evident in this election season, and it is also something I have seen increase steadily since I have served in elected office, and that happens to be cynicism. Americans are increasingly cynical about their system of government and those who serve in that government. Candidates of all political stripes are tapping into this cynicism by railing against so-called elites. Sometimes it is the notion of elites within a political party, elites in Washington generally, or elites even in the private sector. Regardless, there is a perception that elites of some kind or another have an undue influence over decisionmaking and ordinary citizens are being ignored.

I am not saying that such concerns are all illegitimate, but I think the cynicism is made worse by a lack of understanding when it comes to how our government works and, more importantly, why it works the way it does. It seems to me there has been a decline in interest in teaching American students about our constitutional system and especially the principles on which it was founded. You cannot understand how our government works and how it is supposed to work without understanding the Constitution. I would add that the best guide to the Constitution is the Federalist Papers.

You also cannot understand the Constitution without understanding the Declaration of Independence, but you

cannot understand the Declaration of Independence without understanding the natural rights philosophy. You also cannot separate the study of history from political science.

To understand our current political debate, it is important to understand how we got where we are today. For instance, the debate between anti-Federalists and Federalists sheds a great deal of light on what our founding generation agreed upon and what they disagreed upon. Subsequent events such as the Civil War, the progressive movement, and the civil rights movement all drew upon earlier American political ideas, either borrowing from or rejecting them. Our political discourse today is inevitably influenced by this heritage, but it also seems disconnected from it.

From cable news shows to the local diner, people with different views shout past each other without comprehending the opposing arguments. In recent years, there has been a realignment of political parties that follows more closely along philosophical lines. That has led to more party-line votes, but you would think that would make our debate more about principles instead of pure partisanship, but it hasn't.

There has been a lot written about how Americans are increasingly sorting themselves into groups—where they live and work with people who think like they do and only consume like-minded media. As a result, when people do encounter a view they don't agree with, there is a tendency to think there must be something wrong with the person who holds that view. Moreover, if a policy you disagree with gets enacted but almost no one you know supports it, naturally you feel there must be something amiss. That leads to anger, resentment, and cynicism, and that makes for fertile ground for demagogues.

There are real differences of philosophy reflected in the two major political parties, so I am not arguing there shouldn't be vigorous debate. In fact, the clash of ideas is an essential part of our representative system of government, but you cannot effectively challenge an opponent's philosophy if you don't understand that philosophy, and you cannot understand your opponent's philosophy unless you understand what you believe and why you believe it. That is why it is so important Americans study American history and civics.

Thomas Jefferson said:

> If a Nation expects to be ignorant and free in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and never will be. If we are to guard against ignorance and remain free, it is the responsibility of every American to be informed.

In an election year, we talk a lot about voting being a civic duty, but that is incomplete. Our civic duty goes well beyond the simple act of voting. We have a responsibility to understand what we believe and why before we go into the voting booth.

Representative government doesn't work very well if citizens are only engaged in the month or two before an election. Our system of government relies on an informed and active citizenry. We need more Americans to write their Members of Congress and to ask their positions, attend town meetings, and seek to understand both sides of an issue. Still, we have to come to terms with the fact that we are a closely divided nation. Better understanding of each other's principles will elevate the debate, which is good for representative government, but it will not eliminate and shouldn't eliminate political differences.

The next step is to respect other people's right to live according to their principles. I believe that calls for a renewed commitment to federalism. The Father of our Constitution, James Madison, designed a system for what he called an extended republic. The classical understanding of a republic as small, unitary, and homogeneous did not apply to the new United States and it certainly doesn't now. In fact, Madison argued that our large, diverse country could better prevent a majority faction from forming and trampling on the rights of others. However, it also required decentralizing power and allowing different States and communities to do things their own way.

Whenever a government takes an action, there will almost certainly be some people unhappy with it. That is why the presumption should be to let individual Americans live their lives as they see fit. When government action is warranted, the decision should be made as close as possible to those it affects. In my view, the extent to which the Federal Government now makes a great many decisions that affect the lives of Americans beyond the limited role envisioned in the Constitution leads to a great deal of unnecessary conflict.

Since our government is so closely divided, a great many decisions will upset almost half of the American people. That is not a sustainable situation. So my preferred solution—which, of course, is based upon my political philosophy—is to let States and communities make more of their own decisions when it comes to issues such as health care and education. Of course, others may disagree and do disagree, and we should have that debate, but it should be an honest and respectful debate based upon very basic principles.

That was the end of my substantive remarks to those students at Wartburg College. I then commended the students for their interest in exploring political issues. I also said to the students that the fact that they are interested and that they are engaged and many of their peers are not gives these students a very special calling.

I ended my speech with a challenge. I said: I would challenge you to continue developing your understanding of your political beliefs and those of others with whom you may disagree and then do your part to elevate the political dialogue. I would issue the same challenge to my colleagues here in the Senate.

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.

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

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

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Madam President, I want to thank the distinguished Senator from Iowa for his remarks and also his chairmanship of the Judiciary Committee. I found his remarks very interesting.

I note that the distinguished chairman of the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee is now on the floor. I have been very fortunate to serve as his ranking member, and I think that we have put a very good bill together and that his leadership has been very strong.

Last week Senator ALEXANDER brought to the floor a chart, and on that chart there were red and blue lines, and they depicted a lot about the spending patterns of this Nation, which absolutely is relevant, considering we are talking about spending. Well, I wanted to put my rendition before us since no one on the floor is asking to speak at this time.

Since 2006 I have asked my staff to put together some charts on spending, which I share every week at my constituent breakfast with the constituency from California.

I want to tell you a little bit about this chart. The source of this chart is the Congressional Budget Office, and it is the budget and economic outlook part of that. Going back to 2006, we looked at budget numbers, but the actual way to look at it is really outlays. What does the Federal Government spend every year? That is the number which creates the debt and creates interest on the debt.

In 2006 the Federal Government spent $2.654 trillion in total. Here is how it was spent: This big red part is what are called entitlements. These are mandatory payments to programs to which an individual is entitled. If you are entitled to it, you get it regardless of what impact it has on the budget. They were 53 percent of what the Federal Government spent in 2006, and interest on the debt was 8 percent. So if we add 53 percent and 8 percent, that was about 61 percent of everything that was spent during that year. Nondefense discretionary was 19 percent and defense was 20 percent. So the green and the blue were the discretionary programs, the yellow was interest on the debt, and the rest were entitlements.

This year the total outlay is $3.919 trillion. Entitlements have gone up to 63 percent of what the Federal Government will pay out this year. Interest on the debt has dropped 2 percent to 6.5

percent, largely because interest rates are low. Defense discretionary is 15 percent, and nondefense discretionary is 15.5 percent. So if we put these two things together, which we are now passing appropriations bills on, they comprise only about 30.5 percent of what the Federal Government will spend this year. The rest is entitlements and interest on the debt.

If you are entitled to Social Security, you get it. If you are entitled to Medicare, you get it. If you are entitled to Medicaid; disabled; women, infants, and children; and a whole host of very good programs because they help people—but they are expensive and they cost. This isn't often talked about, and I think it is not talked about because individuals don't want to worry people. But it is a problem, and it is a problem that needs some solutions.

If you project these numbers 10 years forward to 2026, we go from total outlays, total government payments in 2016 of $3.9 trillion, to $6.401 trillion, and entitlements are then 65 percent of what the government will spend in the year 2026. Interest on the debt will double from what it is today to 13 percent because it is estimated that interest rates will go up. So, adding the two together, you see that we are well over 70 percent in spending. If we look at discretionary spending, defense discretionary and nondefense discretionary, we will see they are both 11 percent. That is the economic outlook.

So only 22 percent of the budget will be what the Appropriations Committee will be doing in 10 years from now because the rest of it will not be able to be controlled. So we have a constantly escalating picture.

In my own view, those things like the Army Corps of Engineers, which in a sense is the only infrastructure program this country really has outside of the highway program, will be compressed more, and everything we spend to make this a better country will be compressed more because of the growth in entitlements and interest on the debt.

Well, I believe the time has come for Members on both sides of the aisle to sit down and see what we can do to work out solutions to this ever-growing problem. Is it additional taxes? Are there ways we can change these programs so that they become more efficient to cover people and pay for them in a better way than putting them on the debt, which is effectively what we are doing?

So I want to state to our distinguished chairman, who is now here, last week we had his red and blue lines, so this week I brought my charts that I have been using since 2006, and I believe the numbers are correct, and I believe they are also astonishing and they need our concern.

I would like to work with the chairman in the future, and perhaps we could bring together Republicans and Democrats to sit down and consider some remedies that will not be punishing for people but will bring this huge red mark and thereby the interest mark into better control than today.

I thank the Chair, and I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, I congratulate the Senator from California. With her usual precision, she has identified the big problem, and she approached it as she usually does—in a very direct way. The picture she presents is not one we can tolerate in the United States of America. The good news is, we have done a good job on discretionary spending. That is what we are working on in these bills.

The chart I showed last week, which shows about the same things in a little different way than hers, points out that the spending in 12 appropriations bills has been flat and will be flat for the next 10 years. In other words, if the work the Appropriations Committee is doing on $1 trillion were all that there was to the Federal budget, we would not have a Federal debt problem. That blue line is Federal spending under control. We set priorities. We have oversight. Senator FEINSTEIN and I have eliminated programs. We do that every year. We are getting control of this budget of big cost overruns that persistently happened on large construction projects. So I am proud of that blue line. I am not proud of the red one. That is the one Senator FEINSTEIN is talking about. This is $1 trillion, but on top of that is $3 trillion. That is the automatic spending.

There has been very little courage shown on the Republican side of the aisle or on the Democratic side of the aisle. We make big speeches sometimes about the blue line, which isn't a problem, but very few speeches about the red line that are as straightforward as Senator FEINSTEIN's remarks today.

We have a responsibility to taxpayers, to ourselves, and to the next generation to deal with this line because that is the line which is causing the Joint Chiefs of Staff to say that our Federal debt is our biggest national security problem, which is quite a thing to say in a world as unsafe as we have today.

I thank the Senator from California. Her prestige in the Chamber makes her remarks today even more important. I look forward to working with her to gradually bring this red line under control while we still can.

I thank the Presiding Officer, and 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.

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

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

AMENDMENT NO. 3813 TO AMENDMENT NO. 3801

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator MURRAY, I call up Murray amendment No. 3813 and ask unanimous consent that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the clerk will report the amendment by number.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from California [Mrs. FEINSTEIN], for Mrs. MURRAY, proposes an amendment numbered 3813 to amendment No. 3801.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To add a provision relating to certain requirements in the acquisition of welded shipboard anchor and mooring chain)

At the end of title I, add the following:

SEC. 1____. None of the funds made available by this title may be used for any acquisition that is not consistent with section 225.7007 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, is it appropriate for me to speak on the Murray amendment?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is recognized.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I say to the body that I support this amendment. The Murray amendment would reinforce ''Buy American'' provisions that have been in place for decades. These provisions say that when American tax dollars are being spent, the preference should be to buy American products.

Despite current Federal regulations, there are concerns that the Corps of Engineers is circumventing these ''Buy American'' provisions and acquiring welded shipboard anchor and mooring chain manufactured by foreign sources. The Murray amendment simply reiterates current requirements to support American-made products, echoing language from our colleagues in the House and the 2016 appropriations bill.

The amendment is good for families and workers across the country, and I urge this body to support it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, Murray amendment No. 3813 simply restates an existing regulation, so I have no objection to it. I am going to vote for it.

I yield back all time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time has been yielded back.

The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 3813.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER),

the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 55, nays 38, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 60 Leg.]

YEAS—55

Alexander	Durbin	Murphy
Ayotte	Feinstein	Murray
Baldwin	Franken	Nelson
Bennet	Gardner	Peters
Blumenthal	Gillibrand	Portman
Blunt	Heinrich	Reed
Booker	Heitkamp	Reid
Brown	Hirono	Schatz
Burr	Kaine	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Capito	Kirk	Stabenow
Cardin	Klobuchar	Tester
Carper	Leahy	Udall
Casey	Manchin	Warner
Cassidy	Markey	Warren
Cochran	McCaskill	Whitehouse
Collins	Menendez	Wyden
Coons	Mikulski	
Donnelly	Murkowski	

NAYS—38

Barrasso	Hatch	Risch
Boozman	Heller	Roberts
Coats	Hoeven	Rounds
Corker	Inhofe	Rubio
Cornyn	Isakson	Sasse
Cotton	Johnson	Scott
Crapo	Lankford	Sessions
Daines	Lee	Shelby
Enzi	McCain	Sullivan
Ernst	McConnell	Thune
Fischer	Moran	Tillis
Flake	Paul	Wicker
Grassley	Perdue	

NOT VOTING—7

Boxer	Merkley	Vitter
Cruz	Sanders	
Graham	Toomey	

The amendment (No. 3813) was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

AMENDMENTS NOS. 3841; 3842; 3851; 3843; 3844; 3808; 3869, AS MODIFIED; AND 3870 TO AMENDMENT NO. 3801

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, on behalf of the Senator from California and myself, I ask unanimous consent that the following amendments be called up en bloc and reported by number: Reed, No. 3841; Feinstein, No. 3842; Warner, No. 3851; McCain, No. 3843; Rounds, No. 3844; Murkowski, No. 3808; McCain, No. 3869, as modified; and Carper, No. 3870.

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

The clerk will report the amendments by number.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Tennessee [Mr. ALEXANDER], for others, proposes amendments numbered 3841; 3842; 3851; 3843; 3844; 3808; 3869, as modified; and 3870 en bloc to amendment No. 3801.

The amendments are as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 3841

(Purpose: To transfer funding to the Weatherization Assistance Program account from the Building Technologies account)

On page 23, line 15, before the period at the end, insert the following: ": *Provided further*, That of such amount $220,600,000 shall be available for the Weatherization Assistance Program, of which $6,000,000 shall be derived by transfer from the amount otherwise available for Building Technologies.".

AMENDMENT NO. 3842

(Purpose: To modify the deadline for the completion of a feasibility study relating to the Sites Reservoir in Colusa County, California)

At the end of title II, add the following:

SEC. 2____. Section 205 of the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114–113;129 Stat. 2242), is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking "feasibility studies described in clauses (i)(II) and (ii)(I)" and inserting "feasibility study described in clause (i)(II)"; and

(B) by striking "such studies" and inserting "such study";

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

"(3) not later than November 30, 2017, complete and submit to the appropriate committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate the feasibility study described in section 103(d)(1)(A)(ii)(I) of the Calfed Bay-Delta Authorization Act (Public Law 108–361; 118 Stat. 1684);".

AMENDMENT NO. 3851

(Purpose: To ensure that certain amounts are used to implement the requirements of the DATA Act)

On page 56, line 13, strike the period at the end and insert the following: ": *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this heading, not less than $543,000 shall be used to implement the requirements of the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–101; 128 Stat. 1146)."

AMENDMENT NO. 3843

(Purpose: To require the Western Area Power Administration to prepare a report on the use of certain provisions in power contracts)

At the end of title III, add the following:

SEC. 3_____. (a) Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Western Area Power Administration shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that—

(1) examines the use of a provision described in subsection (b) in any power contracts of the Western Area Power Administration that were executed before or on the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) explains the circumstances for not including a provision described in subsection (b) in power contracts of the Western Area Power Administration executed before or on the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) A provision referred to in subsection (a) is a termination clause described in section 11 of the general power contract provisions of the Western Power Administration, effective September 1, 2007.

AMENDMENT NO. 3844

(Purpose: To make certain funds available for Upper Missouri River Basin flood and drought monitoring)

At the end of title I, add the following:

SEC. 1____. Of the amounts made available under this title for operation and maintenance, $2,000,000 shall be available for Upper Missouri River Basin flood and drought monitoring under section 4003(a) of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–121; 128 Stat. 1310).

AMENDMENT NO. 3808

(Purpose: To improve a program relating to remote and subsistence harbors)

At the end of title I, add the following:

SEC. 1____. Section 2006 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (33 U.S.C. 2242) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(3), by inserting "in which the project is located or of a community that is located in the region that is served by the project and that will rely on the project" after "community"; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting "or of a community that is located in the region to be served by the project and that will rely on the project" after "community";

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking "local population" and inserting "regional population to be served by the project"; and

(C) in paragraph (5), by striking "community" and inserting "local community or to a community that is located in the region to be served by the project and that will rely on the project".

AMENDMENT NO. 3869, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study and develop a plan for the removal of invasive salt cedar)

At the end of title II, add the following:

SEC. 2____. (a) The Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of Agriculture, may enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences under which the National Academy of Sciences shall conduct a comprehensive study, to be completed not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, on the effectiveness and environmental impact of salt cedar control efforts (including biological control) in increasing water supplies, restoring riparian habitat, and improving flood management.

(b) Not later than 1 year after the date of completion of the study under subsection (a), the Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture, may prepare a plan for the removal of salt cedar from all Federal land in the Lower Colorado River basin based on the findings and recommendations of the study conducted by the National Academy of Sciences that includes—

(1) provisions for revegetating Federal land with native vegetation;

(2) provisions for adapting to the increasing presence of biological control in the Lower Colorado River basin;

(3) provisions for removing salt cedar from Federal land during post-wildfire recovery activities;

(4) strategies for developing partnerships with State, tribal, and local governmental entities in the eradication of salt cedar; and

(5) budget estimates and completion timelines for the implementation of plan elements.

AMENDMENT NO. 3870

(Purpose: To allow certain funds for shore protection to be prioritized for certain projects)

On page 3, line 21, before the period at the end, insert the following: ": *Provided*, That funds made available under this heading for shore protection may be prioritized for projects in areas that have suffered severe beach erosion requiring additional sand placement outside of the normal beach renourishment cycle or in which the normal beach renourishment cycle has been delayed".

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now vote on these amendments en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on these amendments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the question is on agreeing to the amendments en bloc.

The amendments (Nos. 3841; 3842; 3851; 3843; 3844; 3808; 3869, as modified; and 3870) were agreed to.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I thank the majority leader, Senator MCCONNELL, the Democratic leader, Senator REID, and my colleague, Senator FEINSTEIN.

What we have done is approved eight more amendments by Senators with a voice vote, and we have already agreed to have three more votes at 11 a.m. tomorrow. We are making good progress. We hope to continue to do that and wrap up the bill soon.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, today I wish to support two crucial programs important to Utah and the West in the Energy and Water Appropriations bill pending before us.

The bill includes $10 million for the Central Utah Project in the Department of the Interior. This funding makes great strides in supporting rural water infrastructure. Over the decades-long life of this project, I have always advocated for appropriate funding levels to ensure timely completion of this project.

This vital program was authorized in the 1956 Colorado River Storage Project Act and allows the State of Utah to develop its share of the Colorado River for irrigation and water supply. This program also reaches into five other States and provides for construction of water delivery infrastructure.

Over the past few years, the Obama administration has constantly tried to underfund the Central Utah Project, but Senator ALEXANDER and Senator FEINSTEIN have been able to restore funding to levels that enable construction to move forward.

Continuing funding for this project is important to taxpayers. Once the project is built and begins to deliver water, the people of Utah will start to repay their share of the costs to the Treasury.

This funding also allows mitigation work to continue, which restores and protects lands that are important to fish and wildlife that have been impacted by Federal water development for this project.

While we all wish additional funding were available for the important projects in our State, I believe that Senator ALEXANDER and Senator FEINSTEIN have done a good job in balancing priorities, and I appreciate them including funding to continue this vital program.

Another important program funded in this bill is the section 595 environmental infrastructure program in the Corps of Engineers.

Section 595 is a program that provides funding to rural areas in Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming for water construction projects.

The bill includes $10 million for this program, which the Corps of Engineers will allocate competitively among the eligible States.

Section 595 funding is particularly important for projects in rural areas surrounded by Federal lands. Often, local sponsors can't meet the general 50/50 cost share required for construction projects, but section 595 reduces the non-Federal cost-share.

An example of where this program made a big difference in my State is in the small town of Escalante, where section 595 funds were used to rehabilitate and enlarge the Wide Hollow Reservoir.

Before the project began, irrigation water that was held in the reservoir only lasted until mid-July, leaving most farmers with wilted crops during the heat of the summer.

The Corps of Engineers provided $5.5 million under the section 595 program, which was matched with nearly $8 million in State grants and loans.

Today, because of Section 595, Escalante farmers can expect to receive water throughout the growing season, which allows them to harvest hay and other critical crops that, in the past, they would have had to purchase.

There are projects just like Wide Hollow Reservoir throughout the State of Utah—in fact, all throughout the West—and taxpayers can be assured that the $10 million provided in the Energy and Water bill will be put to good use.

I appreciate Senator ALEXANDER and Senator FEINSTEIN working with me to include these critical funds, especially given the tight budgets that we face this year and the competing priorities they had to consider.

To conclude, Mr. President, I believe that the Energy and Water bill that Senator ALEXANDER and Senator FEINSTEIN have before the Senate is a balanced, prioritized bill that includes important priorities not only for my State of Utah, but also for the Nation and I urge its passage.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

HONORING NEBRASKA'S SOLDIERS WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN COMBAT

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I rise today to continue my tribute to Nebraska's heroes and the current generation of men and women who lost their lives defending our freedom in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Each of these Nebraskans has a special story to tell. Throughout this year and beyond, I will continue to honor their memory here on the Senate floor.

MASTER SERGEANT LINDA TARANGO-GRIESS

Mr. President, today, I wish to highlight the life of MSG Linda Tarango-Griess of Sutton, NE.

Linda was known to everyone as one proud soldier. From an early age, she was disciplined and focused on the future. Her Aunt Marie remembers this future soldier as ''a great kid'' who was always helping others. Marie would know because she raised Linda from the age of 11.

Linda attended Kearney High School, where she enjoyed playing softball and volleyball. She was also active in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program.

Linda's willingness to serve as a role model and mentor for others came as no surprise to those who knew her. As one of her high school classmates recalled, Linda was ''someone who always had a smile and a positive attitude.''

After graduating from Kearney High School in 1989, Linda was determined to go to college, but she struggled to find a way to pay for it. She learned about tuition assistance opportunities offered by the National Guard and she decided to enlist.

Through the National Guard, Linda discovered her passion for being a soldier in the U.S. military. It also allowed her to complete her college education.

Linda graduated from the University of Nebraska in Kearney with a degree in criminal justice.

As part of her service, Linda was required to train one weekend a month in York, NE. It was there that Linda met her soulmate, Doug Griess. After dating for a few years, they were married in 1994.

For the next several years, the young couple formed a new bond and they began planning for the future while continuing their service in the National Guard.

Less than a decade after they were married, their roles in the military would bring them both to the frontlines of a new war a world away from home in Iraq. Linda and Doug wondered which of them would be called up first. Then the news came for Linda to deploy with the 267th Ordnance Company.

After deployment training, the 267th arrived at Camp Speicher near Tikrit, Iraq, in February of 2004. As one of the unit's senior sergeants, Linda's helpful nature and her insistence on doing every job well quickly stood out. Her professionalism and caring nature boosted the morale of her platoon.

An officer from a nearby unit said Linda ''was always a true professional—not only a mentor but also a friend. She served her country honorably.''

The summer of 2004 was shaping up to be a complicated period. Doug was at annual training back home, and rumors were flying about his unit deploying. At the same time, Linda was planning to return home on leave to be with Doug and her family for a short time.

On July 10, Doug's unit received deployment orders. The following day, on July 11, 2004, the unthinkable happened. Linda was driving in a convoy through a high-threat area in Samarra, Iraq. The convoy was attacked by Al Qaeda insurgents, and Linda's vehicle

took a direct hit from an improvised explosive device. Linda and another soldier were killed.

She was only 2 weeks from returning to Nebraska.

Doug was at home with his friends discussing their upcoming deployment. Suddenly, a car pulled up with three soldiers dressed in Class A uniforms, and Doug knew why they were there.

Linda was buried in Sutton, NE, and over 1,000 mourners traveled to this small town in Central Nebraska to honor this brave soldier. A month later, Doug deployed to Iraq with his unit. His grief over the loss of Linda was held at bay for a year as he focused on his mission and his fellow soldiers. Linda would have wanted it that way. Doug's commitment to fulfilling his oath and serving his Nation would have made her proud.

MSG Linda Tarango-Griess was the first woman to lose her life in combat while serving in the Nebraska National Guard. She earned the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, and was promoted posthumously to Master Sergeant.

Doug would later remarry, and he is now the proud father of three wonderful children. Linda's Aunt Marie lives in Lincoln, where she is active in Yellow Ribbon activities for troops serving abroad. Linda's sister Vicki lives in North Platte with her three children, not far from her brother Augie and her father Augustin.

To this day, one of Linda's cousins keeps an email from Linda that was sent before she departed on her final mission. In the email, Linda proudly describes how her platoon competed in a 5-mile run which the 267th nicknamed the ''Desert Dash.'' Linda said: ''None of us won the race, but in our hearts we are winners, our reward is the self-satisfaction for just finishing the race.''

I hope all Nebraskans remember her as an example of what it means to serve our Nation with bravery, compassion, and joy.

MSG Linda Tarango-Griess is a hero. She embodied the grit and determination of an American soldier, and I am honored to tell her story.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

NOMINATION OF JESSICA ROSENWORCEL

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, we have a great opportunity in the Senate to recognize and reconfirm an extraordinarily distinguished and dedicated public servant who happens to be from West Hartford, CT, Jessica Rosenworcel of the Federal Communications Commission.

I understand there was an agreement as part of the approval of Commissioner O'Rielly and that Michael O'Rielly, in fact, was reconfirmed as part of a very unusual request that there be that agreement. The President renominated Ms. Rosenworcel for a new 5-year term in 2015, and she was easily and unanimously confirmed by the Commerce Committee. I think we ought to keep that agreement in the Senate, that anyone a party to that agreement when the Democratic leader, Senator REID, agreed to reconfirm Republican FCC Commissioner Michael O'Rielly—that we ought to move forward. But apart from the politics and the internal agreements that may have been reached—and they deserve to be honored—Commissioner Rosenworcel is supremely well qualified, and she is needed on the Commission, which is sorely in need of her expertise and experience in specific areas.

Let me give just a few examples. No. 1, as an example of her leadership, she led the effort to provide for writing rules that will enable enforcement of the 9/11 locating standards for all 9/11 services across the country. The GPS location services require those rules. She has written standards and will enable those standards to become the guiding light for all 9/11 services. That is important in cases of emergency. It is important in cases of physical and emotional trauma or crashes—an accident. It is important in cases of opioid or heroin overdoses, which are becoming increasingly prevalent across the country. In fact, in Connecticut and, my guess, Oklahoma and all across the country, there is an epidemic of opioid and heroin addiction tragically taking a toll in deaths and financial costs. When there are overdoses, the administration of Narcan or naloxone within a limited period of time may be the difference between life and death and, in fact, can bring people back from the brink of death.

Those types of location standards will help emergency responders go to the places they are needed. The standards applied to the 9/11 services that enable the first responders to go to those places are a result of the work that Commissioner Rosenworcel has done on the FCC. That is only one example of the kind of work she has done.

She has been outspoken on the cruel struggle faced by students left out of the broadband revolution, as countless are in areas that have no Internet access at home and face obstacles, literally, to complete homework they are given at school and to apply for scholarships they need financially. Today, roughly 7 in 10 teachers assign homework that requires access to broadband, but the data from the FCC suggests that almost 1 in 3 households lacks subscriptions to broadband services. They simply do not subscribe to those services at any speed with any server due to lack of affordability and, frankly, lack of interest.

Ms. Rosenworcel has made this ''homework gap''—a term, by the way, that she coined—one of her top priorities and has pushed all of us to think creatively to provide all students with the connectivity they need for a fair chance to succeed. That is really the American dream—a fair chance to succeed, closing the gap that results from this lack of access to the Internet, which in turn creates a homework gap and a scholarship gap and generally deprives those students of a fair chance.

As Commissioner, Ms. Rosenworcel has visited schools across the country in Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, and many more and witnessed how the Internet can support greater learning opportunities and also how limited broadband capacity prevents students from developing the skills essential for them to compete in the global, digital economy. Drawing from these experiences and her experience in the Senate working on this program, she called for an E-Rate 2.0 to ensure that the E-Rate Program is reinvigorated to meet the future connectivity needs for libraries and schools through stronger broadband capacity standards and robust funding. That robust funding is an investment this Nation needs to make.

She is continuing the legacy of Senator Rockefeller to fight for strong public safety, not only on the FCC 9/11 rules, which keep communities safe and provide emergency responders the ability they need to go to places where there are overdoses or other health emergencies, but she has also worked on a bipartisan policy, a spectrum policy leading the FCC to raise record-breaking amounts in the last year's wireless spectrum auction and ensuring that there is more than enough to fully fund FirstNet, the nationwide interoperability network for public safety officials to communicate during emergencies.

She has taken her own time—and she has a young family—on multiple occasions when she is back home in Connecticut to join me in helping to educate wireless customers and consumers on what they can do to avoid cramming—those are the charges on phone bills that consumers never consent to and never know about in many instances—and where they can go to seek refunds when they are victims of these kinds of cramming scams. She has been a champion of consumer interest on cramming refunds, on preventing cramming, and on helping to reach wise and prudent settlements with the carriers.

She has joined me to call on telephone companies to offer consumers new tools to block robocalls. What I find—and it is a relevant point during the campaign season in which we find ourselves—is that voters, consumers, residents, people from all walks of life in both parties, and a lot with no party at all, deeply resent the robocalling we see so often. Those robocalls come from commercial interests and sometimes from political interests. I approve banning robocalls. Whether or not we agree to ban them, consumers ought to have the ability to block them if they choose to. That is the cause she has championed with me.

I deeply respect her commitment to consumer interests. She is widely acknowledged for her keen judgment and insight on all these issues, advancing smart telecommunications policy for the public benefit.

She is a graduate of Wesleyan University and New York University Law School. Her career has been about telecommunications law, which included time as senior communications counsel for the Senate Commerce Committee under the leadership of both Senator Rockefeller and Senator Inouye.

In her time on the Commission, she has been a champion of consumers, students, emergency responders, of everyday working men and women who deserve the best system and protection of their interests when it comes to telecommunications.

There was an agreement that ought to be respected, but as important or even more important than an agreement, she deserves and the country needs for her to serve as a Commissioner.

I urge my colleagues to reconfirm her swiftly and overwhelmingly so that she can continue to do this vital and important work she has been doing.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk for the Alexander substitute amendment No. 3801.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative 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 Senate amendment No. 3801 to Calendar No. 96, H.R. 2028, an act making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes.

Mitch McConnell, Lamar Alexander, Jerry Moran, John Boozman, Steve Daines, Richard Burr, Roy Blunt, Orrin G. Hatch, John Hoeven, John Thune, Thad Cochran, Roger F. Wicker, Mark Kirk, John McCain, Lindsey Graham, Johnny Isakson, Pat Roberts.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk for the underlying bill, H.R. 2028.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative 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. 96, H.R. 2028, an act making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes.

Mitch McConnell, Lamar Alexander, Jerry Moran, John Boozman, Steve Daines, Richard Burr, Roy Blunt, Orrin G. Hatch, John Hoeven, John Thune, Thad Cochran, Roger F. Wicker, Mark Kirk, John McCain, Lindsey Graham, Johnny Isakson, Pat Roberts.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls with respect to the cloture motions be waived.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the filing deadline for all first-degree amendments to both the Alexander substitute amendment No. 3801 and the underlying bill, H.R. 2028, be at 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 26.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

EARTH DAY

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, last Friday marked the 46th annual Earth Day, and we cannot ignore that we are at a crossroads in time. Human-caused climate change is accelerating with each passing year and is now taking a severe toll on our planet. We see it in our scorched farmlands and burnt forests in the West and in the flood ravaged river valleys and superstorm battered coastlines in the East. Climate change is not a hoax, and we must act now to protect our future and our future generations.

Earth Day is an opportunity to recognize that climate change is not only the greatest threat to our environment today, but it also poses a threat to public health and to our national and economic security. In coming years, the economy of Vermont, the United States, and every country on Earth will be altered. We must guide that economic transformation to protect future generations.

We are really just beginning to grapple with the serious economic consequences of climate change across the country. In Vermont, we saw the warmest winter on record this year, with mean temperatures 5 to 10 degrees above normal and snowfall several feet below normal. On Christmas Eve, the mercury hit 68 degrees in the State capital of Montpelier, beating the previous record by 17 degrees. The abnormally high temperatures and lack of snow hurt our ski and tourism industries. Many ski areas saw business down 20 percent, and some saw a drop of as much as 40 percent. This does not just impact the ski areas and the mountains, but also our restaurants, local hotels, contractors, and other businesses that are driven by the ski industry.

Climate change could also impact Vermont's maple industry, which contributes more than $300 million in sales to Vermont's economy every year. While 2016 has been a successful year for producing maple syrup, if temperatures continue to rise each year, in the short term we could face reduced sap quality and even a decrease in the amount of sap produced. I am also very concerned that, in the long term, our sugar maple stands could be decimated by invasive pests or threatened by drought and forest fires. The agriculture and fisheries sector is highly dependent on specific climate conditions, and maple production will not be the only agricultural industry affected. The Pacific Northwest's winemakers, Alaska's salmon fisheries, the Southeast's peanut producers, and corn growers in the Midwest could all face significant climate-related challenges.

The threats posed by climate change are numerous and can be downright frightening. However, Earth Day—and every day—we must remember that, if we can have such a profound negative impact on our environment, we can also have a profound positive affect on the drivers of climate change. If we make climate the top priority around which we organize and refocus economic decisions, we can find solutions to climate risk through creative thinking and innovation. While climate change does represent one of the greatest challenges of our time, we should see it as opportunity to nurture and attract entrepreneurism, rather than dragging our heels or denying that there is a problem.

I am proud that time after time Vermonters continue to come together to identify solutions to big problems. I am amazed and energized every day by Vermont innovators who are thinking creatively and already leading nationally and internationally. Vermont businesses, nonprofits, and educational institutions are already tackling big problems and finding solutions to climate change, solutions that are being readied to be deployed in Vermont and exported around the world. Just last week, I had joined leaders from the University of Vermont to announce a National Science Foundation competitive award of $20 million to Vermont EPSCoR, which will support research of the Lake Champlain Basin and its watersheds to find out what has made some parts of the basin resilient in the face of extreme weather events, while

other parts fail to recover and rebound. Work like this on Lake Champlain will give Vermont and other regions new tools to help build resiliency in areas that have been vulnerable in the past.

Recently, I was pleased to hear that not just one, but two Vermont companies, Green Mountain Power and Vermont Electric Power Company, or VELCO, are finalists for the Edison Electric Institute's prestigious Edison Award this year for their innovation and contribution to the advancement of the electric industry. Green Mountain Power is working to expand renewable energy production in Vermont and is taking their Cow Power model to the next level with a large multifarm bio-digester. Meanwhile, VELCO's Vermont Weather Analytics Center will help to build a more reliable grid as customers, communities, and energy businesses work to prepare for the more severe storms brought by climate change and will also help garner renewable energy's full value and potential in the State. These are cutting-edge projects, generating jobs and knowledge while generating energy.

Some people see climate change simply as an environmental issue, but it is about so much more than that. Creating a green energy sector is not just about cutting greenhouse gas emissions. It is about providing jobs for Americans in the renewable energy and energy efficiency sectors. This is about strengthening national security through energy independence. This is about breaking the stranglehold of oil on the transportation system by developing alternative transportation energy sources. Addressing climate change is also about ensuring that our children and grandchildren have clean air to breathe on Earth Day and every day for generations to come.

We have come together before, across the aisle and across regions, to solve large problems. We must do so again. We owe it to the planet and to future generations.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

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

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

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

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 0K–16. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 14–44 of 17 September 2014.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 0K–16

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5A), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Poland.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 14–44; Date: 17 September 2014; Military Department: Air Force.

(iii) Description: On 17 September 2014, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 14–44 of the possible sale under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act of 40 AGM–158A Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missiles (JASSM), 2 AGM–58A JASSM Live with Test Instrumentation Kit (TIK) and Flight Termination Systems (FTS), 2 AGM–158A JASSM Inert with TIK and FTS, and 2 Flight Certification Test Vehicles. Also included: Operational Flight Plan upgrade to M6.5 tape for the Polish F–16C/D Block 52 aircraft to include JASSM integration, missile containers, spare and repair parts, support and test equipment, publications and technical documentation, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total cost was $500 million. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted $270 million of this total.

This transmittal reports the addition of twenty-eight (28) AGM–158A Joint Air-to Surface Standoff Missiles (JASSM) to the previously notified sale. Upon completion of contract negotiations between the U.S. Government and the vendor, the per-missile price was significantly lower than anticipated, resulting in residual funds available to Poland. Poland decided to use these funds to procure twenty-eight (28) additional missiles. Increasing the quantity of missiles will not result in a net increase in the value of MDE originally notified. The total case value will remain $500 million.

(iv) Significance: The proposed increase in quantity will improve Poland's capacity to deter regional threats and to strengthen its homeland defense as well as to strengthen its air-to-ground strike capabilities.

(v) Justification: The proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and the national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally. Poland continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in Central Europe.

(vi) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 21, 2016.

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 16–19, concerning the Department of the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Australia for defense articles and services estimated to cost $1.22 billion. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 16–19

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Australia.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment * $1.08 billion.

Other $ .14 billion.

Total $1.22 billion.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Up to 450 Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AIM–120D).

Up to 34 AIM–120D Air Vehicles Instrumented (AAVI).

Up to 6 Instrumented Test Vehicles (ITVs).

Up to 10 spare AIM–120 Guidance Sections (GSs).

Non-MDE: This request also includes the following Non-MDE: containers, weapon system support equipment, support and test equipment, site survey, transportation, repair and return warranties, spare and repair parts, publications and technical data, maintenance, personnel training, and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor representative engineering, logistics, and technical support services, and other related elements of logistics support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (YLD).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: AT–D–YKX–01 DEC 98, AT–D–YLB–06 OCT–11 AT–D–YLC–25 FEB–15

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

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

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 21, 2016.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Australia—AIM–120D Advanced Medium-Ranee Air-to-Air Missiles

The Government of Australia requested a possible sale of:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Up to 450 Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AIM–120D).

Up to 34 AIM–120D Air Vehicles Instrumented (AAVI).

Up to 6 Instrumented Test Vehicles (ITVs).

Up to 10 spare AIM–120 Guidance Sections (GSs).

This request also includes the following Non-MDE: containers, weapon system support equipment, support and test equipment, site survey, transportation, repair and return warranties, spare and repair parts, publications and technical data, maintenance,

personnel training, and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor representative engineering, logistics, and technical support services, and other related elements of logistics support.

The total estimated value of MDE is $1.08 billion. The total overall estimated value is $1.22 billion.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a strategic partner and major contributor to political stability, security, and economic development in the Pacific region and globally.

This proposed sale is in support of the Royal Australian Air Force's (RAAF) F/A–18, E/A–18G, and F–35 aircraft. This proposed sale will provide the RAAF additional air-to-air intercept capability and increase interoperability with the U.S. Air Force. Australia will have no difficulty absorbing these missiles into its armed forces.

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

The principal contractor for production is Raytheon in Tucson, Arizona. The principal contractor for integration is unknown and will be determined during contract negotiations. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

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

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 16–19

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

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The AIM–120D AMRAAM hardware, including the missile guidance section, is classified CONFIDENTIAL. State-of-the-art technology is used in the missile to provide it with unique beyond-visual-range capability. The increase in capability from the AIM–120C–7 to AIM–120D consists of a two-way data link, a more accurate navigation unit, improved High-Angle Off-Boresight (HOBS) capability, and enhanced aircraft to missile position handoff.

2. AIM–120D features a target detection device with embedded electronic countermeasures, an electronics unit within the guidance section that performs all radar signal processing, mid-course and terminal guidance, flight control, target detection, and warhead burst point determination.

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

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

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Australia.

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 0E–16. This report relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 14–23 of 23 July 2014.

Sincerely,

JENNIFER ZAKRISKI,
(For J.W. Rixey, Vice Admiral, USN, Director).

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 0E–16

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(A), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Government of Tunisia.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(l), AECA Transmittal No.: 14–23; Date: 23 July 2014; Military Department: Army.

(iii) Description: On 23 July 2014, Congress was notified by Congressional Notification Transmittal Number 14–23, of the possible sale under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act of twelve UH–60M Black Hawk aircraft as well as spare and repair parts, weapon systems, configurations updates, communications security equipment and radios, integration studies, support equipment, aircraft ferry and tanker support, repair and return, publications and technical documentation, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor engineering and logistics personnel services, and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated total cost was $700 million. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted $440 million of this total.

This transmittal reports the inclusion of eighteen (18) sets of Embedded Global Positioning System/Inertial Navigation System (GPS/INS) equipment as MDE. Although the value of the GPS/INS was included in the total value of the case, it was not enumerated or valued as MDE in the original notification. Upgrading the status of this equipment to MDE will increase the MDE cost by $7.5 million.

Additionally, this transmittal reports the inclusion of two (2) M36–E9 Captive Air Training Missiles (CATM) in the weapons configuration (Hellfire training missiles) as MDE. Although the value of the CATM was included in the total value of the case, it was not enumerated or valued as MDE in the original notification. Upgrading the status of this equipment to MDE will increase the MDE cost by $105,000.

Finally, this transmittal report designates the Advanced Precision Kill Weapons System (APKWS) as the specific Precision Guided Rocket System listed in the original notification. It has now been determined that the APKWS will be the Precision Guided Rocket System integrated into the aircraft and will include 515 all up rounds. The APKWS all-up rounds consist of guidance sections, MK66 MOD 4 2.75 inch rocket motors, and M152 High Explosive (HE) warheads. The value of the APKWS was included in the total case value of the original notification but was not included in the MDE cost. The inclusion of the APKWS as MDE will increase the MDE cost by $17.5 million. The revised total MDE cost is $465.1 million. The total case value will remain $700 million.

(iv) Significance: The GPS/INS provides highly accurate all-altitude, all-weather navigation and timing information to the UH–60M Black Hawk aircraft, allowing more precise flight pattern and rendezvous. The CATM consists of a functional guidance section coupled to an inert missile bus and is used for flight training but cannot be launched. The inclusion of APKWS rounds will improve Tunisia's capacity to sustain security operations and strengthen its internal and external defense capabilities and increase its ability to carry out operations against terrorist forces while significantly reducing risk to civilians.

(v) Justification: The United States is committed to the security of Tunisia, and it is vital to U.S. national interests to assist Tunisia to develop and maintain a strong and ready self-defense capability. This upgrade to a previously approved sale will further enhance Tunisia's interoperability with the U.S. Army.

(vi) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 21, 2016.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 0E–16

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

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The CATM consists of a functional guidance section coupled to an inert missile bus and is used for flight training but cannot be launched. The missile has an operational semi-active laser seeker that can search for and lock-on to laser-designated targets. It functions like a tactical missile (without launch capability) during captive carry on the aircraft, making it suitable for training the aircrew in simulated Hellfire missile target acquisition and lock. The Sensitive Technology is contained within the operational semi-active laser seeker. The highest level for release of the M36–E9 CATM is SECRET, based upon the semi-active seeker. Reverse engineering could reveal CONFIDENTIAL information. Vulnerability data, countermeasures, vulnerability/susceptibility analyses, and threat definitions are classified SECRET or CONFIDENTIAL.

2. The APKWS II All-Up-Round (AUR) is an air-to-ground weapon that consists of an APKWS II Guidance Section (GS), legacy 2.75-inch MK66 Mod 4 rocket motor and legacy MK152 and MK435/436 warhead/fuze. The APKWS is a tactical rocket system that can be launched from several platforms, offering multi-mission, multi-target capability and precision-strike lethality. These guided rockets are steered to the target by following reflected laser beam energy directed onto the target either by the launching aircraft, a second aircraft, or ground-based troops operating a laser designator. Hardware is Unclassified; information related to performance, effectiveness, vulnerabilities and counter-measure is classified up to SECRET.

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

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

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Tunisia.

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

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

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 16–07, concerning the Department of the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to Qatar for defense articles and services estimated to cost $260 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 16–07

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Qatar.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* $227 million.
Other $33 million.
Total $260 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:
Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
Two-hundred and fifty-two (252) RIM 116C–2 Rolling Airframe Tactical Missiles.
Two (2) RIM 116C–2 Rolling Airframe Telemetry Missiles.
Also included are the following non-MDE items; support equipment, publications, technical documentation, personnel training, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services, live fire test event support, and other related integration elements. The estimated cost is $260 million.

(iv) Military Department: U.S. Navy (AAD).

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

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

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

(viii) Date Delivered to Congress: April 21, 2016.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Qatar—RIM–116C and RIM–116C–2 Rolling Airframe Missiles

The Government of Qatar has requested a possible sale of two-hundred and fifty-two (252) RIM–116C Rolling Airframe Tactical Missiles, and two (2) RIM 116C–2 Rolling Airframe Telemetry Missiles. Also included are support equipment, publications and technical documentation, personnel training, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services, live fire test event support, and other related integration elements. The total estimated value of MDE is $227 million. The overall total estimated value is $260 million.

This proposed sale contributes to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a friendly country. Qatar is an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Persian Gulf region. This proposed sale will provide Qatar with military capabilities to protect its naval forces and nearby oil/gas infrastructure from air and missile threats. Qatar will have no difficulty absorbing these missiles into its armed forces.

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

The principal contractor will be Raytheon Missile Systems in Tucson, Arizona. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require multiple trips by U.S. Government and contractor representatives to participate in program and technical reviews, system integration, as well as training and maintenance support in country for a period of thirty-six (36) months.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 16–07

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

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

The RIM–116C Rolling Airframe Missile is an autonomous (i.e., ''fire and forget'') lightweight, supersonic, surface-to-air tactical missile for ship self-defense against current and evolving anti-ship cruise missile threats. Advanced technology in the RIM–116C includes dual-mode RF/IR (radio frequency/infrared) guidance with IR all-the-way capability for non-emitting threats. The highest classification of the hardware, embedded software, and maintenance is CONFIDENTIAL. The RIM–116C–2 is a non-tactical telemetry round, used primarily for test and training purposes; it includes an unclassified telemeter which replaces the warhead section. The data set, generated by R1114–116C–2 is UNCLASSIFIED.

The Rolling Airframe Missile (RAM) is a product of a cooperative program with Germany and has been executed, since 1976, under a series of governing Memoranda of Understanding/Memoranda of Agreements (MOU/MOAs) for the development, production, and in-service support between the United States and Germany.

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

All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Qatar.

HONORING JOHN E. ULMSCHNEIDER

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I recognize the tragic death of a Maryland. John E. Ulmschneider of the Prince George's Fire/EMS Department was killed in the line of duty on Friday, April 15, 2016.

John Ulmschneider is survived by his wife and daughter. He was known to his friends and colleagues as ''Skillet,'' a nickname he received after sustaining an injury in high school. It was while he was attending Surrattsville High School in Clinton, MD, that John decided to dedicate his life to serving others as firefighter.

Before graduating high school, John Ulmschneider worked on the farm of a family friend. It was on that farm that he met Dawn, and the two would later get married. A colleague fondly remembered him as ''a hard-working country boy.'' He enjoyed helping people. Personally and professionally, he was selfless and generous. This altruism made him not only a good person, but an ideal public servant.

John Ulmschneider worked out of the Landover Hills Fire/EMS Station 830. He was a 13-year veteran of the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department and was described as dedicated, humble, and funny. The Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department is composed of nearly 2,000 volunteers, career professionals, and support personnel covering approximately 580 square miles and protecting almost 900,000 people. Marylanders should take solace in knowing that John was able to leave his mark on a department with such immense responsibilities.

Maryland's first responders are some of the best in the country. Their dedication, bravery, and skill are worthy of the highest praise. John Ulmschneider had all of these traits in abundance.

I thank the Ulmschneider family for sharing John with the people of Prince George's County. I also thank John's fellow first responders and staff at Med Star Southern Maryland Hospital Center in Clinton, MD, for doing their utmost to save John. His legacy will never be forgotten, and I join the people of Prince George's County in mourning his loss.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN COMPTON

• Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Stephen Compton for his hard work as an intern in the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Stephen is a native of Utah. He currently attends Utah State University, where he studies communications and political science. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Stephen for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his next journey.•

TRIBUTE TO HOLLY HEUSSNER

• Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Holly Heussner for her hard work as an intern in my Washington, DC, office. I recognize her efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Holly is a native of Sugar Land, Texas. She recently graduated from the

University of Wyoming, where she received a degree in international relations. She has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made her an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of her work is reflected in her great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Holly for the dedication she has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have her as part of our team. I know she will have continued success with all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her next journey.●

TRIBUTE TO GABRIEL LEPINSKI

● Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Gabriel Lepinski for his hard work as an intern in the Republican Policy Committee. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Gabe is a native of Illinois. He currently attends the University of Kansas, where he studies political science and Arabic. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Gabe for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his next journey.●

TRIBUTE TO KYLE PALADINO

● Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Kyle Paladino for his hard work as an intern in my Washington, DC, office. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Kyle is a native of New Jersey. He currently attends the University of Georgia, where he studies political science. Kyle will attend the University of Georgia School of Law this fall. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Kyle for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his next journey.●

TRIBUTE TO NOLAN RAP

● Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Nolan Rap for his hard work as an intern in the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Nolan is a native of Cheyenne and a graduate of Cheyenne East High School. He currently attends the University of Wyoming, where he studies political science and Russian. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Nolan for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his journey.●

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTINE KELLER

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Christine Keller, an intern in my Sioux Falls, SD, office for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Christine is a graduate of Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls, SD. Currently, Christine is attending Augustana University, where she is majoring in government, international affairs, and economics. Christine is a dedicated worker who has been committed to getting the most out of her experience.

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

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

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

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

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3724. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service from rehiring any employee of the Internal Revenue Service who was involuntarily separated from service for misconduct.

H.R. 4890. An act to impose a ban on the payment of bonuses to employees of the Internal Revenue Service until the Secretary of the Treasury develops and implements a comprehensive customer service strategy.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3724. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service from rehiring any employee of the Internal Revenue Service who was involuntarily separated from service for misconduct; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 4890. An act to impose a ban on the payment of bonuses to employees of the Internal Revenue Service until the Secretary of the Treasury develops and implements a comprehensive customer service strategy; to the Committee on Finance.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1206. An act to prohibit the hiring of additional Internal Revenue Service employees until the Secretary of the Treasury certifies that no employee of the Internal Revenue Service has a seriously delinquent tax debt.

H.R. 4885. An act to require that user fees collected by the Internal Revenue Service be deposited into the general fund of the Treasury.

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–5184. A joint communication from the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, transmitting a request relative to issuing a travel restriction on senior officials' travel to Afghanistan for the period of June 1, 2016 through September 30, 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5185. A communication from the Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, ''2013 Workplace and Equal Opportunity Survey of Active Duty Members''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5186. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products and Certain Commercial and Industrial Equipment: Determination of Portable Air Conditioners as a Covered Consumer Product'' ((RIN1904–AD02) (Docket No. EERE–2013–BT–STD–0033)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2016; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–5187. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Skokomish River Basin Ecosystem Restoration project in Mason County, Washington, for the purpose of aquatic ecosystem restoration; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5188. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Announcement and Report Concerning Advance Pricing Agreements'' (Announcement 2016–12) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–5189. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Update of Weighted Average Interest Rates, Yield Curves, and Segment Rates'' (Notice 2016–25) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–5190. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Inversions and Related Transactions'' ((RIN1545–BM88) (TD 9761)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–5191. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fringe Benefits Aircraft Valuation Formula'' (Rev. Rul. 2016–10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–5192. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Purchase Price Safe Harbors for Sections 143 and 25'' (Rev. Proc. 2016–25) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–5193. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Indexing Adjustments for Sections 36B and 5000A'' (Rev. Proc. 2016–24) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–5194. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''2016 Automobile Price Inflation Adjustment'' (Rev. Proc. 2016–23) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2016; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–5195. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 16–019); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–5196. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Standard for Automatic Residential Garage Door Operators'' (RIN3041–AD35) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 18, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5197. A communication from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Connect America Fund; ETC Annual Reports and Certifications; Rural Broadband Experiments'' ((RIN3060–AF85) (FCC 16–28)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 18, 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5198. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting legislative proposals relative to the ''National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017'' ; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5199. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, ''Fiscal Year 2017 Staff Years of Technical Effort and Estimated Funding for Department of Defense Federally Funded Research and Development Centers'' ; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5200. A communication from the Secretary, Division of Trading and Markets, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Business Conduct Standards for Security-Based Swap Dealers and Major Security-Based Swap Participants'' (RIN3235–AL10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–5201. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Supplemental Finding that it is Appropriate and Necessary to Regulate Hazardous Air Pollutants from Coal- and Oil-Fired Electric Utility Steam Generating Units'' (FRL No. 9945–33–OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5202. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Federal Plan Requirements for Sewage Sludge Incineration Units Constructed on or Before October 14, 2010'' (FRL No. 9940–50–OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5203. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Clarification of Requirements for Method 303 Certification Training'' ((RIN2060–AR97) (FRL No. 9945–34–OAR)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5204. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval of California Air Plan Revisions, San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District'' (FRL No. 9944–38–Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5205. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; AR; Redesignation of the Crittenden County, 2008 8-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area to Attainment'' (FRL No. 9945–40–Region 6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5206. 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; Pennsylvania; Attainment Plan for the Lower Beaver Valley Nonattainment Area for the 2008 Lead National Ambient Air Quality Standards'' (FRL No. 9945–45–Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5207. 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; Pennsylvania; 2011 Base Year Inventories for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard for the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, Lancaster, Pittsburgh-Beaver Valley, and Reading Areas, and the Pennsylvania Portion of the Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City Area'' (FRL No. 9945–47–Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5208. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; State Board Requirements'' (FRL No. 9945–44–Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5209. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Quality Plans; North Carolina; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2010 Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standard'' (FRL No. 9945–62–Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5210. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Approval; Tennessee: Knox County VOC Limits Revision for Permits'' (FRL No. 9945–22–Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5211. A communication from the Wildlife Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Migratory Bird Hunting; Final Frameworks for Late-Season Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations'' (RIN1018–BA70) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5212. A communication from the Acting Unified Listing Team Manager, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Species Status for the Big Sandy Crayfish and Endangered Species Status for the Guyandotte River Crayfish'' (RIN1018–BA85) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5213. A communication from the Acting Unified Listing Team Manager, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation and Nondesignation of Critical Habitat on Molokai, Lanai, Maui, and Kahoolawe for 135 Species'' (RIN1018–AZ25) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to

the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5214. A communication from the Acting Unified Listing Team Manager, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for the New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse'' (RIN1018–AZ32) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5215. A communication from the Chief of the Branch of Recovery and State Grants, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Louisiana Black Bear From the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Removal of Similarity-of-Appearance Protections for the American Black Bear'' (RIN1018–BA44) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5216. A communication from the Wildlife Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Harvest Regulations for Migratory Birds in Alaska During the 2016 Season'' (RIN1018–BB10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5217. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Financial Assistance and Social Services Programs; Burial Assistance'' (RIN1076–AF29) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC–5218. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Food Additives Permitted for Direct Addition to Food for Human Consumption; Folic Acid'' (Docket No. FDA–2012–F–0480) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–5219. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a petition to add workers who were employed at the Kansas City Plant, Kansas City, Missouri, to the Special Exposure Cohort; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–5220. A communication from the Executive Director, Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Seventy-Fourth Financial Statement for the period of October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–5221. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''2016 Annual Report: The U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Status of Actions Addressing the Safety Issue Areas on the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB) Most Wanted List''; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5222. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Standard for Portable Hook-On Chairs'' (RIN3041–AD40) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 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–157. A concurrent resolution adopted by the House of Delegates of the State of West Virginia urging the United States Congress to provide funding for the West Virginia National Guard to sustain and enhance its capabilities in its role in a regional catastrophe and to modernize the antiquated avionics of its fleet of C130s and other aircraft to meet global airspace requirements for 2020; to the Committee on Armed Services.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 20

Whereas, In the event of a regional catastrophe, West Virginia's east-west highways, including 1–68 and 1–64 are links to the major exit corridors from the FEMA National Capital Region (NCR) westward and, assuming that a regional catastrophe will likely include Baltimore to the north of the NCR and Richmond to the south of the NCR, westward evacuation utilizing these highways is highly likely and is, in fact anticipated; and

Whereas, The routes through West Virginia will traverse rural areas that do not have infrastructure adequate for what could be a mass of evacuees in the worst-case scenario; experience in regional emergencies, such as Superstorm Sandy in 2012, illustrates some shortcomings in planning that is less focused on regions and more on states; and

Whereas, West Virginia is perfectly (and geographically) postured to support any emergency or disaster response to the NCR, including mass evacuation westward; and

Whereas, FEMA regions do not necessarily represent grouping of states likely to be involved in some scenarios; FEMA region III contains the NCR and West Virginia as its western-most edge and in a major catastrophe, Regions V, with Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, VII with Missouri, and IV with Kentucky, Tennessee, and North Carolina are likely to be involved in some combinations; and

Whereas, The National Guard, through the use of Emergency Management Assistance Compacts, can operate across state lines to provide vital response capability in security, transportation, medical, housing, communications, command and control, and others based on its dual role in military preparedness and state civil support; and

Whereas, Military Force Structure assigned to the National Guard must be considered by Federal Military planners for the dual use they can encounter; National Guard Organizations require personnel, equipment, organization, training, leadership and funding to maintain federal military standards and to be prepared to respond to a domestic emergency or disaster; and

Whereas, Regional catastrophic planning is dependent on National Guard assets, capabilities and responsiveness; consequently, it is also critical that federal military planners assess the impact of their force structure changes on regional capability needs as I well as those that are state specific; and

Whereas, The C–I30 H3 ''Hercules'' aircraft assigned to the 130th Airlift Wing of the West Virginia National Guard at Yeager Airport in Charleston, West Virginia will eventually become obsolete without system modernization to the communication, navigation, and surveillance (CNS) components; National Air Traffic Control (ATC) agencies and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) are modernizing airspace faster than the US Air Force is updating C–130 avionics capabilities; and

Whereas, Aircraft component acquisition becomes increasingly difficult as fewer C–130 H aircraft remain in the Air Force inventory and the unique components of the C–130, including its self contained navigational system (SCNS), face short term supply chain shortages that could be remedied with aircraft avionics modernization; and

Whereas, The contract to perform maintenance on aircraft flight computers is renewed annually and this perpetual reliance on short term contracts increases sustainment cost and challenges mission effectiveness and operational planning; and

Whereas, Reliance on short term contracts and antiquated avionics will increase Air Force expense in the long run as it translates to more expensive mission-essential contracts and increased fuel expenditures due to inefficient routing: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia, That the Legislature hereby urges the United States Congress to provide funding for the West Virginia National Guard to sustain and enhance its capabilities in its role in a regional catastrophe and to modernize the antiquated avionics of its fleet of C–130s and other aircraft to meet global airspace requirements for 2020; and be it

Further Resolved, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the President and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the House of Representatives and to the members of West Virginia congressional delegation.

POM–158. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Tennessee urging the President of the United States and the United States Congress to take immediate action to protect citizens and lawful residents from the consequences resulting from the uncontrolled influx of undocumented immigrants into this country; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 70

Whereas, the federal Department of Homeland Security has set forth in a report, entitled Estimates of the Unauthorized Immigrant Population Residing in the United States: January 20111 that the unauthorized immigrant population totaled 11.5 million in 2011; and

Whereas, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection agency apprehended 486,651 individuals crossing the borders of the United States in fiscal year 2014 alone; and

Whereas, the power to control immigration and naturalization is reserved to the federal government by the provisions of Article I, Section 8, of the United States Constitution, which tasks the legislative branch with establishing uniform rules of naturalization; and

Whereas, the explosive growth in numbers of illegal immigrants, including a substantial increase in unaccompanied alien children, over the past few years reflects a failure by the President of the United States, his administration, and the various members of Congress to implement procedures that adequately address this issue; and

Whereas, despite the lack of authority granted to the states to fully address the issue of illegal immigration, as evidenced by recent court decisions, including *Arizona v. United States*, 132 S. Ct. 2492 (2012), the costs of supporting illegal immigrants in this country continues to fall directly to the several states, and their counties and cities; and

Whereas, according to the complaint filed by several states against certain officials in the administration in charge of immigration enforcement, the Texas Department of Public Safety estimated that it was spending $1.3 million per week on troopers and resources to deal with the immigration surge, as well as deploying 1,000 National Guard troops to the border at a cost of $38 million; and

Whereas, the Supreme Court of the United States has decreed in *Plyler v. Doe*, 102 S. Ct. 2382 (1982), that education cannot be denied even to those who have entered this country illegally; and

Whereas, Congress has likewise decreed that emergency medical care, pursuant to 8 U.S.C. §§1611 and 1621, cannot be denied even to those who have come here illegally; and

Whereas, this General Assembly is fully aware of the growing existence of illegal immigrants in the various counties of this State, including the 1,294 unaccompanied alien children released to sponsors in this State by the Office of Refugee Resettlement in fiscal year 2014; and

Whereas, the costs of illegal immigration present a significant financial burden to each state in the form of expenditures for education, criminal justice, and emergency medical care, a burden this State cannot absorb without jeopardizing the quality of life for its U.S. citizens and lawful immigrant population: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the One Hundred Ninth General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, the Senate Concurring, That even as the members of this General Assembly take decisive steps to address the issue of illegal immigration to the fullest extent of our powers, we strongly urge the President and the Congress of these United States to resolve this issue in a timely and efficient manner, to pass a comprehensive immigration policy that allows those wishing to immigrate to this country to do so only in a lawful manner, and to ensure that American society is not threatened by a decline in public safety, educational standards, medical accessibility, and the overall standard of living resulting from those who knowingly choose to enter this country in violation of the law; and be it further

Resolved, That the President and the Congress of these United States include in any comprehensive immigration policy a revision to existing federal law that would favor U.S. citizens and lawful residents in receiving benefits such as health care, education, and any other government benefits before offering any benefits to those individuals entering this country illegally; and be it further

Resolved, That the President and the Congress of these United States incorporate into any comprehensive immigration policy a system in which the several states may be fully compensated by the federal government for any financial burdens that result from decisions made in Washington, D.C., with regard to illegal immigrants.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. THUNE, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 710. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to prepare a comprehensive security assessment of the transportation security card program, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114–244).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON for the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

*Carol Waller Pope, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years expiring July 1, 2019.

*Julie Helene Becker, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

*Carolyn N. Lerner, of Maryland, to be Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel, for the term of five years.

*Patrick Pizzella, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term of five years expiring July 1, 2020.

*Steven Nathan Berk, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

*Elizabeth Carroll Wingo, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

*Jeffrey A. Rosen, of Virginia, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2021.

*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. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 2845. A bill to extend the termination of sanctions with respect to Venezuela under the Venezuela Defense of Human Rights and Civil Society Act of 2014; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. RISCH):

S. 2846. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to expand intellectual property education and training for small businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mrs. ERNST:

S. 2847. A bill to require greater transparency for Federal regulatory decisions that impact small businesses; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

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

S. 2848. A bill to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SASSE (for himself and Mr. TESTER):

S. 2849. A bill to ensure the Government Accountability Office has adequate access to information; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself and Mr. SASSE):

S. Res. 439. A resolution congratulating the University of Nebraska-Lincoln women's bowling team for winning the 2015 National Collegiate Athletic Association Bowling Championship; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 240

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 240, a bill to promote competition, to preserve the ability of local governments to provide broadband capability and services, and for other purposes.

S. 275

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 275, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of home as a site of care for infusion therapy under the Medicare program.

S. 386

At the request of Mr. NELSON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 386, a bill to limit the authority of States to tax certain income of employees for employment duties performed in other States.

S. 510

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 510, a bill to require Senate confirmation of Inspector General of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and for other purposes.

S. 681

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 681, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes.

S. 821

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 821, a bill to establish requirements with respect to bisphenol A.

S. 859

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 859, a bill to protect the public, communities across America, and the environment by increasing the safety of crude oil transportation by railroad, and for other purposes.

S. 884

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Arkansas

(Mr. COTTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 884, a bill to improve access to emergency medical services, and for other purposes.

S. 1212

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1212, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Small Business Act to expand the availability of employee stock ownership plans in S corporations, and for other purposes.

S. 1426

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1426, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the participation of physical therapists in the National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1474

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1474, a bill to provide for the development and use of technology for personalized handguns, to require that all handguns manufactured or sold in, or imported into, the United States incorporate such technology, and for other purposes.

S. 1684

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1684, a bill to amend the Volunteer Protection Act of 1997 to provide for liability protection for organizations and entities.

S. 1915

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1915, a bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to make anthrax vaccines and antimicrobials available to emergency response providers, and for other purposes.

S. 2067

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

S. 2304

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2304, a bill to provide for tribal demonstration projects for the integration of early childhood development, education, including Native language and culture, and related services, for evaluation of those demonstration projects, and for other purposes.

S. 2325

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2325, a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to establish a constituent-driven program to provide a digital information platform capable of efficiently integrating coastal data with decision-support tools, training, and best practices and to support collection of priority coastal geospatial data to inform and improve local, State, regional, and Federal capacities to manage the coastal region, and for other purposes.

S. 2531

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2531, a bill to authorize State and local governments to divest from entities that engage in commerce-related or investment-related boycott, divestment, or sanctions activities targeting Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 2540

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2540, a bill to provide access to counsel for unaccompanied children and other vulnerable populations.

S. 2598

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2598, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of the 60th anniversary of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

S. 2655

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

S. 2795

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2795, a bill to modernize the regulation of nuclear energy.

S. 2821

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2821, a bill to improve drinking water quality and reduce lead exposure in homes, and for other purposes.

S. 2825

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2825, a bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to require compliance with domestic source requirements for footwear furnished to enlisted members of the Armed Forces upon their initial entry into the Armed Forces.

S. 2841

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2841, a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit oil-, gas-, and methane hydrate-related seismic activities in the North Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, and Straits of Florida planning areas of the outer Continental Shelf, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 33

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. CON. RES. 35

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 35, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the United States should continue to exercise its veto in the United Nations Security Council on resolutions regarding the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

S. RES. 373

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 373, a resolution recognizing the historical significance of Executive Order 9066 and expressing the sense of the Senate that policies that discriminate against any individual based on the actual or perceived race, ethnicity, national origin, or religion of that individual would be a repetition of the mistakes of Executive Order 9066 and contrary to the values of the United States.

S. RES. 397

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 397, a resolution supporting the recognition of 2016 as the ''Year of Pulses'' and acknowledging the nutritional benefit and important contribution to soil health of pulse crops.

AMENDMENT NO. 3844

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3844 proposed to H.R. 2028, a bill making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 439—CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN WOMEN'S BOWLING TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2015 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIP

Mrs. FISCHER (for herself and Mr. SASSE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 439

Whereas, on April 11, 2015, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Cornhuskers won the National Collegiate Athletic Association Bowling Championship in Richmond Heights, Missouri, defeating Stephen F. Austin by a score of 4 to 2;

Whereas the University of Nebraska-Lincoln has won 10 national bowling championships;

Whereas all of the members of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln women's bowling team, Kelly Belzeski, Julia Bond, April Campbell, Melanie Crawford, Bethany Hedley, Lizabeth Kuhlkin, Gazmine Mason, Alexandra Mosquera, Andrea Ruiz, and Briana Zabierek, contributed to this outstanding victory;

Whereas head coach Bill Straub, assistant coach Paul Klempa, and office manager Kim Straub guided this outstanding group of women to a national championship;

Whereas Julia Bond was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player and Liz Kuhlkin was named to the All-Tournament Team; and

Whereas Liz Kuhlkin was named the National Tenpin Coaches Association Women's Collegiate Bowler of the Year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the University of Nebraska-Lincoln women's bowling team as the winner of the 2015 National Collegiate Athletic Association Bowling Championship;

(2) commends the players, coaches, and staff of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln women's bowling team for their hard work and dedication;

(3) recognizes the students, alumni, and loyal fans who supported the Cornhuskers on their journey to achieve another championship for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; and

(4) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate prepare an official copy of this resolution for presentation to—

(A) the president of the University of Nebraska;

(B) the athletic director of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; and

(C) the head coach of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln women's bowling team.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3869. Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. FLAKE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3801 proposed by Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) to the bill H.R. 2028, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes.

SA 3870. Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mr. COONS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3801 proposed by Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) to the bill H.R. 2028, supra.

SA 3871. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3801 proposed by Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) to the bill H.R. 2028, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3872. Mr. MCCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3801 proposed by Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) to the bill H.R. 2028, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3873. Mr. COTTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3801 proposed by Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) to the bill H.R. 2028, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3874. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. SCHATZ) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1579, to enhance and integrate Native American tourism, empower Native American communities, increase coordination and collaboration between Federal tourism assets, and expand heritage and cultural tourism opportunities in the United States.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3869. Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. FLAKE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3801 proposed by Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) to the bill H.R. 2028, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end of title II, add the following:

SEC. 2____. (a) The Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of Agriculture, may enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences under which the National Academy of Sciences shall conduct a comprehensive study, to be completed not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, on the effectiveness and environmental impact of salt cedar control efforts (including biological control) in increasing water supplies, restoring riparian habitat, and improving flood management.

(b) Not later than 1 year after the date of completion of the study under subsection (a), the Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture, shall prepare a plan for the removal of salt cedar from all Federal land in the Lower Colorado River basin based on the findings and recommendations of the study conducted by the National Academy of Sciences that includes—

(1) provisions for revegetating Federal land with native vegetation;

(2) provisions for adapting to the increasing presence of biological control in the Lower Colorado River basin;

(3) provisions for removing salt cedar from Federal land during post-wildfire recovery activities;

(4) strategies for developing partnerships with State, tribal, and local governmental entities in the eradication of salt cedar; and

(5) budget estimates and completion timelines for the implementation of plan elements.

SA 3870. Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mr. COONS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3801 proposed by Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) to the bill H.R. 2028, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 3, line 21, before the period at the end, insert the following: ": *Provided*, That funds made available under this heading for shore protection may be prioritized for projects in areas that have suffered severe beach erosion requiring additional sand placement outside of the normal beach renourishment cycle or in which the normal beach renourishment cycle has been delayed".

SA 3871. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3801 proposed by Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) to the bill H.R. 2028, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. PROTECTION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds made available by this Act shall be available to carry out project or project operation studies unless the Secretary of the Army ensures evaluation of and mitigation for impacts to fish and wildlife resources consistent with recommendations developed by the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the Secretary of the Interior, and the States pursuant to section 2 of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 662), including recommendations to properly evaluate impacts and avoid adverse impacts to fish and wildlife resources.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary of the Army shall not select a recommended alternative for a water resources project if the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service concludes that the impacts of that alternative cannot be successfully mitigated.

(2) MITIGATION.—The mitigation requirements under this section shall be in addition to any other mitigation measures required under section 906 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (33 U.S.C. 2283) and any other applicable Federal or State law (including regulations).

SA 3872. Mr. MCCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3801 proposed by Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) to the bill H.R. 2028, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the general provisions of title I, add the following:

SEC. 1____. The Secretary of the Army shall conduct a review that—

(1) examines the actions and decisions of the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (referred to in this section as the "Administrator") relating to the excavation at Gold King Mine on August 5, 2015; and

(2) determines whether the Administrator likely violated the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.) by discharging contaminated mine water without a permit.

SA 3873. Mr. COTTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to

amendment SA 3801 proposed by Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) to the bill H.R. 2028, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be obligated or expended—

(1) to purchase heavy water produced in Iran; or

(2) to issue a license for the purchase of heavy water produced in Iran.

SA 3874. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. SCHATZ) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1579, to enhance and integrate Native American tourism, empower Native American communities, increase coordination and collaboration between Federal tourism assets, and expand heritage and cultural tourism opportunities in the United States; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act'' or the ''NATIVE Act''.

SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to enhance and integrate Native American tourism—

(A) to empower Native American communities; and

(B) to advance the National Travel and Tourism Strategy;

(2) to increase coordination and collaboration between Federal tourism assets to support Native American tourism and bolster recreational travel and tourism;

(3) to expand heritage and cultural tourism opportunities in the United States to spur economic development, create jobs, and increase tourism revenues;

(4) to enhance and improve self-determination and self-governance capabilities in the Native American community and to promote greater self-sufficiency;

(5) to encourage Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations to engage more fully in Native American tourism activities to increase visitation to rural and remote areas in the United States that are too difficult to access or are unknown to domestic travelers and international tourists;

(6) to provide grants, loans, and technical assistance to Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations that will—

(A) spur important infrastructure development;

(B) increase tourism capacity; and

(C) elevate living standards in Native American communities; and

(7) to support the development of technologically innovative projects that will incorporate recreational travel and tourism information and data from Federal assets to improve the visitor experience.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) AGENCY.—The term ''agency'' has the meaning given the term in section 551 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ''Indian tribe'' has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

(3) NATIVE HAWAIIAN ORGANIZATION.—The term ''Native Hawaiian organization'' means a nonprofit organization—

(A) that serves the interests of Native Hawaiians;

(B) in which Native Hawaiians serve in substantive and policymaking positions; and

(C) that is recognized for having expertise in Native Hawaiian culture and heritage, including tourism.

(4) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term ''tribal organization'' has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

SEC. 4. INTEGRATING FEDERAL TOURISM ASSETS TO STRENGTHEN NATIVE TOURISM OPPORTUNITIES.

(a) SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—The Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of the Interior shall update the respective management plans and tourism initiatives of the Department of Commerce and the Department of the Interior to include Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations.

(b) OTHER AGENCIES.—The head of each agency that has recreational travel or tourism functions or complementary programs shall update the respective management plans and tourism strategies of the agency to include Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations.

(c) NATIVE AMERICAN TOURISM PLANS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The plans shall outline policy proposals—

(A) to improve travel and tourism data collection and analysis;

(B) to increase the integration, alignment, and utility of public records, publications, and Web sites maintained by Federal agencies;

(C) to create a better user experience for domestic travelers and international visitors;

(D) to align Federal agency Web sites and publications;

(E) to support national tourism goals;

(F) to identify agency programs that could be used to support tourism capacity building and help sustain tourism infrastructure in Native American communities;

(G) to develop innovative visitor portals for parks, landmarks, heritage and cultural sites, and assets that showcase and respect the diversity of the indigenous peoples of the United States;

(H) to share local Native American heritage through the development of bilingual interpretive and directional signage that could include or incorporate English and the local Native American language or languages; and

(I) to improve access to transportation programs related to Native American community capacity building for tourism and trade, including transportation planning for programs related to visitor enhancement and safety.

(2) CONSULTATION WITH INDIAN TRIBES AND NATIVE AMERICANS.—In developing the plan under paragraph (1), the head of each agency shall consult with Indian tribes and the Native American community to identify appropriate levels of inclusion of the Indian tribes and Native Americans in Federal tourism activities, public records and publications, including Native American tourism information available on Web sites.

(d) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, shall enter into a memorandum of understanding or cooperative agreement with an entity or organization with a demonstrated record in tribal communities of defining, introducing, developing, and sustaining American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian tourism and related activities in a manner that respects and honors native traditions and values.

(2) COORDINATION.—The memorandum of understanding or cooperative agreement described in paragraph (1) shall formalize a role for the organization or entity to serve as a facilitator between the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce and the Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations—

(A) to identify areas where technical assistance is needed through consultations with Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations to empower the Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations to participate fully in the tourism industry; and

(B) to provide a means for the delivery of technical assistance and coordinate the delivery of the assistance to Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations in collaboration with the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Commerce, and other entities with distinctive experience, as appropriate.

(3) FUNDING.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the head of each Federal agency, including the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the Secretary of Labor shall obligate any funds made available to the head of the agency to cover any administrative expenses incurred by the organization or entity described in paragraph (1) in carrying out programs or activities of the agency.

(4) METRICS.—The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce shall coordinate with the organization or entity described in paragraph (1) to develop metrics to measure the effectiveness of the entity or organization in strengthening tourism opportunities for Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations.

(e) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and occasionally thereafter, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce shall each submit to the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a report that describes—

(1) the manner in which the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Commerce, as applicable, is including Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations in management plans;

(2) the efforts of the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Commerce, as applicable, to develop departmental and agency tourism plans to support tourism programs of Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations;

(3) the manner in which the entity or organization described in subsection (d)(1) is working to promote tourism to empower Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations to participate fully in the tourism industry; and

(4) the effectiveness of the entity or organization described in subsection (d)(1) based on the metrics developed under subsection (d)(4).

SEC. 5. NATIVE AMERICAN TOURISM AND BRANDING ENHANCEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The head of each agency shall—

(1) take actions that help empower Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations to showcase the heritage, foods, traditions, history, and continuing vitality of Native American communities;

(2) support the efforts of Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations—

(A) to identify and enhance or maintain traditions and cultural features that are important to sustain the distinctiveness of the local Native American community; and

(B) to provide visitor experiences that are authentic and respectful;

(3) provide assistance to interpret the connections between the indigenous peoples of the United States and the national identity of the United States;

(4) enhance efforts to promote understanding and respect for diverse cultures and subcultures in the United States and the relevance of those cultures to the national brand of the United States; and

(5) enter into appropriate memoranda of understanding and establish public-private partnerships to ensure that arriving domestic travelers at airports and arriving international visitors at ports of entry are welcomed in a manner that both showcases and respects the diversity of Native American communities.

(b) GRANTS.—To the extent practicable, grant programs relating to travel, recreation, or tourism administered by the Commissioner of the Administration for Native Americans, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, or the head of an agency with assets or resources relating to travel, recreation, or tourism promotion or branding enhancement for which Indian tribes, tribal organizations, or Native Hawaiian organizations are eligible may be used—

(1) to support the efforts of Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations to tell the story of Native Americans as the First Peoples of the United States;

(2) to use the arts and humanities to help revitalize Native communities, promote economic development, increase livability, and present the uniqueness of the United States to visitors in a way that celebrates the diversity of the United States; and

(3) to carry out this section.

(c) SMITHSONIAN.—The Advisory Council and the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution shall work with Indian tribes, tribal organizations, Native Hawaiian organizations, and nonprofit organizations to establish long-term partnerships with non-Smithsonian museums and educational and cultural organizations—

(1) to share collections, exhibitions, interpretive materials, and educational strategies; and

(2) to conduct joint research and collaborative projects that would support tourism efforts for Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations and carry out the intent of this section.

SEC. 6. EFFECT.

Nothing in this Act alters, or demonstrates congressional support for the alteration of, the legal relationship between the United States and any American Indian, Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian individual, group, organization, or entity.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 25, 2016, at 5:30 p.m.

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

NATIVE AMERICAN TOURISM AND IMPROVING VISITOR EXPERIENCE ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 345, S. 1579.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1579) to enhance and integrate Native American tourism, empower Native American communities, increase coordination and collaboration between Federal tourism assets, and expand heritage and cultural tourism opportunities in the United States.

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

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

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

The amendment (No. 3874) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under ''Text of Amendments.'')

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

The bill (S. 1579), as amended, was passed.

NATIONAL MIDDLE LEVEL EDUCATION MONTH

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 404.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 404) designating March 2016 as ''National Middle Level Education Month.''

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 404) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of March 17, 2016, under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN WOMEN'S BOWLING TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2015 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 439, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 439) congratulating the University of Nebraska-Lincoln women's bowling team for winning the 2015 National Collegiate Athletic Association Bowling Championship.

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

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President as a proud alumnae of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), I congratulate the UNL women's bowling team on an outstanding season.

The UNL bowling program has a long history of excellence and success. During the program's history, the team has won 10 national championships. This year, the team had an incredibly strong season and, once again, advanced to the NCAA championship match. Although the team fell short of winning the national championship this year, I know I join all Nebraskans when I say how proud we are of this team's accomplishments. The Huskers finished the season with a match record of 100 to 34.

Each of the young women on this team played an important role in the many victories the team enjoyed throughout the season. In addition to their group success, several players received individual honors. Julia Bond was named first team All-American by the National Tenpin Coaches Association. Gazmine Mason earned third team and Briana Zabierek earned honorable mention All-America honors.

The members of this team and their coaches are a testament to hard work. They are part of a proud, time-honored tradition of UNL athletics. I thank them for representing the university so well, and I wish them good luck next season. Go Big Red.

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 439) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2016

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the

Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, April 26; 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 then resume consideration of H.R. 2028, with the time until 11 a.m. equally divided between the two managers or their designees; finally, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:04 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, April 26, 2016, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

PEGGY E. GUSTAFSON, OF MARYLAND, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, VICE TODD J. ZINSER, RETIRED.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

ANNETTE ADELE EVANS SMITH, OF ALASKA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2020, VICE IRVIN M. MAYFIELD, JR., TERM EXPIRED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF OF STAFF, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, AND APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 601 AND 8033:

To be general

GEN. DAVID L. GOLDFEIN

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

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. KENNETH S. WILSBACH

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

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. CHARLES Q. BROWN, JR.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ALINE TUYISENGE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Aline Tuyisenge for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Aline Tuyisenge is a 10th grader at Aurora Central High and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Aline Tuyisenge is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Aline Tuyisenge for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

MOURNING THE LOSS AND HONORING THE LIFE OF THE ARTIST WHO WILL ALWAYS BE KNOWN AS PRINCE

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a deep sadness and heavy heart that I rise today in tribute to Prince, whose extraordinary talent, creativity, innovation, and imagination touched the hearts and moved the feet of millions of music lovers in America and around the world.

Prince transitioned from this life on Thursday, April 21, 2016, at Paisley Park, his Chanhassen, Minnesota residential and recording complex.

He was just 57 years young.

Mr. Speaker, it seems inadequate to note that Prince was a singer, songwriter, musician, producer, performing artist, and actor.

Whoever said that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts had to be talking about the artist who was formerly known as, but will always be remembered simply as Prince by the legions of fans who loved the way he made them feel about themselves.

So renowned were Prince's innovations, so electrifying was his guitar playing, so soul-affirming were the songs he penned, and so mesmerizing was his stage presence and unmatched vocal range that Rolling Stone Magazine lists Prince as one of the 100 Greatest Artists of All Time.

Prince's musical career began in 1978, when his debut album "For You" was released, launching one of the most influential and culture shaping careers in the history of the music industry.

Prince produced some of the most memorable music of his generation, including the signature anthem, the soul-stirring "Purple Rain," regarded by many as the greatest song of the 1980s.

Prince's unwavering courage and talent lifted him to a realm rarely accessible to musicians.

Although his prolific body of work was the focus his fame, Prince was a citizen of the world and humanitarian whose life could be best summed up by the lyrics in "Diamonds and Pearls," the hit single he penned: "If I could I would give you the world."

Prince anonymously supported and funded many community improvement organizations, such as "Yes We Code," which worked with over 15 major technology companies to provide technology training to marginalized inner city youth.

Due to his faith as a Jehovah's Witness he would not speak publicly about his numerous good works but all that knew him celebrated his tireless efforts to make the world a better place.

Prince sold over 100 million records worldwide, making him one of the best-selling artists of all time, and the recipient of seven Grammy Awards, a Golden Globe Award, and the Academy Award for Best Music Original Score.

Widely regarded as one of the greatest guitarists of all time, Prince was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2004, in his first year of his eligibility.

In addition to possessing one of the world's most distinctive voices and dance moves, Prince was a virtuoso on every instrument he played—guitar, bass guitar, drums, keyboards, and Linn drum.

Mr. Speaker, witnessing in person a performance by Prince was an incredible and unforgettable experience.

Prince was proudly different and he inspired generations of fans to unapologetically embrace, celebrate, and love their authentic selves.

My heart goes out to Prince's family and friends and the infinite number of fans mourning the loss of this music icon, this unique spirit, this incredible force of nature.

Mr. Speaker, this is truly what it sounds like when doves cry.

With the passing of Prince, the world has lost one of the greatest gifts of all; the pure joy we felt whenever Prince performed one of those songs that made us go crazy and party like it's 1999,

Yes, Prince left us too soon; just like that little red corvette.

As Horatio said of Hamlet: "Good night sweet Prince, and flights of angels sing thee to thy rest."

Mr. Speaker, I request that the House observe a moment of silence in memory of the dearly beloved Prince.

We will always remember him and in our hearts will always see him laughing in the Purple Rain.

ANICEE LAMOREAUX

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Anicee Lamoreaux for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Anicee Lamoreaux is a 7th grader at Rocky Top Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Anicee Lamoreaux is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Anicee Lamoreaux for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

AUTISM AFTER 21 DAY

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2016

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, in America today, there is a population that has gone unrecognized. The conversation on autism has long ignored Autistic adults. For this reason, I rise to recognize April 21 to be noted as "Autism after 21 Day"—representing the age when services for children end and services for adulthood begins.

In declaring this day, we draw attention to the fact that there are many adults that need to have a country aware of their gifts and challenges. This is a step in helping to create a brighter future for these adults and the people who care about them.

I am proud to have organizations in my Congressional district that work hard to address these needs. In conjunction with their work and the needs of those that are adults on the Autism Spectrum, we are calling for "Autism after 21 Day" to acknowledge the many people who are navigating adulthood and wanting to reach their full potential. With our help, that journey may not be as lonely and isolated; rather, the individuals can be recognized as an important part of our community. Twenty-six years after the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Autistic adults deserve access to the goals set by the ADA: equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency.

CHAZITI EATON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Chaziti Eaton for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Chaziti Eaton is a 12th grader at Brighton High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Chaziti Eaton is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Chaziti Eaton for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE 2016 SUSTAINABILITY REPORT ''CREATE, GROW, SUSTAIN: PEOPLE AND TECHNOLOGY AT WORK''

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2016

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, last Friday, we celebrated Earth Day. Every year on April 22 we recognize how much we have at stake in preserving the wondrous natural resources of not just the United States, but of the entire planet. As someone who has sponsored important legislation to upgrade pipeline safety standards and keep microbeads out of our waters while helping to broker a landmark deal that opened up markets for energy exports and extended tax credits for renewables, I understand the many momentous ways in which we have improved the environment within our great country since the first Earth Day in 1970. And no organization has captured the many ways in which our private businesses have made, and continue to make, huge strides toward sustainability than the Business Roundtable.

But to me and so many of our colleagues, on both sides of the aisle, the unsung heroes in the effort to make our nation cleaner and more abundant are the private companies that develop technologies that are responsible for a cleaner environment.

They are the ones who have developed technologies that have helped to clean our Nation's vital waterways, including the Great Lakes.

They have cleaned the air in Los Angeles, where the ''brown layer'' over the entire basin of 30–40 years ago is a distant memory. This is thanks to breakthroughs from auto manufacturers and oil refiners alike.

Chemical companies are enhancing energy efficiency in our homes and businesses, and increasing the productivity of our farmland.

The ability to tap into natural gas that seemed out of reach, if we even knew it existed, has enabled us to radically reduce greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere.

The Business Roundtable has done us all a great service by canvassing its members and compiling a document, entitled ''Create, Grow, Sustain: People and Technology at Work'' that acquaints us with the technologies that these very companies have used so effectively, and the cutting-edge approaches they have developed that will facilitate sustainability long into the future.

This report represents a catalog of technologies promise to bring about advances under the heading of sustainability at an even more rapid pace than we seen over the past decades. The future is bright indeed.

Mr. Speaker, I hope our colleagues will take the time to review the Business Roundtable 2016 sustainability report so they can see for themselves the exciting technologies being put into commerce by our leading companies.

COLE ARNOLD

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Cole Arnold for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Cole Arnold is a 12th grader at North Valley School for Young Adults and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Cole Arnold is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Cole Arnold for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN COMMEMORATION OF DR. LAMUEL STANISLAUS' 95TH BIRTHDAY

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2016

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in commemoration of Dr. Lamuel Stanislaus' 95th birthday. Dr. Lamuel Stanislaus celebrated his 95th birthday on April 22, 2016 in Brooklyn, NY, with close friends and relatives.

Born in Petite Martinique, Grenada, Lamuel A. Stanislaus, has been the recipient of numerous professional, civic and political awards which include the Insignia of Commander of the British Empire from her Majesty the Queen of England, (CBE), The Lifetime Achievement Award from the District Attorney of Brooklyn, and a Honorary Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from St. George's University, to name the few.

On February 7th, 2016, Dr. Stanislaus was recognized under Grenada's National Hero's legislation and was named Knight Commander which provides for him to be referred to as Sir Lamuel—KCNG.

His exemplary work done as the UN ambassador of Grenada furthermore cements his legacy, contributing to the well-being of not only his country, but the host of eleven other small commonwealth countries; in particular the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) in which I deeply express my gratitude.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I ask we recognize Dr. Lamuel A. Stanislaus not only for his achievements he's done for the global community but most importantly being a family man, a father to his children, a loving husband and a true hero in our society.

DYLAN COAD

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dylan Coad for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Dylan Coad is an 8th grader at Scott Carpenter Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Dylan Coad is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dylan Coad for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

ANGELIQUE VARGAS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Angelique Vargas for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Angelique Vargas is a 9th grader at Connections Academy and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Angelique Vargas is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Angelique Vargas for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

CAROL ANN GRANT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Carol Ann Grant for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Carol Ann Grant is an 8th grader at Bennett Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Carol Ann Grant is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Carol Ann Grant for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. CHARLES ELACHI, DIRECTOR OF THE JET PROPULSION LABORATORY

HON. JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2016

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend Dr. Charles Elachi, the Director of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), who plans to retire this June after 45 years of service to the people of the United States of America.

Dr. Elachi's journey to become the Director of JPL is a source of inspiration and encouragement to every young person in America who dreams of making great discoveries or changing the world around them. Charles Elachi's life is a true Horatio Alger story. As Dr. Elachi wrote recently in an essay for the Smithsonian, ''How did a boy from an ordinary, middle-class family in a little Lebanese village come so far? The answer is deeply connected with what I believed as a child and I still believe today: The United States is a land of freedom and opportunity, where anything is possible, and where dreams can and do come true.''

Growing up in the small Lebanese town of Rayak, Charles remembers meeting ''quite a few American visitors. Over and over again,'' he said, ''I was struck by their open, positive attitude toward life, their attitude that anything is possible, no holds barred, regardless of family background, religion or color.'' As a boy, he loved watching the stars at night, and he says watching those stars helped inspire him to study hard at school. He was so successful at his studies that he distinguished himself as Lebanon's top science student, an honor which enabled him to attend any university he chose.

He first earned a degree in physics at the University of Grenoble, France, and then earned a degree in engineering at the Polytechnic Institute. When it was time to decide on graduate school, those early positive memories of optimistic fearless Americans inspired him to go to California, where he earned admission to the California Institute of Technology. He fell in love with southern California, and earned a master's degree and a doctorate in electrical sciences from Caltech, a master's degree in geology from UCLA, and a master's degree in business administration from the University of Southern California.

His lifelong dreams about exploring the stars and his exceptional work in college brought him to the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in 1970. He first worked on Earth observing missions, and then moved on to planetary exploration and astrophysics. His scientific and engineering gifts and his natural talent as a leader led NASA to select Charles as the Science Team Leader on the Space Shuttle's Imaging Radar. JPL recognized his unique skills and assigned him to be a key part of the Magellan Imaging Radar which was so essential to visualize the surface of Venus through its permanent and total cloud cover for the first time.

NASA and JPL were so impressed with his work that he was then chosen to lead the radar science team for the extraordinarily successful Cassini-Huygens mission to Saturn. Once again, his skill with orbital imaging radar systems proved essential in visualizing the surface of an alien world otherwise forever hidden beneath a permanent worldwide cloak of clouds—Titan. Charles' work as the leader of this radar team was a vital part of selecting the site for humanity's first successful landing on an alien world beyond the moon and Mars when the Huygens spacecraft landed on Titan in January, 2005. The Cassini orbiter continues to thrive far beyond its predicted lifespan and return groundbreaking scientific discoveries about Saturn, its ring system and its immense family of moons.

Charles Elachi was appointed as director of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in 2001, and under his visionary leadership, JPL scientists and engineers have discovered: conclusive evidence of water ice and long lasting rivers and lakes on Mars; created history's most detailed gravity field and ice maps of Earth; returned history's first samples and close up images of a comet; landed three complex and highly successful spacecraft on Mars; blasted the first artificial crater in a comet to learn what comets are truly made of; landed the first spacecraft on Titan and sampled its surface and atmosphere; discovered lakes and seas of liquid methane on Titan using Charles' imaging radar; created the first deep space telescopes to see the universe in ultraviolet and infrared; returned our first true close up images of dwarf planets and asteroids; created the most detailed map ever made of the Moon; discovered millions of black holes; discovered the first Earth like exoplanet in the habitable zone of another star; discovered conclusive evidence for immeasurable millions of exoplanets in our galaxy; set a still growing record for driving a spacecraft across the surface of another world with the unstoppable Opportunity lander on Mars; discovered the most luminous galaxy in the universe; discovered conclusive evidence for liquid water today on the surface of Mars; discovered immense geysers of frozen water erupting from a worldwide ocean beneath the frozen surface of Saturn's moon Enceladus; and laid the groundwork for what most planetary scientists predict could be the first discovery of life beyond Earth in the vast oceans of Europa.

These discoveries will be remembered throughout human history. ''Only the United States could do this!,'' as Charles vividly remembers a foreign visitor saying on the night a rocket sky crane gently landed the Mars Science Lab on the surface of Mars in August of 2012. Charles was reminded that night of another day he felt the same sort of immense pride in his nation when he took the oath to become a United States citizen in August of 1979. ''In this nation of immigrants,'' Charles wrote for the Smithsonian, ''especially in science and engineering, where people try new things and solve problems, they don't ask where you're from. Instead, they ask who is the best person to help overcome a challenge.''

''In other countries, you just don't find this merging of cultures, this melting pot. I think diversity truly enriches our society and makes the United States more intellectually and economically powerful. People from different backgrounds bring different ideas and thought processes. The best ideas rise to the top. I see that happen at NASA and JPL all the time. How else do you land a rover on a planet no human has ever visited, or design a robot to capture an asteroid?''

Charles tells us that ''I believe this uniquely American spirit of optimism, the sense that anything is possible for anyone, is a key reason our nation is the world leader in space exploration. . . . That wonderful, very American spirit of opening doors, of pushing the frontier, of pursuing the seemingly impossible—that's what exploration is all about. When the United States landed on the moon and Neil Armstrong took that one ''small step'' on the surface, when we landed a rover on Mars, when we deliberately collided with a comet to study its interior, all those milestones made people here feel deep pride as Americans. But I also believe and hope that they made people around the globe feel deep pride as humans, pride in all the positive and amazing things we can accomplish when we work together.''

Charles Elachi embodies everything that has made America the most prosperous and powerful and freest nation in the history of the world. His life and the scientific discoveries he has left us all as his legacy will inspire us and our children and grandchildren and their descendants for all time. Charles Elachi and his extraordinary team of scientists and engineers have made our lives as Americans and as members of the human race far, far richer because he and his team have dared and succeeded in achieving mighty things.

All Americans owe this wonderful good man an immeasurable debt of gratitude. We will reap the harvest of his visionary leadership for many, many generations to come. It is my great privilege to be his friend and to stand here today, on behalf of the people of Texas I represent who love NASA and its mission, and on behalf of the United States Congress, to thank Charles Elachi for his devoted service to America, to NASA, to JPL, to science and for helping lead humanity in our greatest era of discovery. May God always bless you and you and your family, Charles.

CLAUDIA VARGAS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Claudia Vargas for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Claudia Vargas is a 12th grader at Mapleton Early College High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Claudia Vargas is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Claudia Vargas for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

CORA HOLSAPFEL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Cora Holsapfel for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Cora Holsapfel is a 12th grader at Northglenn High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Cora Holsapfel is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Cora Holsapfel for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

GABRIEL GALLEGOS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Gabriel Gallegos for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Gabriel Gallegos is an 11th grader at Westminster High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Gabriel Gallegos is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Gabriel Gallegos for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 25, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on April 21, 2016, I was unable to vote on H.R. 4890, To impose a ban on the payment of bonuses to employees of the Internal Revenue Service until the Secretary of the Treasury develops and implements a comprehensive customer service strategy. I would have voted in support of final passage of H.R. 4890, roll call No. 162, had I been present.

Additionally, I would have voted in support of final passage of H.R. 3724, the Ensuring Integrity in the IRS Workforce Act, roll call No. 163.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, April 26, 2016 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 27

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 2644, to reauthorize the Federal Communications Commission for fiscal years 2017 and 2018, S. 421, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for greater transparency and efficiency in the procedures followed by the Federal Communications Commission, S. 2607, to ensure appropriate spectrum planning and interagency coordination to support the Internet of Things, S. 2508, to reduce sports-related concussions in youth, S. 2829, to amend and enhance certain maritime programs of the Department of Transportation, S. 2325, to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to establish a constituent-driven program to provide a digital information platform capable of efficiently integrating coastal data with decision-support tools, training, and best practices and to support collection of priority coastal geospatial data to inform and improve local, State, regional, and Federal capacities to manage the coastal region, S. 2817, to improve understanding and forecasting of space weather events, the nomination of Andrew J. Read, of North Carolina, to be a Member of the Marine Mammal Commission, and routine lists in the Coast Guard.

SR–253

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine government reform, focusing on ending duplication and holding Washington accountable.

SD–342

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine counterfeits and their impact on consumer health and safety.

SD–226

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine S. 2812, to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize and improve the Small Business Innovation Research Program and the Small Business Technology Transfer Program, S. 2831, to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to provide priority for applicants for a license to operate as a small business investment company that are located in a disaster area, S. 2838, to improve the HUBZone program, an original bill entitled, ''Small Business Innovation Protection Act of 2016'', an original bill entitled ''Microloan Program Modernization Act of 2016'', and an original bill entitled, ''Prove It Act of 2016''; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the waters of the United States rule and the case for reforming the Renewable Fuels Association.

SR–428A

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Department of Defense

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2017 for the Department of Defense.

SD–192

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine fixing the budget process, focusing on better budgets and better results.

SD–608

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine United States-China relations, focusing on strategic challenges and opportunities.

SD–419

2 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH–219

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 1928, to support the education of Indian children, S. 2205, to establish a grant program to assist tribal governments in establishing tribal healing to wellness

courts, S. 2304, to provide for tribal demonstration projects for the integration of early childhood development, education, including Native language and culture, and related services, for evaluation of those demonstration projects, S. 2421, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Tanana Tribal Council located in Tanana, Alaska, and to the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation located in Dillingham, Alaska, S. 2468, to require the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a 5-year demonstration program to provide grants to eligible Indian tribes for the construction of tribal schools, S. 2564, to modernize prior legislation relating to Dine College, S. 2643, to improve the implementation of the settlement agreement reached between the Pueblo de Cochiti of New Mexico and the Corps of Engineers, and S. 2717, to improve the safety and address the deferred maintenance needs of Indian dams to prevent flooding on Indian reservations; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine the Government Accountability Office report on ''Telecommunications: Additional Coordination and Performance Measurement Needed for High-Speed Internet Access Programs on Tribal Lands.''

SD–628

3:30 p.m.
Special Committee on Aging
To hold hearings to examine Valeant Pharmaceuticals' business model, focusing on the repercussions for patients and the health care system.

SH–216

APRIL 28

9 a.m.
Committee on Environment and Public Works
Business meeting to consider S. 2848, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, S. 2808, to amend the John F. Kennedy Center Act to authorize appropriations for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, S. 2824, to designate the Federal building housing the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Headquarters located at 99 New York Avenue N.E., Washington, D.C., as the ''Ariel Rios Federal Building'', Army Corps of Engineers Study Resolutions, and General Services Administration resolutions.

SD–406

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine counter-ISIL (Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant) operations and Middle East strategy.

SH–216

10 a.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
Business meeting to consider proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2017 for the Department of State, and H.R. 2494, to support global anti-poaching efforts, strengthen the capacity of partner countries to counter wildlife trafficking, designate major wildlife trafficking countries.

S–116

Committee on the Judiciary
Business meeting to consider S. 247, to amend section 349 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to deem specified activities in support of terrorism as renunciation of United States nationality, S. 2348, 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, S. 2577, 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 S. 2840, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize COPS grantees to use grant funds for active shooter training.

SD–226

2 p.m.
Committee on Finance
To hold hearings to examine mental health in America.

SD–215

Select Committee on Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH–219

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining
To hold hearings to examine the impacts of invasive species on the productivity, value, and management of land and water resources; to conduct oversight on the National Invasive Species Council's new framework for early detection and rapid response; to examine improved cooperative tools for control and management, including S. 2240, to improve the control and management of invasive species that threaten and harm Federal land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior.

SD–366

MAY 9

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Airland
Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2017.

SR–232A

MAY 10

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on SeaPower
Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2017.

SR–232A

11 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Personnel
Business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2017.

SD–G50

2 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support
Business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2017.

SD–G50

3:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities
Business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2017.

SD–G50

5:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Strategic Forces
Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2017.

SR–232A

MAY 11

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Closed business meeting to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2017.

SR–222

MAY 12

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Closed business meeting to continue to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2017.

SR–222

MAY 13

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Closed business meeting to continue to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2017.

SR–222

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2401–S2424

Measures Introduced: Five bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2845–2849, and S. Res. 439. **Page S2419**

Measures Reported:

H.R. 710, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to prepare a comprehensive security assessment of the transportation security card program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 114–244) **Page S2419**

Measures Passed:

Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act: Senate passed S. 1579, to enhance and integrate Native American tourism, empower Native American communities, increase coordination and collaboration between Federal tourism assets, and expand heritage and cultural tourism opportunities in the United States, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S2423**

McConnell (for Schatz) Amendment No. 3874, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S2423**

National Middle Level Education Month: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 404, designating March 2016 as "National Middle Level Education Month", and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S2423**

Congratulating the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Women's Bowling Team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 439, congratulating the University of Nebraska-Lincoln women's bowling team for winning the 2015 National Collegiate Athletic Association Bowling Championship. **Page S2423**

Measures Considered:

Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of H.R. 2028, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S2405–12**

Adopted:

By 55 yeas to 38 nays (Vote No. 60), Feinstein (for Murray) Amendment No. 3813 (to Amendment No. 3801), to add a provision relating to certain requirements in the acquisition of welded shipboard anchor and mooring chain. **Pages S2408–09**

Alexander (for Reed/Collins) Amendment No. 3841 (to Amendment No. 3801), to transfer funding to the Weatherization Assistance Program account from the Building Technologies account. **Page S2409**

Alexander (for Feinstein) Amendment No. 3842 (to Amendment No. 3801), to modify the deadline for the completion of a feasibility study relating to the Sites Reservoir in Colusa County, California. **Page S2409**

Alexander (for Warner) Amendment No. 3851 (to Amendment No. 3801), to ensure that certain amounts are used to implement the requirements of the DATA Act. **Page S2409**

Alexander (for McCain/Flake) Amendment No. 3843 (to Amendment No. 3801), to require the Western Area Power Administration to prepare a report on the use of certain provisions in power contracts. **Page S2409**

Alexander (for Rounds/Thune) Amendment No. 3844 (to Amendment No. 3801), to make certain funds available for Upper Missouri River Basin flood and drought monitoring. **Page S2409**

Alexander (for Murkowski) Amendment No. 3808 (to Amendment No. 3801), to improve a program relating to remote and subsistence harbors. **Page S2409**

Alexander (for McCain/Flake) Modified Amendment No. 3869 (to Amendment No. 3801), to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study and develop a plan for the removal of invasive salt cedar. **Page S2409**

Alexander (for Carper/Coons) Amendment No. 3870 (to Amendment No. 3801), to allow certain funds for shore protection to be prioritized for certain projects. **Page S2409**

Pending:

Alexander/Feinstein Amendment No. 3801, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S2405**

Alexander Amendment No. 3804 (to Amendment No. 3801), to modify provisions relating to Nuclear Regulatory Commission fees. **Page S2405**

A motion was entered to close further debate on Alexander/Feinstein Amendment No. 3801 (listed above), and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Wednesday, April 27, 2016. **Page S2412**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of Alexander/Feinstein Amendment No. 3801. **Page S2412**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the filing deadline for all first-degree amendments to both Alexander/Feinstein Amendment No. 3801, and to the bill, be at 2:30 p.m., on Tuesday, April 26, 2016. **Page S2412**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, April 26, 2016, with the time until 11 a.m. equally divided between the two managers, or their designees. **Pages S2423–24**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Peggy E. Gustafson, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Department of Commerce.

Annette Adele Evans Smith, of Alaska, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2020.

3 Air Force nominations in the rank of general. **Page S2424**

Messages from the House: **Page S2416**

Measures Referred: **Page S2416**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Pages S2401, S2416**

Executive Communications: **Pages S2416–18**

Petitions and Memorials: **Pages S2418–19**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S2419**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2419–20**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Page S2421**

Additional Statements: **Pages S2415–16**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S2421–23**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S2423**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—60) **Page S2409**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 7:04 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 26, 2016. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S2423–24.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Carolyn N. Lerner, of Maryland, to be Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel, Jeffrey A. Rosen, of Virginia, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service, Carol Waller Pope, of the District of Columbia, and Patrick Pizzella, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, and Julie Helene Becker, Steven Nathan Berk, and Elizabeth Carroll Wingo, each to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 4 public bills, H.R. 5044–5047 were introduced. **Page H1944**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1944–45**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 87, to modify the boundary of the Shiloh National Military Park located in Tennessee and Mississippi, to establish Parker's Crossroads Battlefield as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–516);

H.R. 3070, to clarify that for purposes of all Federal laws governing marine fisheries management, the landward boundary of the exclusive economic zone between areas south of Montauk, New York, and Point Judith, Rhode Island, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–517);

H.R. 1684, to amend the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to impose penalties and provide for the recovery of

removal costs and damages in connection with certain discharges of oil from foreign offshore units, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–518);

H.R. 4923, to establish a process for the submission and consideration of petitions for temporary duty suspensions and reductions, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–519, Part 1);

H.R. 4359, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that Federal employees may not be placed on administrative leave for more than 14 days during any year for misconduct or poor performance, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–520);

H.R. 4639, to reauthorize the Office of Special Counsel, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide modifications to authorities relating to the Office of Special Counsel, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–521); and

H.R. 4901, to reauthorize the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–522). **Page H1944**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Whitfield to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1927**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend William Gurnee, St. Pius X Catholic Church, Bowie, Maryland. **Page H1927**

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure—Communication: Read a letter from Chairman Shuster wherein he transmitted copies of two resolutions to authorize alteration projects included in the General Services Administration's Capital Investment and Leasing Programs. The resolutions were adopted by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on April 20, 2016. **Pages H1927–43**

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no Yea and Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 11:30 a.m. and adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2016

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the F–35 Joint Strike Fighter program in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2017 and the Future Years Defense Program, 10 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold an oversight hearing to examine challenges and opportunities for oil and gas development in different price environments, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine navigating business tax reform, 9:30 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women's Issues, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2017 for the Department of State, focusing on a review of resources, priorities, and programs, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program, focusing on the need for more timeliness and transparency, 9:30 a.m., SD–226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4978, the "Nurturing and Supporting Healthy Babies Act"; H.R. 4641, to provide for the establishment of an inter-agency task force to review, modify, and update best practices for pain management and prescribing pain medication, and for other purposes; H.R. 3680, the "Co-Prescribing to Reduce Overdoses Act of 2015"; H.R. 3691, the "Improving Treatment for Pregnant and Postpartum Women Act"; H.R. 1818, the "Veteran Emergency Medical Technician Support Act of 2015"; H.R. 4981, the "Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Expansion and Modernization Act"; H.R. 3250, the "DXM Abuse Prevention Act of 2015"; H.R. 4969, the "John Thomas Decker Act of 2016"; H.R. 4586, the "Lali's Law"; H.R. 4599, the "Reducing Unused Medications Act of 2016"; H.R. 4976, the "Opioid Review Modernization Act of 2016"; H.R. 4982, the "Examining Opioid Treatment Infrastructure Act of 2016"; H.R. 4889, the "Kelsey Smith Act of 2016"; H.R. 4167, the "Kari's Law Act of 2015"; H.R. 4111, the "Rural Health Care Connectivity Act of 2015"; H.R. 4190, the "Spectrum Challenge Prize Act of 2015"; H.R. 3998, the "Securing Access to Networks in Disasters Act"; H.R. 2031, the "Anti-Swatting Act of 2015"; H.R. 2589, to amend the Communications Act of 1943 to require the Federal Communications Commission to publish on its Internet website changes to the rules of the Commission not later than 24 hours after adoption; H.R. 2592, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require the Federal Communications Commission to publish on the website

of the Commission documents to be voted on by the Commission; H.R. 2593, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require identification and description on the website of the Federal Communications Commission of items to be decided on authority delegated by the Commission; and the ''Pipeline Safety Act of 2016'', 5 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 4498, the ''HALOS Act'', 5 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of April 26 through April 29, 2016

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, at approximately 10 a.m., Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 2028, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. At 11 a.m., Senate will vote on or in relation to Merkley Amendment No. 3812; Reid Amendment No. 3805; and Flake Amendment No. 3820.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Appropriations: April 27, Subcommittee on Department of Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2017 for the Department of Defense, 10:30 a.m., SD–192.

Committee on Armed Services: April 26, to hold hearings to examine the F–35 Joint Strike Fighter program in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2017 and the Future Years Defense Program, 10 a.m., SD–G50.

April 28, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine counter-ISIL (Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant) operations and Middle East strategy, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on the Budget: April 27, to hold hearings to examine fixing the budget process, focusing on better budgets and better results, 10:30 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: April 27, business meeting to consider S. 2644, to reauthorize the Federal Communications Commission for fiscal years 2017 and 2018, S. 421, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for greater transparency and efficiency in the procedures followed by the Federal Communications Commission, S. 2607, to ensure appropriate spectrum planning and interagency coordination to support the Internet of Things, S. 2508, to reduce sports-related concussions in youth, S. 2829, to amend and enhance certain maritime programs of the Department of Transportation, S. 2325, to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to establish a constituent-driven program to provide a digital information platform capable of efficiently integrating coastal data with decision-support tools, training, and best practices and to support collection of priority coastal geospatial data to inform and improve local, State, regional, and Federal capacities to manage the coastal region, S. 2817, to improve understanding and forecasting of space weather events, the nomination of Andrew J. Read, of North Carolina, to be a Member of the Marine Mammal Commission, and routine lists in the Coast Guard, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: April 26, to hold an oversight hearing to examine challenges and opportunities for oil and gas development in different price environments, 10 a.m., SD–366.

April 28, Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining, to hold hearings to examine the impacts of invasive species on the productivity, value, and management of land and water resources; to conduct oversight on the National Invasive Species Council's new framework for early detection and rapid response; to examine improved cooperative tools for control and management, including S. 2240, to improve the control and management of invasive species that threaten and harm Federal land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior, 2:30 p.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: April 28, business meeting to consider S. 2848, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, S. 2808, to amend the John F. Kennedy Center Act to authorize appropriations for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, S. 2824, to designate the Federal building housing the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Headquarters located at 99 New York Avenue N.E., Washington, D.C., as the ''Ariel Rios Federal Building'', Army Corps of Engineers Study Resolutions, and General Services Administration resolutions, 9 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: April 26, to hold hearings to examine navigating business tax reform, 9:30 a.m., SD–215.

April 28, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine mental health in America, 2 p.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: April 26, Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women's Issues, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2017 for the Department of State, focusing on a review of resources, priorities, and programs, 10 a.m., SD–419.

April 27, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine United States-China relations, focusing on strategic challenges and opportunities, 10:30 a.m., SD–419.

April 28, Full Committee, business meeting to consider proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2017 for the Department of State, and H.R. 2494, to support global anti-poaching efforts, strengthen the capacity of partner countries to counter wildlife trafficking, designate major wildlife trafficking countries, 10 a.m., S–116, Capitol.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: April 27, to hold hearings to examine government reform, focusing on ending duplication and holding Washington accountable, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: April 27, business meeting to consider S. 1928, to support the education of Indian children, S. 2205, to establish a grant program to assist tribal governments in establishing tribal healing to wellness courts, S. 2304, to provide for tribal demonstration projects for the integration of early childhood development, education, including Native language and culture, and related services, for evaluation of those demonstration projects, S. 2421, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Tanana Tribal Council located in Tanana, Alaska, and to the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation located in Dillingham, Alaska, S. 2468, to require the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a 5-year demonstration program to provide grants to eligible Indian tribes for the construction of tribal schools, S. 2564, to modernize prior legislation relating to Dine College, S. 2643, to improve the implementation of the settlement agreement reached between the Pueblo de Cochiti of New Mexico and the Corps of Engineers, and S. 2717, to improve the safety and address the deferred maintenance needs of Indian dams to prevent flooding on Indian reservations; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine the Government Accountability Office report on ''Telecommunications: Additional Coordination and Performance Measurement Needed for High-Speed Internet Access Programs on Tribal Lands.'', 2:15 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: April 26, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program, focusing on the need for more timeliness and transparency, 9:30 a.m., SD–226.

April 27, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine counterfeits and their impact on consumer health and safety, 10 a.m., SD–226.

April 28, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 247, to amend section 349 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to deem specified activities in support of terrorism as renunciation of United States nationality, S. 2348, 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, S. 2577, 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 S. 2840, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize COPS grantees to use grant funds for active shooter training, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: April 27, to hold hearings to examine S. 2812, to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize and improve the Small Business Innovation Research Program and the Small Business Technology Transfer Program, S. 2831, to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to provide priority for applicants for a license to operate as a small business investment company that are located in a disaster area, S. 2838, to improve the HUBZone program, an original bill entitled, ''Small Business Innovation Protection Act of 2016'', an original bill entitled ''Microloan Program Modernization Act of 2016'', and an original bill entitled, ''Prove It Act of 2016''; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the waters of the United States rule and the case for reforming the Renewable Fuels Association, 10 a.m., SR–428A.

Select Committee on Intelligence: April 26, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

April 27, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH–219.

April 28, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH–219.

Special Committee on Aging: April 27, to hold hearings to examine Valeant Pharmaceuticals' business model, focusing on the repercussions for patients and the health care system, 3:30 p.m., SH–216.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, April 27, Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research, hearing entitled ''Focus on the Farm Economy: Factors Impacting Cost of Production'', 10:30 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

April 28, Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit, hearing to review the impact of capital margin requirements on end-users, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

April 28, Subcommittee on Nutrition, hearing entitled ''Focus on the Farm Economy: Food Prices and the Consumer'', 2 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Armed Services, April 27, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4909, the ''National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017'', 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, April 27, Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions, hearing entitled ''The Persuader Rule: The Administration's Latest Attack on Employer Free Speech and Worker Free Choice'', 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

April 28, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4843, the ''Improving Safe Care for the Prevention of Infant Abuse and Neglect Act'', 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, April 27, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4978, the ''Nurturing and Supporting Healthy Babies Act''; H.R. 4641, to provide for the establishment of an inter-agency task force to review, modify, and update best practices for pain management and prescribing pain medication, and for other purposes, as amended by the Subcommittee on Health; H.R. 3680, the ''Co-Prescribing to Reduce Overdoses Act of 2015'';

H.R. 3691, the ''Improving Treatment for Pregnant and Postpartum Women Act''; H.R. 1818, the ''Veteran Emergency Medical Technician Support Act of 2015''; H.R. 4981, the ''Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Expansion and Modernization Act''; H.R. 3250, the ''DXM Abuse Prevention Act of 2015''; H.R. 4969, the ''John Thomas Decker Act of 2016''; H.R. 4586, the ''Lali's Law''; H.R. 4599, the ''Reducing Unused Medications Act of 2016''; H.R. 4976, the ''Opioid Review Modernization Act of 2016''; H.R. 4982, the ''Examining Opioid Treatment Infrastructure Act of 2016''; H.R. 4889, the ''Kelsey Smith Act of 2016''; H.R. 4167, the ''Kari's Law Act of 2015''; H.R. 4111, the ''Rural Health Care Connectivity Act of 2015''; H.R. 4190, the ''Spectrum Challenge Prize Act of 2015''; H.R. 3998, the ''Securing Access to Networks in Disasters Act''; H.R. 2031, the ''Anti-Swatting Act of 2015''; H.R. 2589, to amend the Communications Act of 1943 to require the Federal Communications Commission to publish on its Internet website changes to the rules of the Commission not later than 24 hours after adoption; H.R. 2592, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require the Federal Communications Commission to publish on the website of the Commission documents to be voted on by the Commission; H.R. 2593, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require identification and description on the website of the Federal Communications Commission of items to be decided on authority delegated by the Commission; and the ''Pipeline Safety Act of 2016'' (continued), 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

April 28, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4978, the ''Nurturing and Supporting Healthy Babies Act''; H.R. 4641, to provide for the establishment of an inter-agency task force to review, modify, and update best practices for pain management and prescribing pain medication, and for other purposes, as amended by the Subcommittee on Health; H.R. 3680, the ''Co-Prescribing to Reduce Overdoses Act of 2015''; H.R. 3691, the ''Improving Treatment for Pregnant and Postpartum Women Act''; H.R. 1818, the ''Veteran Emergency Medical Technician Support Act of 2015''; H.R. 4981, the ''Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Expansion and Modernization Act''; H.R. 3250, the ''DXM Abuse Prevention Act of 2015''; H.R. 4969, the ''John Thomas Decker Act of 2016''; H.R. 4586, the ''Lali's Law''; H.R. 4599, the ''Reducing Unused Medications Act of 2016''; H.R. 4976, the ''Opioid Review Modernization Act of 2016''; H.R. 4982, the ''Examining Opioid Treatment Infrastructure Act of 2016''; H.R. 4889, the ''Kelsey Smith Act of 2016''; H.R. 4167, the ''Kari's Law Act of 2015''; H.R. 4111, the ''Rural Health Care Connectivity Act of 2015''; H.R. 4190, the ''Spectrum Challenge Prize Act of 2015''; H.R. 3998, the ''Securing Access to Networks in Disasters Act''; H.R. 2031, the ''Anti-Swatting Act of 2015''; H.R. 2589, to amend the Communications Act of 1943 to require the Federal Communications Commission to publish on its Internet website changes to the rules of the Commission not later than 24 hours after adoption; H.R. 2592, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require the Federal Communications Commission to publish on the website of the Commission documents to be voted on by the Commission; H.R. 2593, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require identification and description on the website of the Federal Communications Commission of items to be decided on authority delegated by the Commission; and the ''Pipeline Safety Act of 2016'' (continued), 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

April 29, Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing on H.R. 4979, the ''Advanced Nuclear Technology Development Act of 2016'' and the ''Nuclear Utilization of Keynote Energy Policies Act'', 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

April 29, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade, hearing entitled ''The Pet Medication Industry: Issues and Perspectives'', 9:45 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, April 27, Subcommittee on Monetary Policy and Trade, hearing entitled ''How Can the U.S. Make Development Banks More Accountable?'', 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, April 27, Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa; and Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, joint hearing entitled ''Advancing U.S. Interests: Examining the President's FY 2017 Budget Proposal for Afghanistan and Pakistan'', 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, hearing entitled ''Examining FY 2017 Funding Priorities in the Western Hemisphere'', 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled ''South Sudan's Prospects for Peace and Security'', 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

April 28, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''America as a Pacific Power: Challenges and Opportunities in Asia'', 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

April 28, Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, hearing entitled ''U.S. Policy Toward Lebanon'', 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, April 27, Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence, hearing entitled ''ISIS in the Pacific: Assessing Terrorism in Southeast Asia and the Threat to the Homeland'', 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

April 28, Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency, hearing entitled ''Transferring Guantanamo Bay Detainees to the Homeland: Implications for States and Local Communities'', 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

April 28, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1887, to amend certain appropriation Acts to repeal the requirement directing the Administrator of General Services to sell Federal property and assets that support the operations of the Plum Island Animal Disease Center in Plum Island, New York, and for other purposes; H.R. 4743, the ''National Cybersecurity Preparedness Consortium Act of 2016''; and the ''Airport Perimeter and Access Control Security Act of 2016'', 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, April 27, Full Committee, markup on the ''Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Reduction Act of 2016''; the ''Opioid Program Evaluation Act''; H.R. 2137, the ''Federal Law Enforcement Self-Defense and Protection Act of 2015''; a bill to require a study by the Comptroller General of the United States on Good Samaritan laws that pertain to treatment of opioid

overdoses, and for other purposes; and H.R. 3394, the ''Clarifying Amendment to Provide Terrorism Victims Equity (CAPTIVE) Act'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

April 28, Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law, hearing on the ''Stop Settlement Slush Funds Act of 2016'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

April 28, Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice, hearing entitled ''Oversight of the False Claims Act'', 4 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, April 27, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled ''Bureau of Land Management's Regulatory Overreach into Methane Emissions Regulation'', 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

April 27, Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans, hearing entitled ''Realizing the Potential of Hydropower as a Clean, Renewable and Domestic Energy Resource'', 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

April 28, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing on a discussion draft of the ''Locally-elected Officials Cooperating with Agencies in Land Management Act'', 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

April 28, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled ''The Consequences of Federal Land Management along the U.S. Border to Rural Communities and National Security'', 2:30 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, April 27, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Examining Management Practices and Misconduct at TSA: Part I'', 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled ''The Best and Worst Places to Work in the Federal Government'', 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

April 28, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Criminal Aliens Released by the Department of Homeland Security'', 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, April 27, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 4901, the ''SOAR Reauthorization Act''; and H.J. Res. 88, disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to the definition of the term ''Fiduciary'', 3 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, April 27, Full Committee, markup on the ''NSF Major Research Facility Reform Act of 2016'', 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

April 28, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Examining EPA's Predetermined Efforts to Block the Pebble Mine, Part II'', 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, April 27, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''S is for Savings: Pro-Growth Benefits of Employee-Owned S Corporations'', 11 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, April 28, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing on draft legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the appeals process of the Department of Veterans Affairs, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

April 29, Subcommittee on Health, markup on pending legislation, 9 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, April 29, Full Committee, markup on FY 2017 Intelligence Authorization Act, 9 a.m., HVC–304. This markup will be closed.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, April 26

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 2028, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. At 11 a.m., Senate will vote on or in relation to Merkley Amendment No. 3812; Reid Amendment No. 3805; and Flake Amendment No. 3820. The filing deadline for first-degree amendments to Alexander/Feinstein Amendment No. 3801, and to the bill, is at 2:30 p.m.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 p.m., Tuesday, April 26

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of the following measures under suspension of the rules: (1) H.R. 4096—Investor Clarity and Bank Parity Act, (2) H.R. 5019—Fair Access to Investor Research Act of 2016, (3) H.R. 2901—Flood Insurance Market Parity and Modernization Act, (4) H.R. 223—Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2016, (5) House amendment to S. 1523—To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the National Estuary Program, (6) H.R. 1684—Foreign Spill Protection Act of 2016, (7) H.R. 4820—Combating Terrorist Recruitment Act of 2016, (8) H.R. 4698—Securing Aviation from Foreign Entry Points and Guarding Airports Through Enhanced Security Act of 2016, (9) H.R. 3583—PREPARE Act, (10) H.R. 2908—National Bison Legacy Act, (11) H.R. 2615—Virgin Islands of the United States Centennial Commission Act, (12) H.R. 4359—Administrative Leave Reform Act, (13) H.R. 4360—Official Personnel File Enhancement Act, and (14) Concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 1493—Protect and Preserve Cultural Property Act.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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