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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KING of New York).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
January 20, 2017.

I hereby appoint the Honorable PETER T. KING to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

God of the universe, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

You are the father of us all, and Your divine providence has led this Nation in the past and guides all human affairs to this very day.

On this day the American people join Congress as we call upon Your holy name. We pray for Vice President MIKE PENCE and, most especially, for your servant, Donald Trump, our elected 45th President of these United States.

May Your holy spirit descend upon him that he may see things as You see things. May he be strengthened in his work and grow in understanding as he proves ever attentive to the people.

May he respond to the Nation's deepest needs and lift up all of us to higher standards of equal justice, true goodness, and peaceful union. Grant him health and protection, sincere collaboration and renewed faith.

Lord, may the people of this Nation and those around the world stand with him to face any challenge, endure any difficulty without fear, learn how to accept every success and every failure with grace, and support him with encouragement and prayer. We pray that he become his best self.

As always, may all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(a) of House Resolution 40, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TONKO 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 THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 17, 2017.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on January 17, 2017, at 5:24 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 72.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 18, 2017.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on January 18, 2017, at 9:48 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 39.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, Democratic Leader:

JANUARY 17, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 603 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Pub. L. 114–323), I am pleased to appoint the following individual to the Western Hemisphere Drug Policy Commission:

Mr. Sam Farr of Carmel, California

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Best regards,

NANCY PELOSI,
Democratic Leader.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, Democratic Leader:

Printed on recycled paper.

JANUARY 18, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to Section 553 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Pub. L. 114–328), I am pleased to appoint the following individual to the National Commission on Military, National and Public Service:

Mr. Edward T. Allard III of Los Angeles, California

Thank you for your consideration of this appointment.

Best regards,

NANCY PELOSI,
Democratic Leader.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bills were signed by Speaker pro tempore UPTON on Thursday, January 19, 2017:

H.R. 39, to amend title 5, United States Code, to codify the Presidential Innovation Fellows Program, and for other purposes;

H.R. 27, to ensure the government Accountability Office has adequate access to information.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the Speaker signed the following enrolled bill on Thursday, January 19, 2017:

S. 84, to provide for an exception to a limitation against appointment of persons as Secretary of Defense within seven years of relief from active duty as a regular commissioned officer of the Armed Forces.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces that in order to be seated on the platform, sitting Members of the 115th Congress must have an official pin, which they will be given as they leave the Chamber.

Members are advised there are no extra seats available on the platform. Therefore, only sitting Members will be seated on the platform.

Under no circumstances will former Members, former House officers, spouses, or children be able to join the procession or be seated on the platform.

The Sergeant at Arms will precede the procession bearing the mace.

Members will be escorted to the west terrace in order of seniority.

At this time, Members, the Resident Commissioner, and Delegates should congregate in the well by class.

Pursuant to H. Res. 37, upon completion of the ceremony, the House will stand adjourned until noon on Monday, January 23, 2017, for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

Pursuant to H. Res. 37, Members will now proceed to the west front to attend the inaugural ceremonies for the President and Vice President of the United States.

Thereupon, at 10 o'clock and 6 minutes a.m., the Members of the House, preceded by the Sergeant at Arms and the Speaker, proceeded to the west front of the Capitol.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore, Mr. UPTON on Thursday, January 19, 2017:

H.R. 39. An Act to amend title 5, United States Code, to codify the Presidential Innovation Fellows Program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 72. An Act to ensure the Government Accountability Office has adequate access to information.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title on Thursday, January 19, 2017:

S. 84, to provide for an exception to a limitation against appointment of persons as Secretary of Defense within seven years of relief from active duty as a regular commissioned officer of the Armed Forces.

ADJOURNMENT

At the conclusion of the inaugural ceremonies (at 12 o'clock and 27 minutes p.m.), the House, without returning to its Chamber, adjourned until Monday, January 23, 2017, 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:

223. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Joseph P. Mulloy, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

224. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting the Administration's description of its efforts to close the Guantanamo Bay Detention Facility (H. Doc. No. 115—15); to the Committee on Armed Services and ordered to be printed.

225. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's Major final rule — Total Loss-Absorbing Capacity, Long-Term Debt, and Clean Holding Company Requirements for Systemically Important U.S. Bank Holding Companies and Intermediate Holding Companies of Systemically Important Foreign Banking Organizations [Docket No.: R-1523] (RIN: 7100-AE37) received January 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

226. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final regulations — Student Assistance General Provisions [Docket ID: ED-2015-OPE-0103] (RIN: 1840-AD22) received January 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

227. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records [SAMHSA-4162-20] (RIN: 0930-AA21) received January 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

228. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Control of Communicable Diseases [CDC Docket No.: CDC-2016-0068] (RIN: 0920-AA63) received January 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

229. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Medicaid Program; The Use of New or Increased Pass-Through Payments in Medicaid Managed Care Delivery Systems [CMS-2402-F] (RIN: 0938-AT10) received January 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

230. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects (RIN: 0937-AA02) received January 18, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

231. A letter from the Surgeon General and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report titled ''Facing Addiction in America: The Surgeon General's Report on Alcohol, Drugs, and Health''; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

232. A letter from the Assistant Administrator, Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of a New Drug Code for Marihuana Extract [Docket No.: DEA-342] (RIN: 1117-AB33) received January 5, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

233. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Technical Correction to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter [EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0408; FRL-9958-29-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AS89) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

234. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's partial withdrawal of direct final rule — Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances; Withdrawal [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2016-0207; FRL-9958-20] (RIN: 2070-AB27) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110

Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

235. 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 the 2008 Lead, 2008 Ozone, 2010 NO2, 2010 SO2, and 2012 PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Wyoming [EPA-R08-OAR-2012-0933; FRL-9958-35-Region 8] received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

236. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in Procurement Under EPA Financial Assistance Agreements [EPA-HQ-OA-2006-0278; FRL-9958-44-OA] (RIN: 2090-AA40) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

237. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS) Electronic Reporting Requirements [EPA-HQ-OAR-2009-0234; FRL-9958-30-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AS75) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

238. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Extension of Deadline for Action on the November 28, 2016 Section 126 Petition From Delaware [EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0764; FRL-9958-26-OAR] received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

239. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Determination of Attainment and Approval of Base Year Emissions Inventories for the Imperial County, California Fine Particulate Matter Nonattainment Area [EPA-R09-OAR-2016-0772; FRL-9958-21-Region 9] received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

240. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Texas; El Paso Carbon Monoxide Limited Maintenance Plan [EPA-R06-OAR-2016-0550; FRL-9957-56-Region 6] received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

241. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; New Mexico; Albuquerque/Bernalillo County; Inspection and Maintenance Program Error Correction [EPA-R06-OAR-2011-0695; FRL-9957-41-Region 6] received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

242. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; State of Utah; Revisions to Nonattainment Permitting Regulations [EPA-R08-OAR-2016-0620; FRL-9958-28-Region 8] received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

243. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Amendment to Standards and Practices for All Appropriate Inquires Under CERCLA [EPA-HQ-OLEM-2016-0786; FRL-9958-47-OLEM] received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

244. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Disapproval; AL; Prong 4 Visibility for the 2008 8-hour Ozone Standard [EPA-R04-OAR-2012-0689; FRL-9958-42-Region 4] received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

245. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Wisconsin; NOx as a Precursor to Ozone, PM2.5 Increment Rules and PSD Infrastructure SIP Requirements [EPA-R05-OAR-2016-0134; FRL-9957-58-Region 5] received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

246. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; District of Columbia; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference [DC104-2052; FRL-9955-98-Region 3] received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

247. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — 2,4-D; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2016-0594; FRL-9958-07] received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

248. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting a report certifying that the export of the listed item to the People's Republic of China is not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2778 note; Public Law 105-261, Sec. 1512 (as amended by Public Law 105-277, Sec. 146); (112 Stat. 2174); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

249. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's ''Fiscal Year 2016 Financial Report of the U.S. Government'', pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 331(e)(1); Public Law 97-258, Sec. 331(e)(1) (as amended by Public Law 103-356, Sec. 405(c)); (108 Stat. 3416); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

250. A letter from the President and CEO, African Development Foundation, transmitting a letter fulfilling the annual requirements contained in the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, covering the period October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), Sec. 5(b); Public Law 95-452, Sec. 5(b);; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

251. A letter from the Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting a Board's report to Congress on FY 2016 competitive sourcing efforts, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 501 note; Public Law 108-199, Sec. 647(b); (118 Stat. 361); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

252. A letter from the Division Chief, Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation [17X.LLWO310000.L13100000.PP0000] (RIN: 1004-AE14) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

253. A letter from the Deputy Designated Agency Ethics Official, Office of the Solicitor, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's direct final rule — Supplemental Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Department of the Interior [Docket ID: DOI-2016-0007; 167D0102R2; DS636440000; DR2000000.CH7000] (RIN: 1092-AA12) received January 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

254. A letter from the Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting the Office's final rule — Civil Monetary Penalties Inflation Adjustments for Ethics in Government Act Violations (RIN: 3209-AA00) (RIN: 3209-AA38) received January 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

255. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustments [Docket ID: OSM-2016-0015; S1D1S SS08011000 SX064A000 178S180110; S2D2S SS08011000 SX064A00 17XS501520] (RIN: 1029-AC74) received January 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

256. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Update of FEMA's Public Assistance and Fire Management Assistance Grant Regulations To Reflect the Terminology of Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements [Docket ID: FEMA-2016-0034] (RIN: 1660-AA89) received January 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

257. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revision of Airworthiness Standards for Normal, Utility, Acrobatic, and Commuter Category Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2015-1621; Amdt. Nos.: 21-100, 23-64, 35-10, 43-49, 91-346, 121-378, and 135-136] (RIN: 2120-AK65) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

258. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Turbomeca S.A. Turboshaft Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2015-3753; Directorate Identifier 2015-NE-26-AD; Amendment 39-18406; AD 2016-04-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

259. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2015-3142; Directorate Identifier

2015-NM-003-AD; Amendment 39-18728; AD 2016-25-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

260. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-8850; Directorate Identifier 2016-NM-031-AD; Amendment 39-18755; AD 2016-25-29] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

261. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation [Docket No.: FAA-2016-9537; Directorate Identifier 2016-SW-075-AD; Amendment 39-18759; AD 2016-24-51] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 14, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

262. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2016-5247; Directorate Identifier 2015-SW-008-AD; Amendment 39-18740; AD 2016-25-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

263. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0143; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-113-AD; Amendment 39-18753; AD 2016-25-27] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

264. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-8180; Directorate Identifier 2016-NM-083-AD; Amendment 39-18760; AD 2016-26-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

265. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Defense and Space S.A. (Formerly Known as Construcciones Aeronauticas, S.A.) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-9109; Directorate Identifier 2016-NM-011-AD; Amendment 39-18761; AD 2016-26-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

266. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Cedar City, UT [Docket No.: FAA-2016-9119; Airspace Docket No.: 16-ANM-15] received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

267. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace, Kahului, HI [Docket No.: FAA-2014-1068; Airspace Docket No.: 14-AWP-12] received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

268. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace, Healy, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2016-9159; Airspace Docket No.: 13-AAL-7] received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

269. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of an Air Traffic Service (ATS) Route; Western United States [Docket No.: FAA-2015-1345; Airspace Docket No.: 14-AWP-13] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

270. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-9057; Directorate Identifier 2016-NM-055-AD; Amendment 39-18763; AD 2016-26-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

271. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Offshore Airspace Areas; Control 1154H, Control 1173H, Control 1154L, and Control 1173L, California [Docket No.: FAA-2016-9263; Airspace Docket No.: 15-AWA-6] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

272. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31107; Amdt. No.: 3723] received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

273. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; B-N Group Ltd. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-9160; Directorate Identifier 2016-CE-022-AD; Amendment 39-18767; AD 2016-26-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

274. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31109; Amdt. No.: 3725] received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

275. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; AgustaWestland S.p.A. Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2016-4278; Directorate Identifier 2012-SW-022-AD; Amendment 39-18758; AD 2016-26-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

276. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule -Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-6894; Directorate Identifier 2015-NM-120-AD; Amendment 39-18729; AD 2016-25-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

277. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2015-5807; Directorate Identifier 2015-SW-063-AD; Amendment 39-18754; AD 2016-25-28] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

278. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2015-3929; Directorate Identifier 2015-SW-031-AD; Amendment 39-18746; AD 2016-25-20] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

279. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2015-7525; Directorate Identifier 2015-NM-064-AD; Amendment 39-18727; AD 2016-25-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

280. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-7425; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-244-AD; Amendment 39-18741; AD 2016-25-15] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

281. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Saab AB, Saab Aeronautics (Formerly known as Saab AB, Saab Aerosystems) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-9056; Directorate Identifier 2016-NM-007-AD; Amendment 39-18743; AD 2016-25-17] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

282. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket

No.: FAA-2016-8847; Directorate Identifier 2016-NM-020-AD; Amendment 39-18742; AD 2016-25-16] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

283. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2015-5816; Directorate Identifier 2015-NM-029-AD; Amendment 39-18731; AD 2016-25-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

284. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-8845; Directorate Identifier 2016-NM-094-AD; Amendment 39-18732; AD 2016-25-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

285. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Viking Air Limited Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-9527; Directorate Identifier 2016-CE-036; Amendment 39-18748; AD 2016-25-22] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

286. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2015-7531; Directorate Identifier 2015-NM-052-AD; Amendment 39-18747; AD 2016-25-21] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

287. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; BAE Systems (Operations) Limited Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-0457; Directorate Identifier 2015-NM-084-AD; Amendment 39-18751; AD 2016-25-25] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

288. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-3698; Directorate Identifier 2015-NM-138-AD; Amendment 39-18733; AD 2016-25-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

289. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Robinson Helicopter Company Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2016-0733; Directorate Identifier 2015-SW-040-AD; Amendment 39-18762; AD 2016-26-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

290. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-7424; Directorate Identifier 2015-NM-173-AD; Amendment 39-18756; AD 2016-25-30] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

291. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; PILATUS AIRCRAFT LTD. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-7003; Directorate Identifier 2016-CE-015-AD; Amendment 39-18766; AD 2016-26-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

292. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2015-3631; Directorate Identifier 2015-NM-060-AD; Amendment 39-18757; AD 2016-25-31] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

293. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-6898; Directorate Identifier 2016-NM-101-AD; Amendment 39-18752; AD 2016-25-26] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

294. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters (Previously Eurocopter France) Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0498; Directorate Identifier 2013-SW-052-AD; Amendment 39-18745; AD 2016-25-19] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

295. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Extension of the Prohibition Against Certain Flights Within the Damascus (OSTT) Flight Information Region (FIR) [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0708; Amendment No.: 91-334A] (RIN: 2120-AK93) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

296. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards for the Dental Category [EPA-HQ-OW-2014-0693; FRL-9957-10-OW] (RIN: 2040-AF26) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

297. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Aquatic Life Criteria for Cadmium in Oregon [EPA-HQ-OW-2016-0012; FRL-9958-40-OW] (RIN: 2040-AF60) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

298. A letter from the Trial Attorney, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Monetary Threshold for Reporting Rail Equipment Accidents/Incidents for Calendar Year 2017 [FRA-2008-0136, Notice No.: 9] (RIN: 2130-ZA14) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

299. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Revenue Procedure regarding the Section 403(b) Remedial Amendment Period (Rev. Proc. 2017-18) received January 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

300. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Allocation Rules for Post-2000 State Housing Credit Ceiling (Rev. Rul. 2016-29) received January 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

301. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Medicare and Medicaid Program: Conditions of Participation for Home Health Agencies [CMS-3819-F] (RIN: 0938-AG81) received January 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

302. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of the Secretary/Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Medicare Program: Changes to the Medicare Claims and Entitlement, Medicare Advantage Organization Determination, and Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage Determination Appeals Procedures [HHS-2016-79] (RIN: 0991-AC02) received January 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

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 Mr. SMITH of Texas (for himself, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. KNIGHT, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Ms. ESTY, Mr. BABIN, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. BANKS of Indiana, Mr. TONKO, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. DUNN, and Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana):

H.R. 589. A bill to establish Department of Energy policy for science and energy research and development programs, and reform National Laboratory management and technology transfer programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. LATTA (for himself, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr.

MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. HUDSON, and Mr. TONKO):

H.R. 590. A bill to foster civilian research and development of advanced nuclear energy technologies and enhance the licensing and commercial deployment of such technologies; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, 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. BRAT (for himself, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. BABIN, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. BUCK, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. EMMER, and Mr. BYRNE):

H.R. 591. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to require deposits into the Immigration Examinations Fee Account to be subject to appropriations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GUTHRIE (for himself, Mr. KIND, Mr. REED, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. KING of Iowa, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. BOST, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. STEWART, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. LIPINSKI, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. LONG, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. HILL, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. DELBENE, Mrs. WALORSKI, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. BLUM, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. MESSER, Mr. YOHO, Mr. JONES, Mr. KNIGHT, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. ROYCE of California, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. COHEN, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. TURNER, Mr. OLSON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. WALZ, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. KATKO, Mr. HURD, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. POCAN, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. MARINO, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. HARPER, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. HECK, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. PAULSEN, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. WELCH, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Ms. MOORE, Mr. LANCE, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Ms. GABBARD, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. DENT, Mr. POLIQUIN, and Mr. EMMER):

H.R. 592. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of pharmacist services; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. CAPUANO (for himself, Mr. JONES, and Mr. PETERS):

H.R. 593. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit the conversion of leadership PAC funds to personal use; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. CAPUANO (for himself and Mr. LYNCH):

H.R. 594. A bill to establish the Securities and Derivatives Commission in order to combine the functions of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission in a single independent regulatory commission; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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. CAPUANO:

H.R. 595. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to reform the Federal Reserve System; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on Rules, and Oversight and Government Reform, 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 Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 596. A bill to require the President to withdraw from the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DENHAM:

H.R. 597. A bill to take lands in Sonoma County, California, into trust as part of the reservation of the Lytton Rancheria of California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. LYNCH (for himself, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. BEYER, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. MENG, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LIPINSKI, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. PETERS, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Miss RICE of New York, and Mr. SUOZZI):

H.R. 598. A bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to commission a study of the health impacts of airplane flights on affected residents of certain metropolitan areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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 Mr. SMITH of Texas:

H.R. 589.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18:

The Congress shall have 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 of Officer thereof.

By Mr. LATTA:

H.R. 590.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

By Mr. BRAT:

H.R. 591.

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

American immigration law stems from Congress' powers to ''establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization'' (Article I, Section 8, Clause 4) and to ''regulate Commerce with foreign Nations'' (Article I, Section 8, Clause 3). Only Congress has the power to ''lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises'' (Article I, Section 8, Clause 1), and Article I, Section 9, Clause 7 states that ''No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law,'' designating Congress as the final authority to control or limit the spending of the federal government . Furthermore, it is both ''necessary and proper'' (Article I, Section 8, Clause 18) that Congress maintain control over funds through appropriations to ensure that the President ''take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed'' (Article II, Section 3).

By Mr. GUTHRIE:

H.R. 592.

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

Article I Section 8:

The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

By Mr. CAPUANO:

H.R. 593.

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

ARTICLE 1, SECTION 4, CLAUSE 1

By Mr. CAPUANO:

H.R. 594.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. CAPUANO:

H.R. 595.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 596.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. DENHAM:

H.R. 597.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically Clause 3 which grants Congress the power to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. LYNCH:

H.R. 598.

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

Article 1 section 8 Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 7: Mr. BRIDENSTINE, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. MEADOWS, and Mr. YOHO.

H.R. 38: Ms. STEFANIK and Mr. BIGGS.

H.R. 140: Mr. ROE of Tennessee and Mr. GOODLATTE.

H.R. 300: Mr. FORTENBERRY.

H.R. 331: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 361: Mr. CRAMER and Mr. BRIDENSTINE.
H.R. 367: Mr. WOMACK,
H.R. 376: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts and Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 380: Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. COFFMAN, and Mr. GARRETT.
H.R. 394: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 482: Mr. JOYCE of Ohio.
H.R. 525: Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH.
H.R. 539: Mr. ALLEN and Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 587: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. RUSH, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. MOULTON, and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.

H.J. Res. 17: Mr. COFFMAN.

H. Res. 15: Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. CICILLINE, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. FASO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. TITUS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. BEYER, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. LIPINSKI, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

3. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the City Commission of Miami Florida, relative to Resolution R-16-0592, urging President Barack H. Obama, President-elect Donald J. Trump and his administration, and the Members of the 114th United States Congress to set out policy changes implementing democratic procedures within the Cuban governmental structure aimed towards promoting a better quality of life and a more sustainable environment for the people of Cuba; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 115th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 163 WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 2017 No. 11

Senate

The Senate met at 4 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable DAN SULLIVAN, a Senator from the State of Alaska.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, our souls long for You, for we find strength and joy in Your presence. Increase our faith and teach us to trust You even during life's storms.

Today we have witnessed the peaceful transition of power, and we are grateful for this great land. Guide our lawmakers. May they find strength and joy in Your presence. Lord, give them the wisdom to claim Your promise that You will never leave or forsake them and that nothing can separate them from Your love. Empower them to seek in every undertaking to know Your will, daily claiming the promise of Your wisdom. Keep them without stumbling or slipping, as You continue to do for them more than they can ask or imagine.

We pray in Your mighty Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, January 20, 2017.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable DAN SULLIVAN, a Senator from the State of Alaska, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ORRIN G. HATCH,
President pro tempore.

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

INAUGURATION AND CABINET NOMINEES

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, in November's election, the people called for a new direction, a change from the last 8 years. Today, we took a meaningful step toward that new direction as we inaugurated a new President of the United States.

I think it is important for all Americans—regardless of party—to remember the significance of inauguration day. As we celebrate our Nation's rich electoral tradition, we can begin to move our country forward together.

It is always an honor to participate in the historical transition of power and the ceremonies surrounding it. Today was certainly no exception. On behalf of the Senate, I wish to express our gratitude to each individual, from law enforcement personnel to Inaugural Committee staff, to congressional staff of volunteers whose efforts made this event a success.

I wish to again congratulate President Trump and Vice President PENCE on today's inauguration. We are eager to work with you and the administration in advancing policies that can improve the lives of the American people.

Today marks a new beginning. We are faced with many new opportunities. We are faced with some new challenges too. I will have more to say on that in the coming days. For now, the Senate remains hard at work as we move forward with the confirmation process on President Trump's nominees. We will have an opportunity to confirm some today.

It is imperative to proceed with confirmations without delay, especially when it comes to key national and economic security needs. I urge colleagues to remember that we worked with the administration of former President Obama after he was first inaugurated. We confirmed seven—seven—members of his Cabinet on the day he took office and nearly the entire Cabinet was filled within 2 weeks.

I wish to say, parenthetically, there is a lot the minority can do at the very beginning by refusing to give consent to drag this out, and that is what apparently is occurring here. The nominations we are not doing are not even controversial.

I would hope the feeling around here would be at least on day one to have some level of cooperation. We should work in the same spirit with the current administration and put the rest of President Trump's team in place as soon as possible. Specifically, it is important that we confirm General Mattis and General Kelly to their crucial positions as the Secretaries of Defense and Homeland Security.

That is not enough. We live in dangerous times. As the Democratic leader noted earlier just today, ''We face threats foreign and domestic.'' It is critical for the President to have a full national security team today, day one. That includes, in particular, the Director of the CIA. It makes no sense to

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

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leave the post open, not for another week, not for another day, not for another hour. America's enemies will not pause in plotting, planning, and training simply because the Democrats refuse to vote. The American people expect more.

Earlier today, the Director and Deputy Director of the CIA resigned. They left. They are gone. The Director's job is open and unfilled. We need to confirm a new Director today. We need to confirm the rest of the Cabinet as quickly as we can.

Republicans treated a newly inaugurated President Obama's nominees fairly, and our Democratic friends should do so now. Our country is counting on it. I am told we want to have some debate about this. We will have as much debate time, starting right now, as our Democratic colleagues would like, but at the end of the debate, today—not Monday—we should install a new CIA Director.

THANKING FORMER PRESIDENT OBAMA

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I wish to offer a few words regarding our outgoing President. I had a chance, as some others did yesterday, to receive a call from him, which I appreciated. I want to say farewell to President Obama. I think it is worth, once again, reflecting on the significance of his election and the historic achievement it represented in terms of our country's past. That is something both he and our country should be very proud of.

It is no secret that the President and I and other Members of my party have not always seen eye to eye. Over the years, we have pursued totally different legislative priorities. Everybody around here knows that. The American people know that too. It is a big country. We have different views about what ought to be done.

Let me say this. I think I speak for all Americans when I thank our former President for his tremendous service to our Nation. As can be said of all First Families, he and his family have made many personal sacrifices over the past 8 years. Through it all, they have done so with dignity and with grace.

To our 44th President, I wish to say, for your leadership, we are grateful. We wish you, Michelle, Malia, and Sasha all the best as you embark on this new chapter of your lives.

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

NOMINATIONS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I listened carefully to the statement by the Republican leader on the floor, and I am hoping we can reach some agreement later today as to the nominations to be considered this day and very quickly next week. I will, for the record, make it clear that the seven nominees who moved through on the first day of the Obama administration were people who had their ethics statements filed on time, had filed all the legally required papers on time for review.

Unfortunately, that is not the case for all of the nominees by the new Trump administration. Some of them bring to this nomination some extraordinarily challenging financial data, and because of their companies, because of their lifestyles, because of their wealth, it takes longer to go through these documents than it does for people of modest means. When we proposed, by the Obama administration, Penny Pritzker, of Chicago, to serve as Secretary of Commerce, it took 6 months to clear the paperwork on her financial background. The more complex the financial data, the more difficult and challenging it is for the committees of the Senate to do their work and to do it properly.

We want to make certain we don't cut any corners. We don't want to create any advantage for any single nominee. They have to be held to the same standard as the nominees under the Obama administration. I am hoping we can move on it with dispatch on some of these nominees, and I don't quarrel with the Republican leader's premise that there are some noncontroversial nominees who would be easier to handle than others.

Let me quickly add, for those who have forgotten the record of the Republicans in the Senate when it comes to delaying nominations, exhibit A will continue to be the vacancy on the U.S. Supreme Court. For the first time in the history of the United States of America, the Republican majority in the U.S. Senate refused a hearing and a vote on a nominee to fill a vacancy on the U.S. Supreme Court. That went on for the entire duration of the Obama Presidency. Some 11 months, that position on the highest Court in the land remained vacant because of the specific political strategy of the Republican leader on the other side.

He said: We will keep this open in the hopes that a Republican President will be able to fill it. He had a grin and a smile and, I guess, a feeling of accomplishment on election day when a Republican was elected President. That vacancy continued for political reasons, regardless of the fact that it created at least a hardship and some confusion on the highest Court of the land. It went on for 10, 11 months, and it continues to this day.

I might also remind him that the nomination of Loretta Lynch for the highest law enforcement position in America sat on that Senate calendar for months, with no objection stated by any Member on the other side. They refused to call her name and allow a vote for the Attorney General of the United States of America. Similarly, an Assistant Secretary of the Department of Treasury, a key position to deal with terrorism financing, was held on that calendar, I believe, for a year or more with no controversy. They had the power to do it, and they did it. So this notion that we slowed things down really negates and ignores the reality of the record before us.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

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

PEACEFUL TRANSFER OF POWER AND HOMEOWNER INSURANCE PREMIUMS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, today we celebrate one of our democracy's core attributes: the peaceful transfer of power. It is remarkable. I am always amazed how voters, on a cold November evening in my State, come home from work—they would like to serve dinner to their kids or sit in their favorite chair and watch their favorite TV show, but in quiet dignity, they wait in line and wait their turn to cast their vote. Then everyone awaits the decision. And the next morning, we all abide by it. It is an amazing thing about this democracy. There are no riots and tanks in the streets. It is a great thing. And although I regret the outcome of the election obviously—deeply—I still am awed by how the wellspring of democracy continues to work for 225 years after the Founders put together the remarkable document, the Constitution.

Now it falls to us—Senators from both parties—to promote and defend these principles, as we must every day: the rule of law, equal protection for all Americans under it, and freedom of speech, press, and religion. We must also endeavor to expand opportunity and increase prosperity while broadening the circle of Americans who share in it. The peaceful transfer of power occurred, and our work starts now.

President Trump said in his inaugural address this afternoon:

> For too long, a small group in our Nation's capital has reaped the rewards of government while the people have borne the cost. Washington flourished—but the people did not share its wealth.

He promised to combat that trend, but in one of his first acts as President, President Trump made it harder for Americans to afford a mortgage. For working-class Americans, struggling Americans, now it is harder for them

to get a mortgage. What did he do? He reversed a recent decision by the Department of Housing and Urban Development to reduce annual insurance premiums that many borrowers pay, saving new homeowners an average of $500 per year. What a terrible thing to do to homeowners. President Trump, with a flick of the pen, ended that new policy, making it harder for Americans of modest means to obtain their piece of the rock, the American dream: their own home. It took only an hour after his positive words on the inaugural platform for his words to ring hollow. And actions speak louder than words. One hour after talking about helping working people and ending the cabal in Washington that hurts people, he signs a regulation that makes it more expensive for new homeowners to buy mortgages—1 hour later.

I ask the American people—because we Democrats are going to do this. We are going to hold the President accountable. Look at what the President said and then an hour later, look at what the President did. Again, actions speak louder than words. The words on that inaugural platform in relation to this new action ring hollow.

Democrats agree with President Trump on this: The working men and women of America do not need more promises, they need policies that give them a leg up, help them succeed, help them afford a home, for instance. We urge President Trump to reverse this decision and give new homeowners across America their $500 back.

CABINET NOMINEES

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, on another matter—nominations—Senators on both sides of the aisle have expressed support for the President's key national security nominees. This evening, we expect to be able to vote on General Kelly and General Mattis, and we look forward to beginning the debate on Congressman POMPEO in the hopes that he can also receive a quick vote, but from there, we intend to have a full and rigorous debate on the President-elect's remaining nominees.

My friends on the other side of the aisle did not want to have a full debate on the merits of these nominees in committee, so they should be prepared to do so on the Senate floor. Over the last several weeks, Republicans have made a mockery of the Cabinet hearing process, trying to jam through nominees in truncated hearings—nominees with serious conflicts of interest and ethical issues unresolved—without giving Senators and the American people a fair chance to question and hear from these nominees.

If ever there were a group of Cabinet nominees who cry out for rigorous scrutiny, it is this one. I have never heard such a parade of potential ethical violations. The President-elect's Cabinet is a swamp Cabinet, full of billionaires and bankers, loaded with conflicts of interest and ethical lapses as far as the eye can see.

Congressman MULVANEY failed to pay taxes on a household worker—the exact same issue that has caused past nominees to withdraw.

Congressman PRICE is facing serious scrutiny for trading stock with one hand and pushing legislation to boost that stock with the other.

Rex Tillerson has refused to recuse himself from matters relating to ExxonMobil for the length of his term.

Just yesterday we learned that Steve Mnuchin tried to hide his holdings in the Cayman Islands from the Senate Finance Committee.

And, of course, at the top of the list is Betsy DeVos. Her ethics paperwork just came in after the hearing was completed. Did she not want to answer any questions on it? It shows that she was invested in multiple education companies, including companies that have millions of dollars of contracts with the Department of Education to collect on student debt. Senators have not been given an opportunity to question her about these investments because we only got the information after the hearing. Sadly, the list goes on and on.

The President-elect isn't draining the swamp with his Cabinet picks, he is filling it up. It is no wonder that the American people have expressed discontent with how this transition period is going.

These issues that I mentioned, and many others, deserve to be thoroughly and rigorously reviewed by the Senate. If Senate Republicans will not let that happen in hearings, it will happen right here on the floor.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the en bloc consideration of the following nominations received today: James N. Mattis to be Secretary of Defense; and John F. Kelly to be Secretary of Homeland Security. I ask consent that there be 20 minutes of debate on the nominations, equally divided in the usual form, and that following the use or yielding back of time, the Senate vote on the nominations in the order listed with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; that no further motions be in order; and that any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the RECORD.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I renew my unanimous consent request that I previously stated.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATIONS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nominations of James Mattis, of Washington, to be Secretary of Defense; and John F. Kelly, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Homeland Security.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, let me just, for the information of all Members, point out that after we vote on Mattis and Kelly, we will turn to the Pompeo nomination, begin that debate, and hopefully finish it at some point tonight.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, there is not a lot of benefit in being around here for a long period of time, but I remember very well in January of 2009, when the new President of the United States and, in a spirit of enthusiasm and bipartisanship, the Senate, on the first day of the inauguration, approved of seven Cabinet members, seven—not two, as we are presently contemplating, but seven. All of those individuals, as I recall, had some degree of concern about them, had some degree of controversy—some more, some less. But the fact is, we moved forward and almost unanimously voted in favor of these Cabinet members for the simple reason that the American people had spoken, and we had a new President of a different party, and we ought to give that President the team that he needed in order to get his job done.

Now, the one difference between what I have seen here in 2017, since 2009, is that the world is on fire. Look at the world today, and look at a map of it in 2009. There weren't 6 million refugees out of Syria. There weren't 400,000 people murdered by Bashar al-Assad with the assistance of Vladimir Putin and the Iranian Revolutionary Guard. We didn't have Russians using precision-guided weapons, striking hospitals in Aleppo, slaughtering innocent men, women, and children. We didn't have the Chinese acting in the most belligerent fashion in the South China Sea, asserting their sovereignty over an

international waterway through which about 60 percent of the world's economy moves, as they are now.

We didn't have Vladimir Putin invading Crimea in a violation of the Budapest agreement, in which Ukraine gave up their nuclear weapons arsenal in exchange for a guarantee of the territorial integrity of Ukraine that included Crimea. We didn't have Vladimir Putin invading the land of Ukraine and partitioning it and slaughtering some 10,000 brave Ukrainians who stood up against that invasion while, by the way, we wouldn't even give them lethal weapons to defend themselves.

We have a world on fire. And we have a nominee to be the Director of the CIA. I happen to know Congressman POMPEO very well. I happen to admire his work. I happened to notice in the hearing that there was really relatively no controversy associated with his candidacy, with his nomination to be the Director of the CIA.

So my question to my dear friends on the other side of the aisle is: Why the hell won't we just go ahead and give the President his national security team when we need it more than at any time in recent history?

The American people have spoken about who they want to be Commander in Chief. Now let's give the Commander in Chief his Secretary of Defense, his Secretary of Homeland Security, and let's give him a leader of our intelligence community, the CIA. And, by God, when you look at the controversy surrounding our intelligence agencies—which is gigantic—we need a new Director of the CIA more than ever.

The American people made a decision, but they also voiced—at least in my campaign, and I can only speak, frankly, for my own—a great dissatisfaction about the fact that we don't work together, the fact that we don't sit down and talk about these things and get some kind of working arrangement. Well, how do you do that when we won't even allow a noncontroversial nominee for the Director of the CIA to be confirmed? I don't get it.

What is the point here? Is the point that we are just going to show the Republicans by slow-walking their nominees? Is that what the point of this is? If it is, then in my view, you are contradicting the will of the American people and the verdict of the American people.

I know there is controversy about the fact that Secretary Clinton got a larger number of the popular vote. I know the controversy that there were narrow victories in some of the States. But the fact is that no one in their right mind has challenged the fact that the President of the United States, whose inauguration took place today, is the President of the United States.

So why would we want to—right out of the box, right out of the box, right immediately, at an incredibly controversial time—block a member of his Cabinet who needs to take charge with the confidence of the U.S. Senate that he will do a job and, frankly, restore—whether you happen to like the outgoing team or not. And if you want to praise them, fine; if you want to support them, fine. But the fact is, there is a huge controversy about our intelligence community. In fact, some of that, in my view, has been contributed to by the now-President of the United States with his comments about the intelligence community.

But on both sides of the aisle, we respect and admire Congressman POMPEO, who is well qualified. Is there anyone who has said he is not qualified? Is there anyone on the other side who said that POMPEO is not qualified; we haven't examined his record enough? I don't think so. If so, I haven't heard it.

But is the message now: We are just going to slow-walk the Republicans because we don't like the outcome of the election? I don't think that is the message that I would like to send from our side.

Have we, on our side, slow-walked from time to time? Have we done everything right? I am not defending everything that we have done on this side. But I do argue that, in January of 2009, we confirmed seven members of the President's team on the first day.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. MCCAIN. I am glad to yield for a question.

Mr. CORNYN. I ask the distinguished chairman of the Armed Services Committee whether a period of transition from one administration to another is a time of particular vulnerability to the United States, at a time when we are transitioning not only to a new administration but also to a new national security Cabinet.

Isn't this a time of particular vulnerability for the United States?

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be yielded an additional 2 minutes.

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

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I would just like to say to my friend from Texas, our leader, that there is enormous controversy about our intelligence community overall. Questions have been raised going all the way back to weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, questions about what we know or don't know about Russian involvement in the last election.

It seems to me that all of the things that the Senator from Texas just said argue for a rapid transition to a person we all trust.

I would ask the Senator from Texas very quickly: Has he heard someone who objects to Congressman POMPEO assuming the role of Director of the CIA?

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I am responding to the Senator from Arizona.

I am not confident that he will get a unanimous vote here, but he will certainly be confirmed resoundingly under the rules established by the Democratic majority in the last Congress, which allow 51 votes for confirmation.

Mr. MCCAIN. Respectfully and with high regard, I would just ask my colleagues on the other side of the aisle—let's get this intelligence team to work. Let's put them together. We will have outstanding individuals in a time when, in the view of most observers, this Nation is in greater peril than it has been in 70 years.

This is a very, very serious situation we find ourselves in. The people have spoken. Let's confirm them today.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I have the privilege of being the ranking member of the Armed Services Committee, working with Senator MCCAIN with respect to the nomination of General Mattis.

I am strongly in favor of the general's confirmation for many reasons. He possesses three distinct qualities that are absolutely critical: confidence, courage, and character. And he will eminently demonstrate those virtues as Secretary of Defense, in my view.

I would like to also inform the body and everyone else that we just did this in a very thorough, careful, thoughtful way.

General Mattis was subject to a 60-vote procedural vote because we had to waive his time from retirement to his ability to serve as Secretary of Defense.

We had a hearing under the auspices of the chairman about the policy with two noted historians and policy experts. Then we had a hearing with General Mattis. We have collectively—and the chairman's leadership is invaluable—moved to ensure that today we can confirm General Mattis.

This has been an opportunity that we have not used to delay, defer, or deflect the Mattis nomination. In fact, it was the one that we all recognized that would have been subject to a 60-vote point of order. So this represents the demonstrated good faith of our focus to ensure that we can get people in place for the President.

With that, I yield to the Senator from Oregon, Mr. WYDEN.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I will be very brief, just to respond to my good friend from Arizona who said that the Senate not taking up Pompeo would be contradicting the will of the people. That is not the case at all. This is about whether the Senate is going to be a rubberstamp and whether the Senate is in effect going to abdicate its responsibility to do oversight.

Let me just mention four points real quickly.

No. 1, this nomination has not been considered in the Intelligence Committee. It could have been. It was not.

No. 2, we have not been able to get answers to our questions. A major question in particular, this body voted to sideline a law that collected phone records on law-abiding Americans. Congressman POMPEO has proposed something that makes the law we sidelined look like small potatoes. He is talking about collecting lifestyle information on all Americans. We are trying to get an answer about whether there are any legal boundaries at all. We have not been able to get them. That is argument No. 2.

Argument No. 3 is that we have never confirmed on inauguration day a CIA Director. That is the history of this particular nomination. No. 4, I want to talk about the realities of national security because I share the view of the chairman of the committee that this is a dangerous time. That is not up for debate. There are lots of people out there who do not wish our country well. If we were to have a tragedy tonight or tomorrow—heaven forbid that happens to our great country—if it did, we would have the talented senior people at the CIA there to protect our country, and I would submit, however you feel about Mr. POMPEO, the reality is that if he got confirmed tonight or tomorrow, and heaven forbid there was that tragedy, we would still be relying on those trained, talented professionals at the CIA who have been there, in some cases for decades, to protect our country when we are vulnerable.

That is what this is all about, ensuring that we actually have some discussion here when there are outstanding questions. Senator LEAHY, Senator BLUMENTHAL, and I have all said we just believe there ought to be some debate. There hasn't been any in the Intelligence Committee. There hasn't been any on the floor. I have gone through the history of this nomination and explained what would happen if a tragedy were to befall our great country. That is why I think we ought to have a debate in broad daylight, not when Senators are trying to figure out if their tux is going to fit and we can't get people into a real discussion.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, let me just say to my colleagues that I have had the great honor in my life of knowing some outstanding military leaders. I consider it one of the highlights of my life being around one of these great leaders.

I want to share with my colleagues that I haven't seen a finer leader, a more outstanding and respected leader, and a more beloved leader than the man we are going to be voting on to be the Secretary of Defense, James Mattis.

My friends, I am very confident that when we finish this vote, the morale all over the U.S. military will go up because they will know they have a leader and a leader they can not only respect but they admire and in many cases have great affection for. So I urge my colleagues to vote aye on the Mattis nomination.

Mr. President, today on the steps of this Capitol, our Nation completed another peaceful transition of power and inaugurated a new President. This is a sacred rite of our democracy, one that so many have given their lives to make possible. And as free citizens, we should count ourselves fortunate to have witnessed it.

As our new Commander In Chief assumes the awesome responsibilities of his office and with threats to our national security growing in scope and severity, it is imperative that the Senate act quickly to provide advice and consent for the new cabinet, especially for the new Secretary of Defense.

Have no doubt: our adversaries will test us in the coming days and weeks. And when they do, I want our Commander In Chief to have Gen. James Mattis at his side.

I have had the privilege of knowing General Mattis for many years. He is, without a doubt, one of the finest military officers of his generation and an extraordinary leader who inspires a rare and special admiration of his troops. In fact, since his selection to be our next Secretary of Defense, I have received countless messages of support from those who had the honor of serving with him.

At his confirmation hearing before the Senate Armed Services Committee, General Mattis demonstrated exceptional command of the issues confronting the United States, the Department of Defense, and our military servicemembers. He also showed that his understanding of civil-military relations is deep and that his commitment to civilian control of the Armed Forces is ironclad.

Over more than four decades of service, General Mattis's character, judgment, and commitment to defending our Nation and our Constitution have earned him the trust of Presidents, Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle, and so many serving in our Armed Forces.

That is why the Senate Armed Services Committee approved General Mattis's nomination this Wednesday with an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 26 to 1. I hope the Senate will follow suit with a strong vote to put General Mattis to work at the Pentagon. America will be fortunate to have General Mattis at her service once again.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today I will vote for James Mattis to be the next Secretary of Defense. General Mattis stands out as a top practitioner in his field. He has earned—and rightly deserves—near-universal respect. While I opposed the hurried waiving of a carefully considered statutory cooling off period for members of the military before they can become eligible for this civilian position, I made clear then, and restate now, that my opposition to this waiver was never about General Mattis himself.

I was grateful when General Mattis said in his confirmation hearing that, even from his first days as a marine, he has observed that, in the photographs on the walls of Department of Defense establishments, the civilians in suits were above those of the men and women in uniforms. I was pleased that he vowed to uphold that meaningful tradition. I am confident that, as the President's top adviser on matters of defense, as Secretary, General Mattis will carefully provide considered defense advice, maximizing the wisdom of not only the Active, Reserve, and National Guard, but the whole of the Department of Defense, including Department civilians.

Donald Trump will sorely need that experience and advice. Last weekend, President Trump again denigrated our NATO allies, a partnership that President Kennedy very much had in mind when he vowed at his own inauguration to ''pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, and oppose any foe to assure the survival and success of liberty.'' General Mattis clearly understands the value of our NATO alliance. His condemnation of Russia's efforts to ''break'' NATO stands in stark contrast to the position of the man who has nominated him and, to me, demonstrates the sound, experienced reasoning that will provide a necessary balance to President Trump.

I do harbor reservations about General Mattis's past statements as a private citizen related to equality within the ranks of our servicemembers. I would have much preferred to hear General Mattis renounced those past statements, but I do appreciate that, in his confirmation hearings, he said that there is nothing innate about gender or orientation that makes someone a better soldier than another. I believe the results of the progress made under President Obama will show clearly that the Nation succeeds when it has the best individuals serving to their fullest potential in the position that best matches his or her abilities.

The Secretary of Defense is, of course, a critically important position. There are countless difficult choices General Mattis will have to make in steering the Department in a direction that more effectively utilizes its budget to respond to today's rapidly evolving challenges. And whether it is the persistent, shockingly high rates of sexual assault within the Armed Forces and of suicide among young veterans, or the need for far more rigorous oversight of Defense resources to reduce waste, fraud, and abuse, the next Secretary will need to demonstrate that the Department is capable of effectively addressing its own internal problems, in addition to defending the Nation.

In these unsettling times, General Mattis will provide a voice of experience and reason to what, by all accounts, looks to be an undisciplined, impulsive, and inexperienced Commander in Chief. On the Appropriations Committee and in other ways, I look

forward to working closely with General Mattis in this new role.

Mr. President, the Senate today considers the nomination of John Kelly to be the Secretary of Homeland Security. A retired marine, General Kelly is no stranger to security efforts. Over more than four decades of service in the Marines, General Kelly distinguished himself through multiple commands and tours of duty. He is well respected by elected officials, military officers, the Marines under his command, and the law enforcement and intelligence communities. I have no reason to doubt that he is a man of integrity.

But General Kelly is nominated to a far different post than those he occupied during his distinguished military career. The Department of Homeland Security—a civilian agency within our government—is charged with a far-reaching mission. From protecting national security to implementing immigration policies, from our emergency response to domestic crises, to assisting in the unending fight against drugs in our communities that today features opioids and heroin as its most prevalent threat, the Department of Homeland Security faces challenges as unique as they are numerous. While I am confident that General Kelly is well equipped to exert leadership on many of these challenges, his nomination has also raised concerns.

As we look ahead to the policies and practices this new administration will seek to implement, we cannot forget the work left unfinished in the Obama administration due to the obstruction of congressional Republicans. In 2013, after a strong bipartisan vote in the Senate, truly comprehensive immigration reform legislation was sent to the House of Representatives, where Republican leaders there refused to even bring it to a vote. That legislation addressed a litany of issues facing our broken immigration system, from securing our borders to reforming visa programs, from bringing the undocumented out of the shadows to reuniting families.

After House Republicans failed to bring that bill to a vote, President Obama took executive action to expand the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, DACA, and establish the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents, DAPA, programs. These actions would have offered a reprieve for young people and parents so that they could remain in the country, with their families, and without fear of deportation. It is fundamentally unfair for the new administration to revoke a policy designed to bring vulnerable immigrants out of the shadows and then to use information gained from that policy to punish them.

I was disheartened when a Federal court issued an injunction preventing implementation of these policies. I was more disheartened when the Supreme Court was unable to resolve this court challenge, again, due to obstruction from congressional Republicans in the consideration of President Obama's nominee to the Supreme Court. Now, this new administration is poised to withdraw these executive orders.

General Kelly is no stranger to the problems we face along the southern border. As the commander of U.S. Southern Command, he is familiar not only with immigration challenges, but with drug trafficking. While I am grateful that he has not subscribed to the singular approach that President Trump has thus far proposed with respect to constructing a wall along our southern border, I am deeply concerned that he has admonished so-called sanctuary cities and has testified that accelerating the deportation of undocumented immigrants will provide the solution to our broken immigration system. These views are not supported by the facts, and they are contrary to the work undertaken by the Senate just 4 years ago to comprehensively address these problems. I am also concerned about his tenure as the military officer in charge of the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, given reports that he opposed its closure and limited press access to the facility.

Vermonters know that the explosion of heroin and opioid abuse across the country can, in many ways, be attributed to the cross-border trafficking of illegal drugs. General Kelly has been a strong defender of a U.S. counter-narcotics strategy which, in my view and the view of many others, has been a costly failure. Since President Reagan's first Andean Counter Drug Program, the interrelated problems of drugs, corruption, and violence that have plagued countries in South and Central America, and spilled over into our own country, have gotten progressively worse.

I do not doubt that General Kelly will be confirmed to this post. Knowing that, I do want to work with him to build on successful policies such as preclearance operations, TSA Precheck, and the visa waiver program. I look forward to partnering with him to ensure the continuation of efforts to keep our northern border secure, while remaining open to the trade and commerce we conduct with Canada, our largest trading partner. I look forward to working with General Kelly to ensure that the Federal Emergency Management Agency is fully supported and able to respond to domestic disasters. And I look forward to working with General Kelly to address vulnerabilities in our cyber infrastructure.

There are many challenges ahead. The Department of Homeland Security was hastily created in the wake of the September 11 attacks and, in my view, has become an unwieldly bureaucracy that suffers from inadequate transparency and accountability. This has resulted in adverse, sometimes severe consequences for many vulnerable people and their families who deserved better from this country. The Department needs significant reform in order to effectively confront these challenges, and I urge General Kelly to seek the input of a wide range of experts, as well as Congress, in identifying and implementing long overdue reforms. And above all, I hope General Kelly, as the Secretary of Homeland Security, will provide a thoughtful and reasoned balance to the extreme proposals thus far put forward by President Trump.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I rise to speak on the nomination of Gen. John F. Kelly to be Secretary of Homeland Security. This is a tremendously important position, especially in these dangerous and uncertain times, and it requires a highly qualified nominee who will be able to handle one of the most complex positions here in Washington, DC. After his impressive career and nomination hearing, few would question that he has the knowledge and the skill to lead the agency.

He has years of experience working with our neighbors in Latin America as former commander of U.S. Southern Command, where he saw firsthand the drivers of the unaccompanied minors crisis. In his testimony, he outlined what he saw as the root causes of migration, including people fleeing violence and seeking asylum within the United States.

Yet the position requires more than experience, it requires a true understanding of the issues and how they affect the men and women we are all sworn to serve. It is in this aspect that I have lingering concerns.

Anyone running DHS must be able to prioritize their resources in the apprehension, detention, and removal of undocumented immigrants. On November 20, 2014, the Department of Homeland Security outlined how scarce Federal resources would be allocated in enforcing our Nation's immigration laws. The memo focused resources on threats to national security, threats to national safety, and threats to border security, while deemphasizing law-abiding immigrants who have integrated themselves into society. I have been generally supportive of this prioritization, as I believe that Federal resources should be spent on enforcement actions against serious criminals.

On day one as Secretary of Homeland Security, General Kelly will have to address this. I hope he will recognize the wisdom of keeping families together, protecting children and the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals DACA Program and focus on deporting serious criminals and those who truly pose a threat to our national security. This focus isn't about being liberal or conservative but is a smart and humane approach to enforcement of our immigration laws.

General Kelly will have to grapple with the realities of our immigration system. As Secretary of Homeland Security, General Kelly will be tasked with the critical duty of maintaining our southwest borders. We have heard

promises by the President-elect to build a wall that would cost taxpayers $25 billion; yet a wall will not secure the border or stop the flow of illegal drugs into the country. General Kelly himself noted that a wall alone is not enough. I hope that General Kelly will recognize that $25 billion is better spent trying to reduce factors that drive people to the United States.

After speaking to General Kelly and listening to his testimony, I am cautiously optimistic that this is a nominee who understands the issues that will be in front of a Homeland Security Secretary. Ultimately, to truly understand the issues, General Kelly will need an ongoing dialog with those such as myself who care deeply about fixing our immigration system. As my colleagues are aware, my record of standing up for immigrants is clear from years of work on comprehensive immigration reform. General Kelly should hear the stories about those with loved ones who have been torn from their homes and sent back to a country they no longer have a connection with. He should talk to those young immigrants who are American in every way except for a piece of paper who have come out of the shadows, registered with the government, and applied for DACA and fear being deported under this new administration. He should hear from parents who have U.S. citizen children and have lived in this country for over a decade and live with the constant threat of being separated from their children.

I will support the nomination of General Kelly to be the Secretary of Homeland Security. However, I plan on using every procedural and legislative tool to push back against any deportation force or policies that indiscriminately separate families, targets DREAMers, and generate fear in our immigrant communities.

Mr, JOHNSON. Mr. President, I am honored to speak today in support of Gen. John Kelly's nomination to be America's fifth Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

We would be hard pressed to find an individual who is better suited to this challenge, in these perilous times.

General Kelly served this Nation for 45 years as a proud marine. He commanded the finest among us during three tours in Iraq. He rose to the rank of four-star general. And tragically, he became the most senior military officer to lose a child in combat when his son, Marine 2nd. Lt. Robert Kelly, was killed in November of 2010 in Afghanistan.

As a four star general and a Gold Star parent, General Kelly has served and sacrificed—he knows the price of freedom.

Perhaps the best way to describe the man we should confirm today is to use his own words given in testimony before our committee:

''I am humbled to once again be called to serve, this time with the men and women of the Department of Homeland Security.

As I solemnly swore before God when I entered the Marine Corps, if confirmed, I will faithfully support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic—every second of every day.

I believe in America and the principles upon which our country and way of life are guaranteed. I believe in respect, tolerance, and diversity of opinion. I have a profound respect for the rule of law and will always strive to uphold it. I have never had a problem speaking truth to power, and I firmly believe that those in power deserve full candor and my honest assessment and recommendations.

I love my country, and I will do everything within my power to preserve our liberty, enforce our laws, and protect our citizens. I recognize the many challenges facing the Department of Homeland Security—and should I be confirmed—I look forward to partnering with you all to protect the homeland.''

Colleagues, we are fortunate to have a man of such high caliber who is willing to once again answer the call of duty. I urge all of you to support his confirmation today.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I support the nomination of General James Mattis to serve as Secretary of Defense.

I voted against enacting an exception to the National Security Act for a recently retired general to serve as Secretary of Defense, but that vote was in support of our Nation's tradition of civilian leadership of the military. Now that General Mattis's nomination is before the Senate on the merits, I believe that he will provide the experience and steady hand that will serve this administration well.

General Mattis has served as a commander of NATO coalition troops. He commanded troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. And he was commander of the U.S. Central Command, responsible for American military operations in the Middle East, Northeast Africa, and Central Asia. General Mattis has served as a visiting fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, and Members of both parties who have worked with him have testified to his breadth of knowledge and understanding of key threats and America's role in the world.

I was heartened to hear in the course of General Mattis's hearing and the Senate's consideration of his nomination that he has many views that are more reasoned than those expressed by President-Elect Trump. His testimony made clear that he recognizes the very real challenges posed by Russia, and the importance of reassuring our NATO allies of America's commitment to our common defense and mutual obligations. I am pleased to hear that General Mattis opposes the use of torture and has no intention to reverse Department of Defense policies on women and the LGBT community. I hope that General Mattis's counsel will persuade President Trump on these matters.

I believe that General Mattis's knowledge of and familiarity with international affairs will be of help to the incoming President and the Nation and thus I support his nomination.

Mr. President, President Trump ran a divisive campaign that engaged in fear-mongering against many immigrants and scapegoated Muslim Americans. To the extent that he attempts to act on that irresponsible rhetoric, I will strongly oppose him.

Thus, I appreciated many of General Kelly's comments in his confirmation hearing before the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, including his opposition to a registry based on ethnicity or religion and his skepticism of the utility of an expensive massive border wall. I hope that General Kelly will use his voice to advocate for those views in the new administration.

General Kelly has an admirable record of public service, including leadership of the U.S. Southern Command, which is responsible for Central America, South America, and the Caribbean. He has a strong relationship with current Homeland Security Secretary, Jeh Johnson, which will help support a smooth transition of the $40 billion agency with its 240,000 employees.

I am concerned, however, that at General Kelly's confirmation hearing, Senator HARRIS repeatedly asked him whether he would honor the commitment made to DACA children and DREAMers not to share their personal information with Immigration and Customs Enforcement to protect them from deportation. General Kelly repeatedly declined to say that he would. DACA recipients submitted their personal information to the government on the assurance from the Department of Homeland Security that their information would not be used against them. These families now live in fear that the new administration will tear them apart.

I hope that these concerns prove to be unwarranted, and, should General Kelly be confirmed, I look forward to working with him to both protect our homeland and the values we hold dear. However, his failure to provide assurances that he will meet the commitment we have made to these individuals who came to the United States as children means I cannot support his nomination today.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Vermont.

NOMINATION OF MIKE POMPEO

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I want to associate myself with what the distinguished Senator from Oregon has said. My concerns—and they will be in my full statement about Mr. POMPEO—are his suggestions in the past of sweeping authority for the government to collect bulk information on all Americans; that is, every American in this room, every American in this city, and every American in this country. We have strong bipartisan legislation that we have worked for years on, trying to

get Republicans and Democrats across the political spectrum to set into law what the rules should be. His statements show that he wants to throw it all overboard. So I have concerns.

Mr. President, our intelligence agencies have an enormous task ahead. The challenges they face range from state-sponsored information warfare to countering violent extremists around the world. Among those who will lead these efforts will be the next Director of the Central Intelligence Agency. The importance of the CIA cannot be overstated, and now, perhaps more than ever, we need a Director who will manage the agency with the full confidence of the American people. This confidence is based not only on a future Director's ability to comprehend security challenges, but on his or her ability to safeguard the privacy and civil liberties of all Americans and to uphold and advance United States leadership in protecting human rights.

I have serious concerns with President Trump's nominee to lead the CIA. Congressman POMPEO has called for the reestablishment of the bulk collection of Americans' phone records, and has even argued that the intelligence community should combine that metadata ''with publicly available financial and lifestyle information into a comprehensive, searchable database.'' He went on to say that ''[l]egal and bureaucratic impediments to surveillance should be removed.'' But Congress outright rejected the bulk collection of Americans' records when it passed the USA FREEDOM Act of 2015 on an overwhelming bipartisan basis—the very program that Congressman POMPEO said that he wants to bring back.

During his testimony last week, Congressman POMPEO attempted to diffuse this and other questions about his more alarming positions by affirming his appreciation of the supremacy of law. It sounded to me like the tried and true confirmation conversion. I appreciate that he testified that he understands the responsibility of a Director to uphold the Constitution and the laws passed by Congress. But I remain deeply concerned that he advocated for such dangerous measures in the first place. And I am concerned that he will push to remove ''legal and bureaucratic impediments to surveillance''—just as he said last year.

We face grave threats from around the world, whether from Russia, from ISIS, or other adversaries. The director of the CIA must be trusted by all Americans to protect us from these threats, but also to protect our Nation's core values. I don't question Congressman POMPEO's loyalty to our Nation. I do question his stated beliefs that immediate security concerns can be used as a justification for eroding the fundamental rights of Americans. For these reasons, I cannot support Congressman POMPEO's nomination.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for 2 additional minutes on each side.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I would like to respond to the statement of the Senator from Oregon. As chairman of the Intelligence Committee, let me just tell Members that Congressman POMPEO has made himself available to every Member on the Committee for private meetings in their office. For everyone who would take a meeting, he met with them.

He came before the committee in open session and in closed session. In open session, he stayed for as long as Members had questions, and all questions were answered. Congressman POMPEO received from the committee over 150—may have been over 200—questions for the record. Today all questions are answered.

I can't address whether there was ever a CIA Director who was confirmed on inauguration day, but I can't think of a time where the country has been more challenged with threats around the world and at home than we are right now. We carried out military acts last night and the night before. We have just gotten through with one of the highest security events in the history of this country in Washington, DC.

Why aren't we taking up Representative POMPEO today? It is not because there is disagreement, it is not because we haven't had an opportunity to ask enough questions or talk to him face-to-face and get answers. It is because some people don't want to vote on it today. They want to wait until Monday.

I am willing to debate this as long as it needs to be debated. I don't want to cut off anybody's debate, but I think we owe it to the country to have a vote today. That can be in an hour, it can be in 5 hours, but I think we ought to provide this President with a CIA Director who is in charge.

Mr. DURBIN. Will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. BURR. I will be happy to yield.

Mr. MCCAIN. I object. It is time for the vote.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, there were 2 minutes extended to each side, if I am not mistaken.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator cannot object. There is 2 minutes on both sides.

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, let me conclude and then the Senator can claim his own time.

We ought to do this. We ought to do it for the country, not for ourselves. It is not about us. This is about doing something for the country. An Acting Director of the CIA is just not sufficient, whether it is for a day or whether it is for a week. Right now they need leadership that is permanent. They need to know tomorrow who is heading that Agency. I would urge my colleagues, let's confirm him today. We have had enough time to ask every question possible, and now is the time to vote on confirmation.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I only want to ask my friend from North Carolina, the chairman of the committee, two questions.

Is it traditional for the Senate Intelligence Committee that you chair to report out a nominee like Congressman POMPEO, and have you reported him out of your committee to the floor?

Mr. BURR. The Senator's question is a very good one.

It is normal for us to report out. We thought we had a deal with the Democratic leader. That is why we didn't discharge him. That is why we didn't have a business meeting this week. I regret that I didn't schedule that, but it certainly could have been, and I will not make that mistake again.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. All time for the majority has expired.

Who yields time?

The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. DURBIN. The Democratic side yields back all time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. All time has expired.

VOTE ON MATTIS NOMINATION

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Mattis nomination?

Mr. MCCAIN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS).

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

The result was announced—yeas 98, nays 1, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 29 Ex.]

YEAS—98

Alexander	Cruz	Johnson
Baldwin	Daines	Kaine
Barrasso	Donnelly	Kennedy
Bennet	Duckworth	King
Blumenthal	Durbin	Klobuchar
Blunt	Enzi	Lankford
Booker	Ernst	Leahy
Boozman	Feinstein	Lee
Brown	Fischer	Manchin
Burr	Flake	Markey
Cantwell	Franken	McCain
Capito	Gardner	McCaskill
Cardin	Graham	McConnell
Carper	Grassley	Menendez
Casey	Harris	Merkley
Cassidy	Hassan	Moran
Cochran	Hatch	Murkowski
Collins	Heinrich	Murphy
Coons	Heitkamp	Murray
Corker	Heller	Nelson
Cornyn	Hirono	Paul
Cortez Masto	Hoeven	Perdue
Cotton	Inhofe	Peters
Crapo	Isakson	Portman

Reed
Risch
Roberts
Rounds
Rubio
Sanders
Sasse
Schatz
Schumer
Scott
Shaheen
Shelby
Stabenow
Sullivan
Tester
Thune
Tillis
Toomey
Udall
Van Hollen
Warner
Warren
Whitehouse
Wicker
Wyden
Young

NAYS—1

Gillibrand

NOT VOTING—1

Sessions

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I think under the circumstances the Democratic leader and I have come up with a solution that I think at least moves the ball in the right direction. First, I want to implore our colleagues on the other side to give us a vote on POMPEO today.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION

Therefore, following disposition of the Kelly nomination, I ask unanimous consent that the Intelligence Committee be discharged and the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nomination received today: MIKE POMPEO to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency. I ask that the nomination be confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and the President be notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the request?

Mr. WYDEN. I object, Madam President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, it is pretty obvious the Senator from Oregon is not interested in approving this CIA nomination today. I would remind everyone the previous Director is gone. The Deputy, the No. 2 person, is gone. I don't think it is a great idea for Senate Democrats to be holding this vacant over the weekend.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION

Mr. President, given what we have heard, following disposition of the Kelly nomination, I ask unanimous consent that the Intelligence Committee be discharged and the Senate vote on the motion to proceed to the consideration of the following nomination received today: MIKE POMPEO to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency—the motion to proceed. I further ask consent that following leader remarks on Monday, January 23, there be 6 hours of debate on the nomination, equally divided in the usual form, and that following the use or yielding back of time, the Senate vote on the nomination with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; that no further motions be in order; and that any statements relating to the nomination be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the unanimous consent request?

Mr. WYDEN. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, this would ensure that there would be a debate about the CIA and its future Director in the light of day. I am not going to object, and I withdraw my reservation.

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

The question now occurs on the Kelly nomination.

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, I ask for 1 minute on the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Arizona is recognized.

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, I know it is unnecessary, but I urge an ''aye'' vote on General Kelly. He is experienced. He is talented. He understands borders. He understands the challenges we face for our national security throughout the world. I strongly urge an ''aye'' vote for General Kelly.

VOTE ON KELLY NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Kelly nomination?

Mr. MCCAIN. 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 Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS).

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

The result was announced—yeas 88, nays 11, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 30 Ex.]

YEAS—88

Alexander
Baldwin
Barrasso
Bennet
Blunt
Boozman
Brown
Burr
Cantwell
Capito
Cardin
Carper
Casey
Cassidy
Cochran
Collins
Coons
Corker
Cornyn
Cotton
Crapo
Cruz
Daines
Donnelly
Duckworth
Durbin
Enzi
Ernst
Feinstein
Fischer
Flake
Franken
Gardner
Graham
Grassley
Hassan
Hatch
Heitkamp
Heller
Hirono
Hoeven
Inhofe
Isakson
Johnson
Kaine
Kennedy
King
Klobuchar
Lankford
Leahy
Lee
Manchin
Markey
McCain
McCaskill
McConnell
Menendez
Moran
Murkowski
Murphy
Murray
Nelson
Paul
Perdue
Peters
Portman
Reed
Risch
Roberts
Rounds
Rubio
Sanders
Sasse
Schatz
Schumer
Scott
Shaheen
Shelby
Stabenow
Sullivan
Tester
Thune
Tillis
Toomey
Warner
Whitehouse
Wicker
Young

NAYS—11

Blumenthal
Booker
Cortez Masto
Gillibrand
Harris
Heinrich
Merkley
Udall
Van Hollen
Warren
Wyden

NOT VOTING—1

Sessions

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. With respect to the Mattis and Kelly nominations, under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table.

The President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION—MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Select Committee on Intelligence is discharged from further consideration of the nomination of MIKE POMPEO, of Kansas, to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and the question is on agreeing to the motion to proceed to the nomination.

Mr. CORNYN. 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 senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) is necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 89, nays 8, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 31 Leg.]

YEAS—89

Alexander
Baldwin
Barrasso
Bennet
Blunt
Boozman
Brown
Burr
Cantwell
Capito
Cardin
Carper
Casey
Cassidy
Cochran
Collins
Coons
Corker
Cornyn
Cortez Masto
Cotton
Crapo
Cruz
Daines
Donnelly
Duckworth
Durbin
Enzi
Ernst
Feinstein
Fischer
Flake
Franken
Gardner
Graham
Grassley
Harris
Hassan
Hatch
Heinrich
Heitkamp
Heller
Hirono
Hoeven
Inhofe
Johnson
Kennedy
King
Klobuchar
Lankford
Leahy
Lee
Manchin
Markey
McCain
McCaskill
McConnell
Menendez
Moran
Murkowski
Murphy
Murray
Nelson
Paul
Perdue
Peters
Portman
Reed
Risch
Roberts
Rounds
Rubio
Sasse
Schatz
Schumer
Scott
Shaheen
Shelby
Stabenow
Sullivan
Tester
Thune
Tillis
Toomey
Van Hollen
Warner
Whitehouse
Wicker
Young

NAYS—8

Blumenthal	Merkley	Warren
Booker	Sanders	Wyden
Gillibrand	Udall	

NOT VOTING—3

Isakson	Kaine	Sessions

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will proceed to the consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of MIKE POMPEO, of Kansas, to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

CONFIRMATION OF JOHN KELLY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I voted in favor of the nomination of Gen. John Kelly to be U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security, and I am submitting this statement to explain my vote.

This nomination is not a referendum on President Donald Trump's immigration policy. If it were, I would have voted against the nomination.

In considering this nomination, the questions are whether General Kelly is unqualified to serve as Homeland Security Secretary and whether his views are too extreme to lead our homeland security and immigration enforcement efforts. In my view, General Kelly easily passes both tests.

Gen. John Kelly is clearly qualified to head up the Homeland Security Department. He served honorably in the U.S. Marine Corps for more than four decades, first as an enlistee and later as an officer, culminating in his role as commander of U.S. Southern Command. As SOUTHCOM commander, Kelly oversaw a variety of operations in the Caribbean, Central America, and South America from headquarters in Miami.

General Kelly knows better than most what is at stake in our efforts to protect our Nation from harm. He served three tours in Iraq, and in 2010, his son, Marine 1st Lt. Robert Michael Kelly, 29, was killed in southern Afghanistan while leading his platoon on a combat patrol when he stepped on a concealed bomb. He is the highest ranking military officer to lose a child in combat in Afghanistan or Iraq.

I am sure that I will disagree with General Kelly on some occasions, but he does not have a track record of extreme statements on immigration or the other issues that will be under his jurisdiction as Homeland Security Secretary.

I know that some of my Democratic colleagues voted against General Kelly's nomination because he refused to publicly commit to keeping the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals—DACA—program in place and to protecting DACA recipients from deportations. Reasonable people can disagree, and I respect my colleagues who are voting against General Kelly's nomination, but I don't believe this justifies opposing this nomination.

There is no one in the Senate who is more committed than I to protecting the DACA program and no one who has worked harder to protect the young immigrants who are eligible for this program. Seven years ago, I was the first Member of Congress to ask President Obama to establish the DACA program. DACA is based on the DREAM Act, legislation I first introduced 16 years ago that would give undocumented students who grew up in this country a chance to earn their citizenship.

The young people who are eligible for DACA and the DREAM Act are known as DREAMers. Over the years, I have met hundreds of DREAMers and I have come to the floor more than 100 times to tell these DREAMers' stories, which make the case for DACA and the DREAM Act better than I ever could.

Last week, General Kelly came to my office to meet with me. We spent most of our time discussing DACA and the DREAMers. General Kelly promised me that, if he was confirmed, he would be a part of the discussions about the future of DACA. He said that he felt strongly that DREAMers should be protected from deportation and that he would fight for that view. General Kelly also committed that he would come to Chicago with me to meet with a group of DREAMers and to visit an immigration detention center, so that he would understand the human impact of the laws he will be enforcing.

Based on these assurances, I am pleased to be able to support General Kelly's nomination. But let me be clear. If General Kelly supports an effort by the new administration to rescind DACA or deport DREAMers, I will fight him tooth and nail.

I congratulate General Kelly on his confirmation, and I look forward to working with him on the critical issues under his jurisdiction, especially the future of DACA and the DREAMers.

Mr. UDALL. Mr. President, today I voted against the confirmation of General John Kelly to be Secretary of Homeland Security. I have deep concerns about the homeland security policies that President Trump advocated during the campaign, and I worry that as Secretary of Homeland Security, General Kelly will feel it necessary to work to advance those reckless policies. For instance, General Kelly was unable to promise the Senate that the administration will refrain from deporting our nation's DREAMers, and I am troubled by his stated plans to reverse the Deferred Action for Child Arrivals, DACA, program. Furthermore, General Kelly did not provide sufficient assurance that he fully opposes the President's wasteful and misguided plan for a border wall.

However, now that he has been confirmed, it is my hope that Secretary Kelly will be the voice of reason in the deliberations to shape the Trump administration's homeland security policy and that many of the reckless ideas candidate Trump espoused during the election will never become reality.

While I voted against General Kelly, I recognize and appreciate his long and distinguished career in the marines. I believe this experience, particularly his final assignment as head of the U.S. Southern Command, will serve him well. In addition, I am encouraged by several statements General Kelly made during his confirmation hearing—statements that are at odds with the dangerous comments President Trump made during the campaign.

At the hearing, General Kelly spoke out against the use of torture and said the U.S. should always abide by the Geneva Conventions. He did state that building a wall along the southern border was not an effective way to secure the border, though he has not promised to oppose such a plan. He agreed with the intelligence community's assessment that Russia was responsible for hacking into our elections. He said that surveilling mosques and targeting Muslims as security threats was unacceptable. Finally, he said the sweeping collection of data on Americans violated the right to privacy and a much more focused effort is needed.

General Kelly has a reputation for speaking truth to power—I sincerely hope he does so as a member of the Cabinet, and I hope the President will listen. New Mexico is a majority-minority border State with thousands of hard-working families now living in fear of President Trump's immigration plans. Unfortunately, I am deeply concerned that General Kelly will be the instrument of the President's harmful and backwards homeland security agenda.

CONFIRMATION OF JAMES MATTIS

Mr. UDALL. Mr. President, Gen. Jim Mattis is an extraordinary individual and an American patriot who has dedicated his life to service of country.

Nevertheless, his nomination did concern me, given that it was contrary to underlying law that has been in place since World War II. This law restricts individuals who have come out of the military less than 7 years ago from serving as Secretary of Defense. The reason for this longstanding law is to ensure civilian control over the military. Civilian control is an important American tradition which General

Mattis himself called a ''fundamental tenet of the American military tradition.''

Due to this fundamental concern, I opposed the legislation to create an exception to the law to allow General Mattis to serve. I intend to oppose any future such exceptions for any future President as long as I serve in the Senate. However, now that the exception exists for General Mattis, and he is eligible to serve and has been nominated, I supported his confirmation today.

During his confirmation hearing, he clearly stressed that he understood his new role and would work to ensure the longstanding American tradition of civilian control. He will serve at the pleasure of the new President, but his job now is not to simply give and follow orders, but provide candid advice, ask tough questions, provide civilian leadership, and exert broad management over all aspects of DOD, not only warfighting. During his career in the U.S. Marines he has distinguished himself both in combat and at home, earning the respect of his fellow marines as well as servicemembers in every branch of the military. He has also held his marines and anyone serving with him to the highest of standards, emphasizing commitment to duty and the importance of learning and perfecting their profession.

While I voted against a waiver for him to serve as Secretary of Defense, I in no way can oppose him on the merits now that the waiver has been approved. My vote on the waiver was no way a reflection of my support for his qualifications, but a vote which I felt was important to maintain the tradition of civilian control of the military, an important American tradition which General Mattis himself called a ''fundamental tenet of the American military tradition.''

As Secretary of Defense, he will be charged with the important task of providing civilian leadership at the Department of Defense, the largest agency in our country, and the one tasked with our national defense.

New Mexico plays an outsized role in these efforts, beginning with our national labs, that maintain our nuclear weapons and play an important role in multiple defense efforts.

In addition, New Mexico is home to three Air Force bases. Kirtland Air Force Base, one of the most diverse in the country, not only plays a lead role in managing our nuclear weapons, but is both the home of state of the art Air Force Research Lab facilities and AFSOC's premier training wing—the 58th Special Operations Wing. Cannon Air Force Base, home of the 27th Special Operations Wing, is at the tip of the spear in our efforts to counter terrorist threats to the United States. Holloman Air Force Base, which was recently selected to receive additional F–16s, continues a proud tradition of training our future F–16 pilots. Furthermore, White Sands Missile Range, which is utilized by all our services, is the premier testing facility in the country. Finally, New Mexico also shares the Army's Ft. Bliss with our neighbor El Paso.

I would encourage Secretary Mattis to visit New Mexico as soon as possible to learn more about how New Mexico supports our Nation's military. I am proud to support them and our many veterans who have made New Mexico their home.

THANKING FORMER PRESIDENT OBAMA

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise to offer my words of gratitude to President Obama as his service to our Nation comes to a close. I want to commend him for his 8 years of dedicated public service. From the first time we met in 2005, I was struck by his integrity, his intellect and his decency. His achievements as President are too numerous to list, but 3 are significant. Over 15 million jobs created since the end of the great recession, 20 million more Americans with health care, and a $1 trillion reduction in the deficit.

President Obama was a strong fighter for the middle class and the vulnerable. Our Nation and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are in a stronger position today than when President Obama took the oath of office in January 2009. As a nation, we have made progress, but we still face substantial challenges in order to grow incomes, provide a quality education for more children, and keep our nation safe. We will miss President Obama's principled leadership and enduring commitment to strengthening America.

Mr. President, I ask unaimous consent that a CNN article about President Obama be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From CNNMoney (New York), Dec. 2, 2016]

OBAMA'S GIFT TO TRUMP: A 'PRETTY SOLID' ECONOMY

(by Heather Long)

President Obama is giving President-elect Trump a welcome gift: A pretty good economy.

Unemployment is at its lowest level since 2007.

Home prices are back at all-time highs.

Growth is picking up. The economy expanded at a 3.2% annual rate from July through September.

Even the middle class is (finally) getting a raise in pay.

''President Trump really is inheriting an economy that's pretty solid,'' said Kevin Hassett, an economist at the conservative American Enterprise Institute, on CNBC Friday.

The ''Obama economy'' deserves a ''B or B+'' grade, says Paul Ashworth, chief economist at Capital Economics.

GRADING THE OBAMA ECONOMY

That's not an A, but the economy is certainly better off than it was when Obama walked into the Oval Office in 2009. Back then, the country was in the midst of a deep financial crisis and recession. The very month Obama took office, nearly 800,000 Americans lost their jobs.

Obama believes he hasn't received enough credit for the big turnaround. ''Anyone claiming that America's economy is in decline is peddling fiction,'' Obama said earlier this year.

Unemployment has fallen dramatically from 10% to just 4.6% now. America has gained over 11 million new jobs since Obama took office.

TRUMP POINTS TO THOSE LEFT BEHIND IN RECOVERY

Trump has repeatedly called the unemployment rate ''a joke'' and ''a hoax.'' It's unclear whether he will change that message when he takes office. Then he would be able to take credit for keeping unemployment down—or even causing it to go lower.

For now, Trump continues to hammer the Obama economy as terrible. ''Companies are not going to leave the United States anymore without consequences,'' Trump said at a speech at a Carrier factory in Indianapolis, Indiana. ''We're losing so much.''

While hiring has picked up rapidly under President Obama—2014 and 2015 were the best years of job growth since the late 1990s—the gains have almost all come in the so-called ''service sector,'' not in manufacturing and blue collar work.

''There are some people doing fabulously well and others on death's doorstep. And there's a heck of a gulf in between,'' says Mark Hamrick, senior economic analyst at Bankrate.com.

The U.S. has 54,000 fewer manufacturing jobs now than a year ago, according to the Labor Department.

Trump is trying to stem that decline. He and vice President-elect Mike Pence negotiated a deal with Carrier to keep about 1,000 jobs in Indiana. Some of those jobs would have gone to Mexico.

The Obama team counters that 1,000 jobs is small compared to the 178,000 jobs added in November alone. It was the 74th consecutive month of job gains under Obama.

CAN TRUMP DO BETTER?

Trump and his new team of economic advisers promise to hypercharge U.S. growth. They say they can get it to 4%—stronger than recent years when the economy has grown only 2%.

The question is how.

Trump wants big tax cuts for businesses and individuals. He's also planning to roll back regulation and spend more on roads and bridges.

Wall Street has given these plans a big thumbs up. The stock market rallied to record levels in November after Trump won the presidency. Business and consumer confidence has also shot up since the momentous win.

THE BIG PROBLEM FOR TRUMP

There's just one catch: The U.S. economy has less potential to grow now than in the past, argues economist Ashworth.

Two key factors drive growth: More people entering the workforce and workers being more productive on the job.

Right now, the U.S. has an aging population and little appetite for much more immigration, so it's hard to see more workers flooding into the workforce. Trump likes to claim 94 million Americans are out of work and need jobs, but that's not correct. That number includes retirees, people in school and those who have chosen not to work in order to take care of their family.

In reality, about 2.1 million lost their jobs in recent years and appear to have simply given up looking. They are the hidden unemployed. Getting them jobs won't be easy as many jobs today require specialized skills.

Trump's big hope is to get productivity up by encouraging businesses to invest more in

their factories, research and workers. Business investment has been one of the missing parts of the recovery.

''We're not quite there yet, but we've made a considerable amount of progress,'' says Ashworth.

REMEMBERING KEN HECHLER

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Ken Hechler, a former Presidential adviser, veteran, public servant, author, Congressman, West Virginia's 26th Secretary of State, and educator who left a significant imprint on my home State of West Virginia.

Ken was born on September 20, 1914, in Roslyn, NY. Always a staunch advocate for engaging the public in politics, he helped organize support for President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal while attending Swarthmore College. He later earned a master's degree and Ph.D. in political science, both from Columbia University.

Shortly after the United States entered World War II, Ken was drafted into the Army where he trained as an infantryman and a tank commander. Eventually he was assigned as an Army combat historian and rose to the rank of colonel. He was one of five people assigned to interview leaders of Nazi Germany after the war.

His experience as a war historian led to his joining the Truman administration as an adviser on local issues during his tours across the Nation. He remained on Truman's administration throughout the remainder of his tenure and briefly into the administration of Dwight D. Eisenhower.

He was the author of ''The Bridge at Remagen,'' which detailed the Army's crossing of the Rhine River during World War II. This publication helped make him a household name.

Ken later joined the American Political Science Association, with one of his jobs requiring him to find political science professors for colleges. His legacy in West Virginia began in 1957 when he got a request to teach political science at Marshall College, now Marshall University. Following one term at Marshall, he ran for Congress and won. He served nine terms in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1957 to 1977.

He saw West Virginia for the welcoming place it is. Once you have visited our little State, it never really leaves you. Most importantly, Ken recognized quickly the issues that matter in West Virginia—mostly concerning the coal industry and protection of our miners. In the wake of the explosion at the Consol No. 9 mine in my hometown of Farmington, Ken played a key role in the promotion of the Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969. I personally lost many individuals who I knew well, including my dear Uncle John and several classmates, in that explosion. The implementation of the Coal Mine Health and Safety Act set the groundwork for everything we have accomplished for our miners since then. I will always be grateful for Ken's contributions.

Among his many history-making legacies, Ken joined the march to Selma with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1965. He was the only active Member of Congress to participate.

After a successful tenure in Congress, Ken served as West Virginia's Secretary of State. He moved his desk out front so he could interact with visitors passing through. He loved to visit with all West Virginians. He fought for transparency in our campaign finance system, was passionate about protecting our democratic process, and fought to ensure that West Virginians had access to cast their ballots.

Ken never gave up his commitment to public service and continued to be active on the issues that matter to the public. At the age of 85, he walked 530 miles with Granny D to show his unwavering commitment to campaign finance reform, shortly after the McCain-Feingold Act passed Congress. Put simply, Ken was never one to back down from a challenge. The man was fearless and fought tirelessly for causes he believed in.

What is most important is that he lived a full life, surrounded by dear friends and family. It is my hope that Ken's loved ones are able to find peace, strength, and support in one another. This is a time to celebrate his life and vast accomplishments, as well as the countless lives he touched, and to honor his memory in our thoughts and prayers.

Again, I extend my most sincere condolences to his loving wife, Carol, and the entire Hechler family and dear friends. I am honored to join the people of West Virginia and beyond in recognizing his memory, as well as the unwavering love he had for his loved ones and our great Nation. His legacy of service will live on forever.

REMEMBERING TIM MITCHELL

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I have said many times that the Senate is a family, and today we are a family in mourning. Tim Mitchell, the assistant Democratic secretary and a 25-year Senate staffer, lost his battle with brain cancer this past Saturday night. It was a battle he waged with uncommon courage and grace. We are disconsolate that such an outstanding person in the prime of his life has been taken from his family and from the Senate. We send our deepest condolences and prayers to his beloved wife Alicia; his cherished son Ben; his father, the Reverend Dr. Philip Mitchell; his sister Christi; and the rest of his family and many, many friends.

While Tim spent part of his formative years in Binghamton, NY, he was born in Boston and also grew up in New Hampshire, so he ultimately pledged his sports allegiance to Boston and New England. He called himself a P-K—a preacher's kid. He earned his undergraduate degree from the State University of New York at Fredonia. He earned his juris doctor degree at night while he worked here in the Senate, from Catholic University's Columbus School of Law. Tim loved his family most of all, but he also loved the Senate, and he loved the Boston Red Sox—I am not sure of the order there; maybe they were tied. He actually acquired two seats from Fenway Park and put them in his basement for when he wanted to watch a game. They were just part of his extensive collection of Red Sox memorabilia, hats, ties, and the like. I don't think any other fan was as excited and as proud as Tim was when the Red Sox won the World Series in 2004, ending an 86-year drought.

Tim started his Senate career following his junior year in college as an intern for then-Senator Don Riegle from Michigan. He returned to the Senate after he graduated to work as a staff assistant in Senator Riegle's office, where he quickly displayed his talents and work ethic and was promoted to a job on the Senate Banking Committee. Later, he worked on the special Whitewater Committee. He also worked for former Democratic Leader Tom Daschle, on his personal staff and on the Democratic Policy Committee, before joining the floor staff in 2001.

As a member of the floor staff, Tim was intimately involved in every bill, every nomination, every accomplishment of the Senate. Throughout it all, he was always calm, always patient, always courteous, and always exhibiting his innate sense of decency and fairness. He was a parliamentary expert and a trusted adviser.

I hope Tim's wife Alicia, his son Ben, and his other family members know just how much Tim was loved and respected here in the Senate. Given the partisan nature of his job, that is, perhaps, the best testament to the type of person Tim was. Our hearts, like theirs, are broken. I hope they may find some solace in these words written by the Reverend Henry Scott Holland, originally as a sermon, but usually reprinted as a poem:

Death is nothing at all.
It does not count.
I have only slipped away into the next room.
Nothing has happened.

Everything remains exactly as it was.
I am I, and you are you, and the old life that we lived so fondly together is untouched, unchanged.
Whatever we were to each other, that we are still.

Call me by the old familiar name.
Speak of me in the easy way which you always used.
Put no difference into your tone.
Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow.

Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes that we enjoyed together.
Play, smile, think of me, pray for me.
Let my name be ever the household word that it always was.
Let it be spoken without an effort, without the ghost of a shadow upon it.

Life means all that it ever meant.
It is the same as it ever was.
There is absolute and unbroken continuity.
What is this death but a negligible accident?

Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight?
I am but waiting for you, for an interval,
somewhere very near,
just round the corner.
All is well.
Nothing is hurt; nothing is lost.
One brief moment and all will be as it was before.
How we shall laugh at the trouble of parting when we meet again!

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

STATE OF THE UNION ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

• Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, since 2010, I have sponsored a State of the Union essay contest for Vermont students. The contest, now in its 7th year, is an opportunity for Vermont's high school students to articulate what issues they would prioritize if they were President of the United States. A panel of Vermont teachers reviewed all of the essays submitted and selected the top 20.

I would like to congratulate each and every finalist and to specifically acknowledge Quinn Nelson Mayo as this year's winner of the contest. I would also like to recognize Musa Mayange for placing second and A.J. DeFelice for placing third. I ask to have printed in the RECORD the winning essays.

The material follows:

QUINN NELSON MAYO, ST. JOHNSBURY ACADEMY JUNIOR (WINNER)

The United States was founded on several core values; the most important, as most of us agree, is freedom. This shared belief has been the foundation of our country for over 200 years. And for centuries, media has been a major outlet for people to exercise this freedom because it allows them to share their opinions with the masses. The idea of free speech took on a different meaning with the development of the internet in the late 80s. Since then, this liberty has grown exponentially. Now people have the ability to share their thoughts with a much larger audience. It is possible to do this anonymously and without fear of consequence. The internet is an incredible asset which has helped with globalization and the spread of information. However, this form of media does have its drawbacks. The leading issue is that it enables the spread of false information. So, while the internet embodies our nation's core value of freedom, it can also be detrimental to another vital aspect of our society: educated and well informed citizens.

Regardless of one's political views, we can all agree that 2016 has been a tumultuous year for politics, here in the United States and across the globe. The 2016 presidential campaign was a dramatic affair, and just the opening act to one of the most high-stakes elections in our country's history. The actions and rhetoric of the president-elect have inspired a great political shift, as well as a burgeoning sense of xenophobia and hatred throughout the country. During times such as these, it is important to focus on what we can do to create a better future. Much of the hate directed towards certain groups of people is due to ignorance and can be traced back to stereotypes perpetrated by unreliable media sources. Forcing media sites to drastically increase their censorship would rightfully anger their users, on the grounds that it restricts their constitutional right to free speech. Therefore, the most plausible and effective solution to the problem of misinformation is to educate people.

As of this year, 78% of the United States population has a social media profile (Statista). Facebook and Twitter have billions of users across the world. It is imperative that we use such sites with care. The recent controversies over fake news have made the influence of the media on politics increasingly apparent. The rumor now known as ''Pizzagate'' is a prime example of a fake news story with tremendous influence. Millions of people believed that Hillary Clinton was involved in a child-prostitution ring run out of a pizza parlor. This is because, for a vast number of people, social media and biased news sources are their only ways of acquiring information. In fact, it is estimated that 62% of American adults use social media at least occasionally as a news source (Pew Research Center). However, many blindly make the assumption that it is accurate. When hundreds of thousands of people are susceptible to hate-driven fake news, it can have a huge impact on our democracy.

This is why I propose the incorporation of media literacy as a core subject in all public schools. Public schools educate the majority of our nation's children. Which is why, by teaching America's youth how to approach sources impartially and critically, we can fix this problem of misinformation. Integrating media literacy as a required course at elementary and high-school levels is an investment in our future generations.

MUSA MAYANGE, WINOOSKI HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR (SECOND PLACE)

Twelve years and still no change. After fleeing from a civil war in Somalia in 1992, my parents took refuge at a refugee camp in Kakuma, Kenya. After 12 years of struggle, in 2004 we flew from the National Airport of Kenya to J.F.K. International Airport in New York thinking our lives were saved. Finally here, the land of the free and the home of the brave. One of the only places on earth where you can taste opportunity and smell a second chance. At the age of 17, I can see it now. America's resistance to change.

Racism exists in America. Surveys reveal that whites apply stereotypical thinking about blacks, considering them lazy and unintelligent. What are we going to do about these attitudes towards persons of color?

The American National Election Studies asked voters to rank blacks and whites from hardworking to lazy, from intelligent to unintelligent. In 2012, 62 percent of whites gave blacks a lower score in at least one area. In 2008, 45 percent of whites expressed negative feelings about black stereotypes. (Milbank, Washington Post)

For a while, we thought that the issue of racism was over and that our nation was going to move forward and ''leave the past in the past.'' It almost had me fooled because we live in Vermont and we sometimes can be isolated from world issues. But racism is still here. When everyone thought that it was no longer ''relevant,'' it's still alive.

As a young African-American immigrant, how can I wrap my head around this? As Vermonters how can we annihilate racism and get our community to be accepting of all races, cultures, and ethnic backgrounds?

Ta-Nehisi Coates addresses the disadvantages of living with black skin in Between the World And Me. Coates says ''. . . today, when 8% of the world's prisoners are black men, our race has been refinanced to the Dream of being white. Black life is cheap, but in America, black bodies are a natural resource of incomparable value.'' Black people are born with a disadvantage. We are more likely to go jail than white people. The Center for American Progress says, ''In the United States, black people account for 60 percent of those imprisoned. The prison population grew by 700 percent from 1970 to 2005, a rate that is outpacing crime and population rates.

Black people make up 17% of the United States population yet more of us are in jail. A black man is twice as likely to go to jail than a white man, even if they did the same crime.

Racism was born when humans identified skin color as a positive or negative factor. If each of us could accept that we are all humans, we come from different places, and have different interests, we could accept racial differences, but not let them divide us. We will never move forward if we don't work together side by side and knock down obstacles.

AJ DEFELICE, HARTFORD HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMAN (THIRD PLACE)

The United States is one of the greatest countries on Earth, prized for its natural beauty, economic opportunities, and democratic principles. However, many challenges face our nation. Among the most pressing issues are climate change, immigration, and income inequality.

Perhaps the most daunting problem we face is climate change, and the crucial role our country plays in it. Although President Obama recently signed the Paris Agreement to limit greenhouse gas emissions, much must still be done to combat this issue. We can begin by putting unemployed or low-income Americans to work—manufacturing, transporting, and installing renewable energy products—such as solar panels, wind turbines, and more. This would produce a similar effect as the New Deal put into place by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to combat the negative effects of the Great Depression. Additionally, a carbon tax should be established nationally, to lower emissions, and encourage the usage of renewable energy. A carbon tax would also allow for tax reductions in other areas, and combined with employing Americans to transition to widespread renewable energy, would create economic growth, while simultaneously reducing our carbon footprint.

Another controversial issue which troubles our nation is immigration. The United States is a country built on the backs of immigrants, and to deny a path to citizenship to millions who long only for a higher quality of life is unpatriotic. We must stop dehumanizing these people and see them only for who they are—people. Immigrants strengthen our economy, whether it be as producers, consumers, or developers. To deny them access to citizenship in our nation would be depriving ourselves of economic growth and cultural diversity. Economic and cultural change that would only strengthen American society.

Income inequality is another issue which plagues our nation today. According to countless years of research, income inequality has a direct correlation on social and health issues. A study conducted by the University of Wisconsin found that people who reside in more financially unequal communities are more likely to die before the age of 75. As national income inequality decreases, so do social and health problems. This decline can be seen in Scandinavian countries, where having a more equal gross domestic product per capita results in a higher quality of life. To make this possible for the United States, corporations must be regulated and held accountable by lawmakers to be sure that the American people are receiving the representation they deserve. As citizens, we must be responsible in electing officials who will place the needs of the greater population

above the interests of wealthy corporate executives.

Our nation is at a turning point in its history, and the choices we make today will have lasting effects on future generations.

The United States of America will remain a strong, respected, and prosperous nation if we are able to look past our disagreements and focus on making progress through compromise. We must act wisely, and keep our eyes on what is most important—the liberty we treasure as our nation's crowning promise.●

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.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Secretary of the Senate, on January 19, 2017, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. UPTON) had signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 39. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to codify the Presidential Innovation Fellows Program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 72. An act to ensure the Government Accountability Office has adequate access to information.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the enrolled bills were signed on January 19, 2017, during the adjournment of the Senate by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Secretary of the Senate, on January 19, 2017, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 84. An act to provide for an exception to a limitation against appointment of persons as Secretary of Defense within seven years of relief from active duty as a regular commissioned officer of the Armed Forces.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the enrolled bill was signed on January 19, 2017, during the adjournment of the Senate by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to section 2 of the Civil Rights Commission Amendments Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 1975), and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, and upon recommendation of the Minority Leader, the Speaker reappoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Commission on Civil Rights for a term expiring December 15, 2022: Mr. Michael Yaki of San Francisco, California.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 2(a) of the National Cultural Center Act (20 U.S.C. 76h(a)), amended by Public Law 107–117, and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts: Mr. Kennedy of Massachusetts.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 4(a) of the John F. Kennedy Centennial Commission Act (Public Law 114–215), and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the John F. Kennedy Centennial Commission: Mr. McCarthy of California and Ms. Stefanik of New York.

The message further announced that pursuant to sections 5580 and 5581 of the revised statutes (20 U.S.C. 42–43), and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: Ms. Matsui of California.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, January 20, 2017, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 84. An act to provide for an exception to a limitation against appointments of persons as Secretary of Defense within seven years of relief from active duty as a regular commissioned officer of the Armed Forces.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BURR, from the Select Committee on Intelligence, without amendment:

S. 133. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115–2).

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. LEE:

S. 177. A bill to provide for congressional review of the imposition of duties and other trade measures by the executive branch, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BENNET, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 178. A bill to prevent elder abuse and exploitation and improve the justice system's response to victims in elder abuse and exploitation cases; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CORKER, Mr. COTTON, Mr. ENZI, Mr. LEE, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 179. A bill to expand the use of E-Verify, to hold employers accountable, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 180. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to reform and reduce fraud and abuse in certain visa programs for aliens working temporarily in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. 181. A bill to ensure that certain Federal public works and infrastructure projects use materials produced in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 182. A bill to provide for the inclusion of court-appointed guardianship improvement and oversight activities under the Elder Justice Act of 2009; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. LEE):

S. 183. A bill to allow for expedited approval of generic prescription drugs and temporary importation of prescription drugs in the case of noncompetitive drug markets and drug shortages; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. LEE, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. PAUL, Mr. ENZI, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. MORAN, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CORKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. ERNST, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SASSE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. PERDUE):

S. 184. A bill to prohibit taxpayer funded abortions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COONS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. WARREN):

S.J. Res. 6. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to equal rights for men and women; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MORAN, Mr. SASSE, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. PAUL):

S. Res. 15. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Mexico City policy should be permanently established; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. Res. 16. A resolution to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. Res. 17. A resolution to constitute the minority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 41

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 41, a bill to amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate covered part D drug prices on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries.

S. 128

At the request of Mr. NELSON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 128, a bill to provide provisional protected presence to qualified individuals who came to the United States as children.

S. RES. 6

At the request of Mr. KAINE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 6, a resolution objecting to United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 and to all efforts that undermine direct negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians for a secure and peaceful settlement.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BENNET, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN.

S. 178. A bill to prevent elder abuse and exploitation and improve the justice system's response to victims in elder abuse and exploitation cases; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. Pisesident, I have fought for years to protect our Nation's seniors from abuse and exploitation, initially, as former Chairman of the Senate Aging Committee, former Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and more recently, as Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

This past June, I chaired a Judiciary Committee hearing on Protecting Older Americans from Financial Exploitation. At the hearing, we heard about numerous scams in which seniors were targeted time after time, resulting in their being defrauded, often with devastating consequences. We also heard that many older Americans don't report instances of elder abuse or exploitation due to embarrassment, a refusal to acknowledge that they were victimized, or reliance on the perpetrator as their caretaker.

Sadly, these accounts of elder abuse are nothing new. What has changed is that the scams targeting seniors are becoming increasingly sophisticated. That is one of the reasons why elder financial exploitation has been dubbed ''the crime of the 21st century.''

I have made it a top priority to get the Federal Government to step up its efforts to fight the abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation of our Nation's seniors.

Last year, I called on the Justice Department to outline its efforts to prevent and respond to instances of elder abuse. First, I sent a letter to the Department to find out what it's doing to protect seniors from a new and particularly troubling form of exploitation: the photographing and online publication of nursing home residents in embarrassing and compromising situations.

I also sent a letter to inquire about the Department's efforts to fight imposter scams, in which fraudsters pose as employees of the IRS or another government agency, in order to deprive ordinary Americans of millions of dollars of their hard earned money. And as tax season approaches once again, it's critical that folks watch out for these deceitful scams.

I also asked about the data the Department is collecting on financial exploitation, as well as how this data is being used to support Federal efforts to protect America's seniors.

In its response to my inquiries, the Justice Department effectively admitted that it falls short in several respects. The Department said that it ''does not collect data on the prevalence of elder financial exploitation nationwide.'' Further, the Department said that it can't provide statistical information on the number of cases it has prosecuted for elder financial exploitation.

What all this means is that we are not getting the full picture of elder financial exploitation.

We do know that some older Americans' trusting and polite nature, combined with their hard-earned retirement savings, make them particularly attractive targets for fraudsters. We also know that the abuse and exploitation of older Americans is on the rise and it can take many forms.

Financial exploitation is the most widespread form of elder abuse, costing America's seniors between an estimated $2.9 billion and $36 billion annually. But, sadly, its costs aren't limited to the negative effect on seniors' bank accounts. Victims suffer all sorts of negative effects, including diminished health, loss of independence, and psychological distress.

It is estimated that up to 37 percent of seniors in the United States are affected by some form of financial exploitation in any 5-year period.

In my home State of Iowa, so-called grandparent scams are on the rise. In these scams, fraudsters present themselves to an older American as a grandchild in distress, hoping to convince the grandparent to send cash or give out a credit card number.

Con artists are also using sweepstakes scams to steal money from seniors. A senior is called and told they have won a prize or sum of money. But before they can claim the supposed prize, the victim is required to pay taxes or processing fees. Once the money is paid to cover the taxes and fees, however, no prize ever materializes.

Other instances of elder financial exploitation are more personal in nature and have especially devastating effects. Some victims are pressured into signing over a deed, modifying a will, or giving a power of attorney. Americans have lost their farms, homes, and life savings to this form of fraud.

In short, elder abuse and exploitation is a serious problem, and it demands a strong response. It requires all of us to work together in a collaborative way.

So, today I am proud to introduce the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act. I thank my colleagues—Senators BLUMENTHAL, TILLIS, KLOBUCHAR, and CORNYN for collaborating with me on this comprehensive and bipartisan bill's development and for joining as original cosponsors. It takes a multi-pronged approach to combating the abuse and financial exploitation of our nation's senior citizens.

We have heard a need for specialized prosecutors and more focused efforts to combat abuse and exploitation. That is why the bill directs the Attorney General to designate at least one federal prosecutor in each U.S. Attorney's Office to serve as an Elder Justice Coordinator for that district.

To ensure that elder abuse is a priority for the Federal Trade Commission and the Justice Department, the bill also calls for each agency to have an Elder Justice Coordinator.

We also need to send a strong message that efforts to target our Nation's seniors won't be tolerated. That is why the bill enhances elder victims' access to restitution and increases penalties for criminals who use telemarketing or email in their schemes to defraud seniors.

The bill also requires that the Justice Department partner with the Department of Health and Human Services to provide training and technical assistance to State and local governments on the investigation, prevention, prosecution, and mitigation of elder abuse and neglect.

Finally we have heard about the need for more data on financial exploitation

and the government's response. Gathering accurate information about elder abuse is not only crucial to understanding the scope of the problem, but it is also essential in determining where resources should be allocated. So, the bill helps to accomplish that.

It requires that data be collected from federal prosecutors and law enforcement in cases where an older American was the target of abuse or exploitation.

These and other reforms included in the bill are the product of a truly bipartisan effort, as well as insight from key stakeholders and those who've been battling elder financial exploitation on the front lines.

This 21st century crime requires a 21st century response. The Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act takes a strong step toward protecting our Nation's seniors, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 15—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE MEXICO CITY POLICY SHOULD BE PERMANENTLY ESTABLISHED

Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MORAN, Mr. SASSE, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. PAUL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 15

Whereas section 104(f) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151b(f)) (commonly referred to as the ''Helms amendment'') states that no foreign assistance funds may be used to pay for the performance of abortion as a method of family planning or to motivate or coerce any person to practice abortions;

Whereas section 518 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109–102; 119 Stat. 2202) (commonly referred to as the ''Siljander Amendment'') states that no foreign assistance funds may be used to lobby for or against abortion;

Whereas, in 1984, President Ronald Reagan established the ''Mexico City Policy,'' which prohibits foreign aid for family planning purposes from being given to foreign nongovernmental organizations that perform abortions or actively promote abortion as a method of family planning, regardless of the source of funding;

Whereas, upon assuming office on January 20, 1989, President George H.W. Bush continued to enforce the Mexico City Policy as established by President Reagan;

Whereas the Mexico City Policy was reestablished on January 22, 2001, by President George W. Bush; and

Whereas, on January 23, 2009, President Barack Obama rescinded the Mexico City Policy:

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the President should immediately reapply and consider improving the Mexico City Policy; and

(2) Congress should expeditiously consider statutory changes that permanently codify the Mexico City Policy or an improved version thereof.

SENATE RESOLUTION 16—TO CONSTITUTE THE MAJORITY PARTY'S MEMBERSHIP ON CERTAIN COMMITTEES FOR THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS, OR UNTIL THEIR SUCCESSORS ARE CHOSEN

Mr. MCCONNELL submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 16

Resolved, That the following shall constitute the majority party's membership on the following committee for the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen:

Committee on Rules and Administration: Mr. Shelby, Mr. McConnell, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Blunt, Mr. Cruz, Mrs. Capito, Mr. Wicker, Mrs. Fischer.

SENATE RESOLUTION 17—TO CONSTITUTE THE MINORITY PARTY'S MEMBERSHIP ON CERTAIN COMMITTEES FOR THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS, OR UNTIL THEIR SUCCESSORS ARE CHOSEN

Mr. SCHUMER submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 17

Resolved, That the following shall constitute the majority party's membership on the following committee for the One Hundredth Fifteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen:

Committee on Rules and Administration: Ms. Klobuchar, Mrs. Feinstein, Mr. Schumer, Mr. Durbin, Mr. Udall, Mr. Warner, Mr. Leahy, Mr. King, Ms. Cortez Masto.

INAUGURAL CEREMONY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Inaugural Ceremony proceedings be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the proceedings of the Inaugural Ceremony were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

INAUGURAL CEREMONY

Inauguration of Donald John Trump, January 20, 2017, 11:33 a.m.

The Architect of the Capitol, Stephen T. Ayers, accompanied by Mrs. Jennifer Ayers, assembled on the President's platform.

The leadership of the 58th Presidential Inaugural Committee, Chairman Tom Barrack, Chief Executive Officer Sara Armstrong, and Deputy Chairman Rick Gates, assembled on the President's platform.

Former Senate Majority Leaders Robert Dole, Trent Lott, and Bill Frist, accompanied by Mrs. Elizabeth Dole, Mrs. Tricia Lott, and Mrs. Karyn Frist, assembled on the President's platform.

Former Speakers of the House of Representatives Newt Gingrich and John Boehner, accompanied by Mrs. Callista Gingrich and Mrs. Debbie Boehner, assembled on the President's platform.

The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Joseph F. Dunford, Jr., and Mrs. Ellyn Dunford, accompanied by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, assembled on the President's platform.

Former Vice Presidents Dan Quayle and Dick Cheney, accompanied by Mrs. Marilyn Quayle and Mrs. Lynne Cheney, assembled on the President's platform.

Members of the 115th House of Representatives of the United States, led by Majority Whip Steve Scalise and Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer, assembled on the President's platform.

The Governors of the United States and its territories and the Mayor of the District of Columbia assembled on the President's platform.

Members of the 115th Senate of the United States assembled on the President's platform.

The President-elect's Cabinet and agency designees assembled on the President's platform.

Their Excellencies, the Chiefs of Diplomatic Missions, led by the Acting Dean of the diplomatic corps, His Excellency Serge Mombouli, assembled on the President's platform.

The Chief Justice of the United States, the Honorable John G. Roberts, Jr., and the Associate Justices assembled on the President's platform.

The 39th President of the United States, Jimmy Carter, and Mrs. Rosalynn Carter assembled on the President's platform.

The 42nd President of the United States, William Jefferson Clinton, and the Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton, assembled on the President's platform.

The 43rd President of the United States, George W. Bush, and Mrs. Laura Bush assembled on the President's platform.

The children of Vice President-Elect Pence, 2nd Lt. Michael Pence, Charlotte Pence, and Audrey Pence, accompanied by Assistant Secretary of the Senate Mary Suit Jones and Deputy Clerk of the House of Representatives Robert Reeves, assembled on the President's platform.

The children of President-Elect Trump, Donald Trump, Jr., Ivanka Trump, Eric Trump, Tiffany Trump, and Barron Trump, accompanied by Senate Majority Secretary Laura Dove and House of Representatives Chief Administrative Officer Phillip G. Kiko, assembled on the President's platform.

The First Lady, Mrs. Michelle Obama, and the wife of the Vice President, Dr. Jill Biden, accompanied by the Democratic staff director of the United States Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, Kelly Fado, Ms. Iris Weinshall, and Mr. Paul Pelosi, assembled on the President's platform.

Mrs. Melania Trump and Mrs. Karen Pence, accompanied by the Secretary of the Senate, Julie E. Adams; the Clerk of the House of Representatives, Karen Haas; Mrs. Abigail Blunt; Mrs. Janna Ryan; the Honorable Elaine L. Chao; and Mrs. Judy McCarthy, assembled on the President's platform.

The President of the United States, the Honorable Barack H. Obama, and the Vice President, Joseph R. Biden, Jr., accompanied by Senate Democratic Secretary Gary Myrick, Senate Democratic Leader and Rules Committee Ranking Member Senator Charles E. Schumer, and House Democratic Leader Representative Nancy Pelosi, assembled on the President's platform.

The Vice President-elect of the United States, Michael R. Pence, accompanied by the Inaugural Coordinator for the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, Maria Miller Lohmeyer; the Senate Deputy Sergeant at Arms, James Morhard; the House Deputy Sergeant at Arms, Tim Blodgett; and Senator Patrick Leahy, assembled on the President's platform.

The President-elect of the United States, Donald J. Trump, accompanied by the staff director for the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, Stacy

McHatton McBride; the Senate Sergeant at Arms, Frank J. Larkin; the House Sergeant at Arms, Paul Irving; the chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, Senator Roy Blunt; the Rules Committee Ranking Member and Senate Democratic Leader, Senator Charles E. Schumer; the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Representative Paul Ryan; the Senate majority leader, Senator Mitch McConnell; the House majority leader, Representative Kevin McCarthy; and the House Democratic leader, Representative Nancy Pelosi, assembled on the President's platform.

Mr. BLUNT. Thank you all. If you have a seat, you can sit down.

Mr. President, Mr. Vice President, Mr. President-elect, Mr. Vice President-elect, ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the inauguration of the 45th President of the United States of America.

Today, the legislative, the executive, and the judicial branches of our constitutional government come together for the inauguration of the 45th President of the United States. Millions of people all over the world will watch and will listen to this event.

(Applause.)

Thirty-six years ago, at his first inauguration—it was also the first inauguration on this side of the Capitol—President Ronald Reagan said that what we do here is both commonplace and miraculous—commonplace every 4 years since 1789, when President George Washington took this exact same oath; miraculous because we have done it every 4 years since 1789 and the example it sets for democracies everywhere. Washington believed the inauguration of the second President would be more important than the inauguration of the first. Many people had taken control of a government up until then, but few people had ever turned that control willingly over to anyone else.

As important as the first transfer of power was, many historians believe that the next election was even more important, when in 1801 one group of people—arguably, for the first time ever in history—willingly, if not enthusiastically, gave control of the government to people they believed had a dramatically different view of what the government would, should, and could do.

After an election that actually discovered a flaw in the Constitution itself, which was remedied by the 12th Amendment, Thomas Jefferson at that inauguration, beyond the chaos of the election that had just passed, said: ''We are all Republicans; we are all Federalists.''

After 4 years of Civil War, Lincoln's second inaugural speech tried to find reason for the continued war when he pointed out that both sides ''prayed to the same God.'' He had earlier written about those fervent prayers that ''one side must be and both sides may be wrong,'' but in 1865 he looked to the future—and the memorable moment in that speech was—''with malice toward none and charity for all.''

In the middle of the Depression, the country was told that the only thing we had to fear was fear itself. President Kennedy talked about the obligation in a democracy to country. The great question that day was ''ask what you can do for your country.'' So we come to this place again, commonplace and miraculous, a national moment of celebration but not a celebration of victory, a celebration of democracy.

(Applause.)

As we begin that celebration, I call on His Eminence Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan, Reverend Dr. Samuel Rodriguez, and Pastor Paula White-Cain to provide readings and the invocation.

Cardinal DOLAN. The prayer of King Solomon from the Book of Wisdom.

Let us pray.

God of our ancestors and Lord of mercy, You have made all things, and in Your providence have charged us to rule the creatures produced by You, to govern the world in holiness and righteousness and to render judgment with integrity of heart. Give us wisdom, for we are Your servants, weak and short lived, lacking in comprehension of judgment and of laws. Indeed, though one might be perfect among mortals, if wisdom which comes from You be lacking, we count for nothing. Now with You is wisdom who knows Your will and was there when You made the world, who understands what is pleasing in Your eyes, what is conformable with Your commands. Send her forth from Your holy heavens. From Your glorious throne dispatch her that she may be with us and work with us that we may grasp what is pleasing to You, for she knows and understands all things and will guide us prudently in our affairs and safeguard us by her glory. Amen.

Reverend RODRIGUEZ. From the Gospel of Matthew, the fifth chapter:

God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for Him, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs. God blesses those who mourn for they will be comforted. God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the Earth. God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they will be satisfied. God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy. He blesses those who are pure in heart, for they will see God. God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called children of God. God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs. And God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers, for you are the light of the world, like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on its stand where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

Respectfully in Jesus's name.

Pastor WHITE-CAIN. We come to You, Heavenly Father, in the Name of Jesus, with grateful hearts, thanking You for this great country that You have decreed to Your people. We acknowledge we are a blessed nation with a rich history of faith and fortitude, with a future that is filled with promise and purpose. We recognize that every good and every perfect gift comes from You and the United States of America is Your gift, for which we proclaim our gratitude.

As a nation, we now pray for our President, Donald John Trump, Vice President Michael Richard Pence, and their families. We ask that You would bestow upon our President the wisdom necessary to lead this great Nation, the grace to unify us, and the strength to stand for what is honorable and right in Your sight.

In Proverbs 21:1, You instruct us that our leader's heart is in Your hands. Gracious God, reveal to our President the ability to know Your will, the confidence to lead us in justice and righteousness, and the compassion to yield to our better angels.

While we know there are many challenges before us, in every generation You have provided us the strength and power to become that blessed Nation. Guide us in discernment, Lord, and give us that strength to persevere and thrive. Now bind and heal our wounds and divisions and join our Nation to Your purpose.

''Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,'' the Psalmist declared. Let Your favor be upon this one nation under God. Let these United States of America be that beacon of hope to all people and nations under Your dominion, a true hope for humankind.

Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

We pray this in the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Performance by the Missouri State University Chorale.)

(Applause.)

Mr. BLUNT. Well, the Missouri State University Chorale practices and performs about two blocks from my home in Springfield, MO. So it was easy to find them. We are pleased they are here.

It is also a great opportunity for me to introduce my colleague, the Senator from New York, CHUCK SCHUMER.

Mr. SCHUMER. My fellow Americans, we live in a challenging and tumultuous time—a quickly evolving, evermore interconnected world; a rapidly changing economy that benefits too few while leaving too many behind; a fractured media; a politics frequently consumed by rancor. We face threats foreign and domestic. In such times, faith in our government, our institutions, and even our country can erode. Despite these challenges, I stand here today confident in this great country for one reason: you, the American people.

(Applause.)

We Americans have always been a forward-looking, problem-solving, optimistic, patriotic, and decent people. Whatever our race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, whether we are immigrant or native-born, whether we live with disabilities or do not, in wealth or in poverty, we are all exceptional in our commonly held yet fierce devotion to our country and in our willingness to sacrifice our time, energy, and even our lives to making it a more perfect union.

Today, we celebrate one of democracies core attributes—the peaceful transfer of power. Every day, we stand up for core democratic principles enshrined in the Constitution; the rule of law; equal protection for all under the law; the freedom of speech, press, religion—the things that make America ''America.'' We can gain strength from reading our history and listening to the voices of average Americans. They always save us in times of strife.

(Applause.)

One such American was MAJ Sullivan Ballou. On July 14, 1861, when the North and South were lining up for their first battle, a time when our country was bitterly divided and faith in the future of our country was at a nadir, Major Ballou of the 2nd Rhode Island volunteers penned a letter to his wife Sarah.

It is one of the greatest letters in American history. It shows the strength and courage of the average American. Allow me to read some of his words which echo through the ages.

My very dear Sarah [he wrote], the indications are very strong that we should move in a few days—perhaps tomorrow.

If it is necessary that I should fall on the battlefield for my country, I am ready. I have no misgivings about, or lack of confidence in, the cause in which I am engaged, and my courage does not halt or falter.

I know how strongly American Civilization now leans upon the triumph of the Government, and how great a debt we owe to those who went before us through the blood and suffering of the Revolution. And I am willing—perfectly willing—to lay down all my joys in this life, to help maintain this Government and to pay that debt.

Sarah, my love for you is deathless, it seems to bind me to you with mighty cables that nothing but Omnipotence could break; and yet my love of country comes over me like a strong wind and bears me irresistibly on with all these chains to the battlefield.

Sullivan Ballou gave his life on the battlefield a week later at the first Battle of Bull Run. It is because Sullivan Ballou and countless others believed in something bigger than themselves and were willing to sacrifice for it that we stand today in the full blessings of liberty in the greatest country on Earth. That spirit lives on in each of us, Americans whose families have been here for generations and those who have just arrived. I know our best days are yet to come. I urge all Americans to read Ballou's full letter. His words give me solace and strength. I hope they will give you the same.

(Applause.)

Now, please stand while the Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, Clarence Thomas, administers the oath of office to the Vice President of the United States.

Associate Justice CLARENCE THOMAS administered to the Vice President-elect the oath of office prescribed by the Constitution, which he repeated, as follows:

I, MICHAEL RICHARD PENCE, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God.

Associate Justice THOMAS. God bless you.

(Applause.)

(Performance by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, accompanied by the United States Marine Band.)

(Applause.)

Mr. BLUNT. Ladies and gentlemen, it is an honor to introduce the Chief Justice of the United States, John G. Roberts, Jr.

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, JOHN G. ROBERTS, JR., administered to the President-elect the oath of office prescribed by the Constitution, which he repeated, as follows:

I, DONALD JOHN TRUMP, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States. So help me God.

The Chief Justice. Congratulations, Mr. President.

(Applause.)

Mr. BLUNT. What a great honor to be able to introduce for the first time ever, anywhere, the 45th President of the United States of America, Donald J. Trump.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDENT. Chief Justice Roberts, President Carter, President Clinton, President Bush, President Obama, fellow Americans, and people of the world, thank you. We, the citizens of America, are now joined in a great national effort to rebuild our country and restore its promise for all of our people. Together we will determine the course of America and the world for many, many years to come.

We will face challenges. We will confront hardships, but we will get the job done.

Every 4 years we gather on these steps to carry out the orderly and peaceful transfer of power. And we are grateful to President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama for their gracious aid throughout this transition. They have been magnificent.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

Today's ceremony, however, has very special meaning because today we are not merely transferring power from one administration to another or from one party to another, but we are transferring power from Washington, DC, and giving it back to you, the people.

For too long, a small group in our Nation's Capital has reaped the rewards of government while the people have borne the cost. Washington flourished, but the people did not share in its wealth. Politicians prospered, but the jobs left and the factories closed. The establishment protected itself, but not the citizens of our country. Their victories have not been your victories. Their triumphs have not been your triumphs, and while they celebrated in our Nation's Capital, there was little to celebrate for struggling families all across our land.

That all changes starting right here and right now, because this moment is your moment. It belongs to you. It belongs to everyone gathered here today and everyone watching all across America. This is your day. This is your celebration. This, the United States of America, is your country.

(Applause.)

What truly matters is not which party controls our government but whether our government is controlled by the people. January 20, 2017, will be remembered as the day the people became the rulers of this Nation again.

(Applause.)

The forgotten men and women of our country will be forgotten no longer. Everyone is listening to you now. You came by the tens of millions to become part of a historic movement, the likes of which the world has never seen before. At the center of this moment is a crucial conviction that a nation exists to serve its citizens. Americans want great schools for their children, safe neighborhoods for their families, and good jobs for themselves.

(Applause.)

These are just and reasonable demands of righteous people and a righteous public. But for too many of our citizens, a different reality exists: mothers and children trapped in poverty in our inner cities, rusted-out factories scattered like tombstones across the landscape of our Nation, an education system flush with cash but which leaves our young and beautiful students deprived of all knowledge, the crime and the gangs and the drugs that have stolen too many lives and robbed our country of so much unrealized potential.

This American carnage stops right here and stops right now. We are one Nation and their pain is our pain. Their dreams are our dreams. Their success will be our success. We share one heart, one home, and one glorious destiny. The oath of office I take today is an oath of allegiance to all Americans. For many decades we have enriched foreign industry at the expense of American industry, subsidized the armies of other countries, while allowing for the very sad depletion of our military.

We have defended other nations' borders, while refusing to defend our own, and spent trillions and trillions of dollars overseas while America's infrastructure has fallen into disrepair and decay. We have made other countries rich while the wealth, strength, and confidence of our country has dissipated over the horizon.

One by one, the factories shuttered and left our shores, with not even a thought about the millions and millions of American workers that were left behind. The wealth of our middle class has been ripped from their homes and then redistributed all across the world.

But that is the past. Now, we are looking only to the future. We assembled here today are issuing a new decree to be heard in every city, in every foreign capital, and in every hall of power. From this day forward, a new vision will govern our land. From this day forward, it is going to be only America first—America first. Every decision on trade, on taxes, on immigration, on foreign affairs will be made to benefit American workers and American families.

(Applause.)

We must protect our borders from the ravages of other countries making our products, stealing our companies, and destroying our jobs. Protection will lead to great prosperity and strength. I will fight for you with every breath in my body, and I will never, ever let you down. America will start winning again, winning like never before. We will bring back our jobs. We will bring back our borders. We will bring back our wealth. We will bring back our dreams.

(Applause.)

We will build new roads and highways and bridges and airports and tunnels and railways all across our wonderful Nation. We will get our people off of welfare and back to work rebuilding our country with American hands and American labor. We will follow two simple rules: Buy American and hire American.

(Applause.)

We will seek friendship and good will with the nations of the world, but we do so with the understanding that it is the right of all nations to put their own interests first.

We do not seek to impose our way of life on anyone but rather to let it shine as an example. We will shine for everyone to follow. We will reinforce old alliances and form new ones and unite the civilized world against radical Islamic terrorism, which we will eradicate completely from the face of the Earth.

(Applause.)

At the bedrock of our politics will be a total allegiance to the United States of America, and through our loyalty to our country, we will rediscover our loyalty to each other. When you open your heart to patriotism, there is no room for prejudice. The Bible tells us how good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity. We must speak our minds openly, debate our disagreements honestly, but always pursue solidarity.

(Applause.)

When America is united, America is totally unstoppable. There should be no fear. We are protected, and we will always be protected. We will be protected by the great men and women of our military and law enforcement and, most importantly, we will be protected by God.

(Applause.)

Finally, we must think big and dream even bigger. In America, we understand that a nation is only living as long as it is striving.

We will no longer accept politicians who are all talk and no action, constantly complaining but never doing anything about it. The time for empty talk is over. Now arrives the hour of action. Do not allow anyone to tell you that it cannot be done. No challenge can match the heart and fight and spirit of America. We will not fail. Our country will thrive and prosper again.

(Applause.)

We stand at the birth of a new millennium, ready to unlock the mysteries of space, to free the Earth from the miseries of disease, and to harness the energies, industries, and technologies of tomorrow. A new national pride will stir our soul, lift our sights, and heal our divisions.

(Applause.)

It is time to remember that old wisdom our soldiers will never forget—that whether we are Black or Brown or White, we all bleed the same red blood of patriots. We all enjoy the same glorious freedoms, and we all salute the same great American flag.

(Applause.)

Whether a child is born in the urban sprawl of Detroit or the windswept plains of Nebraska, they look up at the same night sky,

they fill their heart with the same dreams, and they are infused with the breath of life by the same Almighty Creator.

So to all Americans in every city near and far, small and large, from mountain to mountain, from ocean to ocean, hear these words. You will never be ignored again. Your voice, your hopes, and your dreams will define our American destiny, and your courage and goodness and love will forever guide us along the way. Together, we will make America strong again. We will make America wealthy again. We will make America proud again. We will make America safe again. And, yes, together we will make America great again.

Thank you. God bless you, and God bless America. Thank you.

(Applause.)

Mr. BLUNT. At this time I call on Rabbi Marvin Hier, the Reverend Franklin Graham, and Bishop Wayne T. Jackson to provide readings and the benediction.

Rabbi HIER. Eternal God, bless President Donald J. Trump and America, our great Nation. Guide us to remember the words of the Psalmist:

Who may dwell on Your holy mountain? One who does what is right and speaks the truth, who knows that when you eat the labor of your hands, you are praiseworthy that he who sows in tears shall reap in joy, because the freedoms we enjoy are not granted in perpetuity, but must be reclaimed by each generation. As our ancestors have planted for us, so we must plant for others. While it is not for us to complete the tasks, neither are we free to desist from them.

Dispense justice to the needy and the orphan, for they have no one but their fellow citizens, and because a nation's wealth is measured by her values and not by her vaults. Bless all of our allies around the world who share our beliefs.

By the rivers of Babylon we wept as we remembered Zion. If I forget thee O Jerusalem, may my right hand forget its skill. The doer of all these shall never falter. May the days come soon when justice will dwell in the wilderness and righteousness will abide in the fertile fields, and the work of righteousness will be peace, quietness, and confidence forever. Amen.

Reverend GRAHAM. Mr. President, in the Bible, rain is a sign of God's blessing. And it started to rain, Mr. President, when you came to the platform. It is my prayer that God will bless you, your family, your administration, and may He bless America.

The passage of Scripture comes from 1 Timothy, chapter 2:

I urge them, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made for all people. For kings, for all those in authority, that we may live peacefully quiet lives in all Godliness and Holiness. This is good and it pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one Mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus who gave Himself as a ransom for all people. Now to the King Eternal, Immortal, Invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever.

In Jesus's Name. Amen.

Bishop JACKSON. We thank You, Father, for letting us share this great moment together. Let us not take for granted the air we breathe or the life You have given us. We were all created by You with one blood, all nations to dwell upon this land together. We are not enemies. We are brothers and sisters. We are not adversaries, but we are allies. We are not foes, but we are friends. Let us be healed by the power of Your love and united by the bond of Your Spirit.

Today we pray for our 45th President, the Vice President, and their families, and give them the wisdom to guide this great Nation, the strength to protect it, and the hands to heal it. We bless President Donald J. Trump. We ask that You give him the wisdom of Solomon, the vision of Joseph, and the meekness of Christ—Solomon who kept peace among many nations, Joseph who dreamt better for the people, and Christ who accepted us all.

O Lord, mend our hearts and stitch together the fabric of this great country in the spirit of the legendary gospel singer Mahalia Jackson:

Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe. The Lord will see us through, I do believe. We are on our way to victory, I do believe. We will walk hand in hand, I do believe. We shall live in peace, I do believe. Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe.

America, we shall overcome. May the Lord bless and keep America, make His face shine upon us and be gracious unto us and give us peace.

In the mighty Name of Jesus. Amen.

(Performance of the National Anthem by Jackie Evancho and the United States Marine Band.)

(The Inaugural Ceremony was concluded at 12:27 p.m.)

TO CONSTITUTE THE MAJORITY PARTY'S MEMBERSHIP ON CERTAIN COMMITTEES FOR THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 16, 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. 16) to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen.

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 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 resolution (S. Res. 16) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

TO CONSTITUTE THE MINORITY PARTY'S MEMBERSHIP ON CERTAIN COMMITTEES FOR THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 17, 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. 17) to constitute the minority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I further ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to 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 resolution (S. Res. 17) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate majority leader.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 3 p.m., Monday, January 23; further, 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; finally, that following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the nomination of MIKE POMPEO to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2017, AT 3 P.M.

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:41 p.m., adjourned until Monday, January 23, 2017, at 3 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REX W. TILLERSON, OF TEXAS, TO BE SECRETARY OF STATE.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

STEVEN T. MNUCHIN, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

STEVEN T. MNUCHIN, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES GOVERNOR OF THE EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT, UNITED STATES GOVERNOR OF THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND, AND UNITED STATES GOVERNOR OF THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, VICE JACOB JOSEPH LEW, RESIGNED.

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

STEVEN T. MNUCHIN, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES GOVERNOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND, UNITED STATES GOVERNOR OF THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, UNITED STATES GOVERNOR OF THE INTER–AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, AND UNITED STATES GOVERNOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR

RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS, VICE JACOB JOSEPH LEW, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JAMES MATTIS, OF WASHINGTON, TO BE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JEFF SESSIONS, OF ALABAMA, TO BE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

RYAN ZINKE, OF MONTANA, TO BE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

WILBUR L. ROSS, JR., OF FLORIDA, TO BE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

THOMAS PRICE, OF GEORGIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

BENJAMIN S. CARSON, SR., OF FLORIDA, TO BE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ELAINE L. CHAO, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

JAMES RICHARD PERRY, OF TEXAS, TO BE SECRETARY OF ENERGY.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

ELISABETH PRINCE DEVOS, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

ANDREW F. PUZDER, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE SECRETARY OF LABOR.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

DAVID J. SHULKIN, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

JOHN F. KELLY, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

DANIEL COATS, OF INDIANA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, VICE JAMES R. CLAPPER, JR.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

ROBERT LIGHTHIZER, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

MIKE POMPEO, OF KANSAS, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, VICE JOHN OWEN BRENNAN.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

SCOTT PRUITT, OF OKLAHOMA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

TODD M. RICKETTS, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF COMMERCE.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

VINCENT VIOLA, OF NEW YORK, TO BE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY, VICE ERIC KENNETH FANNING.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

JAY CLAYTON, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 5, 2021, VICE DANIEL M. GALLAGHER, JR. (TERM EXPIRED).

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

LINDA E. MCMAHON, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, VICE MARIA CONTRERAS–SWEET, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

SEEMA VERMA, OF INDIANA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES, VICE MARILYN B. TAVENNER.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

NIKKI R. HALEY, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS, WITH THE RANK AND STATUS OF AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY, AND THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

UNITED NATIONS

NIKKI R. HALEY, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS DURING HER TENURE OF SERVICE AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TERRY BRANSTAD, OF IOWA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

DAVID FRIEDMAN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO ISRAEL.

DISCHARGED NOMINATION

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence was discharged from further consideration of the following nomination by unanimous consent and the nomination was by unanimous consent agreement, debate and vote 1/23/2017:

MIKE POMPEO, OF KANSAS, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate January 20, 2017:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JAMES MATTIS, OF WASHINGTON, TO BE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

JOHN F. KELLY, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MICHAEL J. KEENAN

HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 20, 2017

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Michael J. Keenan, who is retiring having served the interests of Arizona's working men and women with distinction since the mid-1970s.

Upon graduating from the University of Arizona, Mike attended Georgetown Law School. Not forgetting his working class roots or union family heritage, Mike returned to Arizona to join the union-side law firm then known as Ward and Contreras. Through the years, Mike provided wise counsel to Arizona unions, enabling them to defend the rights of the Arizona workers to fair wages and safe working conditions. He also has represented well various trust funds which provide health insurance and retirement benefits for Arizona union members.

By advancing the interests and protecting the dignity of Arizona union members—often during challenging times—Mike earned a reputation as not only a zealous and highly effective advocate, but also as a highly ethical lawyer. Through his hard work and dedication, Mike immeasurably improved the lives of Arizona working men and women.

It is now time for Mike to enjoy a long retirement with his wife, Becky, his sons Jimmy and Joey, his daughter Katie and his granddaughter Avery. On behalf of our great state's workers, I thank him and wish him all the best.

RECOGNIZING THE 27TH ANNIVERSARY OF ''BLACK JANUARY''

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 20, 2017

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 27th anniversary of ''Black January'' in Azerbaijan, a day that commemorates Azerbaijan's stand against Soviet soldiers for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity over all lands under Azerbaijani jurisdiction, and freedom from communism and dictatorship.

On the evening of January 19, 1990, the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet Presidium backed by then-President Mikhail Gorbachev declared a state of emergency in response to the growing national independence movement in Azerbaijan. In response to the Azeri people's stand against Soviet aggression, Soviet troops stormed the Azerbaijani capital city of Baku and indiscriminately fired on peaceful demonstrators, including women and children. That night, more than 130 people died with over 700 injured, 841 arrested and five going missing.

While Soviet invaders attacked peaceful protestors, they also targeted critical infrastructure and workers. According to a report by Human Rights Watch entitled Black January in Azerbaijan, ''among the most heinous violations of human rights during the Baku incursion were the numerous attacks on medical personnel, ambulances and even hospitals.'' Additionally, the Soviet attack served as an act of intimidation for all then-Soviet countries with independence ambitions. The Human Rights Watch report concluded that, ''indeed the violence used by the Soviet Army on the night of January 19–20 constitutes an exercise in collective punishment. The punishment inflicted on Baku by Soviet soldiers may have been intended as a warning to nationalists, not only in Azerbaijan, but in other Republics of the Soviet Union.''

Azerbaijani citizens, however, refused to succumb to Soviet aggression. Instead, the invasion gave new life to their nationalism and fight for true independence. In the days after the invasion, thousands of Azerbaijanis surrounded Communist Party headquarters demanding the resignation of the republic's leadership, the Baku City Council demanded that Soviet troops withdraw from Azeri territories and the legislature in Azerbaijan threatened to call a referendum on secession unless Soviet troops were withdrawn within 48 hours.

Soviet troops eventually withdrew and January 20th became known as ''the Day of the Nationwide Sorrow.'' It would not be for nearly two years, however, before Azerbaijan gained political control from the Soviet Union. In October 1991, Azerbaijan's parliament—the National Assembly—declared its independence.

While Azerbaijan still faces challenges from its neighbors, today, Azerbaijan has developed into a thriving country with double-digit growth, in large part due to a freely elected president and parliament, and free market reforms led by the energy sector that helps support energy security in Israel and Europe. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the tragic events of Black January that precipitated the independent Republic of Azerbaijan and the fall of the USSR.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 20, 2017

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I regrettably missed votes on January 13, 2017 regarding S. Con. Res. 3 and S. 84. I had intended to vote ''yes'' on Roll Call vote 57, ''no'' on vote 58, and ''no'' on vote 59.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 20, 2017

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, I was not present in the House owing to the birth of my son and missed roll call votes on Wednesday, January 4th and Thursday, January 5th. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

Roll Call Vote No. 7—Motion to Recommit: Midnight Rules Relief Act of 2017—YES

Roll Call Vote No. 8—Final Passage: Midnight Rules Relief Act of 2017—NO

Roll Call Vote No. 9—Ordering the Previous Question—NO

Roll Call Vote No. No. 10—H. Res. 22, rule providing for consideration of HR 26 and H. Res. 11—NO

Roll Call Vote No. 11—Final Passage: Objecting to United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334—YES

Roll Call Vote No. 12—Messer of Indiana Amendment No. 2—NO

Roll Call Vote No. 13—Grijalva of Arizona Amendment No. 3—YES

Roll Call Vote No. 14—Castor of Florida Amendment No. 4—YES

Roll Call Vote No. 15—Cicilline of Rhode Island Amendment No. 5—YES

Roll Call Vote No. 16—Conyers of Michigan Amendment No. 6—YES

Roll Call Vote No. 17—Johnson of Georgia Amendment No. 7—YES

Roll Call Vote No. 18—Nadler of New York Amendment No. 9—YES

Roll Call Vote No. 19—McNerney of California Amendment No. 10—YES

Roll Call Vote No. 20—Scott of Virginia Amendment No. 11—YES

Roll Call Vote No. 21—King of Iowa Amendment No. 12—NO

Roll Call Vote No. 22—Motion to Recommit: Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2017—YES

Roll Call Vote No. 23—Final Passage: Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2017—NO

TRIBUTE TO FRANK TAYLOR

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 20, 2017

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary public servant and a dedicated leader of the U.S. Intelligence Community (IC), Brigadier General (Retired) Francis Xavier Taylor, the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis at the Department of Homeland Security. Brig Gen Taylor came out of retirement in 2014 when the President nominated him to be the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). After nearly 40 years of honorable service to our nation, Under Secretary Taylor will retire again on Friday, January 20, 2017.

Under Secretary Taylor applied his knowledge and experience from his 31 years in the United States Air Force, his service at the U.S. Department of State as an Ambassador for Counterterrorism and head of Diplomatic

Security, and as Vice President of Security at General Electric. Applying his decades of experience and innovative thinking, Under Secretary Taylor rolled up his sleeves and got to work.

Due to Under Secretary Taylor's leadership, I&A is much further along on its vision of driving information sharing and delivering intelligence and analysis to operators and decision-makers at all levels. One of Under Secretary Taylor's first actions at I&A was to guide the organization through a transformation. He removed internal I&A stovepipes and realigned the organization to ensure DHS-collected information now forms the basis of the majority of I&A production. Under Secretary Taylor also ordered that finished intelligence include State and local data.

Under Secretary Taylor also worked tirelessly to mature and strengthen the Department's relationship with the state and local fusion centers and make information sharing a priority. In FY2016, 62 percent of I&A's finished intelligence products were disseminated at the SECRET level or below to best serve those who protect our borders, critical infrastructure and communities.

Under Secretary Taylor also took to heart the need to invest in the workforce and address extremely low employee morale. He spent a great deal of his tenure fine-tuning the organization, restructuring and rebalancing the workforce. He drastically reduced the ratio of supervisors to workers, reducing the amount of bloated management and replacing it with what he called ''seed corn''—young, junior people brought in to rejuvenate the organization and help develop a truly homeland-focused workforce.

Our Nation owes this public servant a tremendous debt of gratitude. I wish to thank Under Secretary Taylor for his decades of exceptional service to our country and to wish him and his wife Connie the very best in the days and years ahead. Under Secretary Taylor can now enjoy his three grandchildren Ava, Aaron and Alexander, while taking in some more games under the Golden Dome at Notre Dame.

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

The House and Senate met for the Inauguration of President Donald John Trump and Vice President Michael Richard Pence.

Senate confirmed the nomination of James Mattis, of Washington, to be Secretary of Defense.

Senate confirmed the nomination of John F. Kelly, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Homeland Security.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S347–366

Measures Introduced: Eight bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 177–184, S.J. Res. 6, and S. Res. 15–17. **Pages S360–61**

Measures Reported:

S. 133, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System. (S. Rept. No. 115–2) **Page S360**

Measures Passed:

Majority Party's Committee Membership: Senate agreed to S. Res. 16, to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen. **Page S365**

Minority Party's Committee Membership: Senate agreed to S. Res. 17, to constitute the minority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen. **Page S365**

Inaugural Ceremony—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Inaugural Ceremony proceedings be printed in the Record. **Page S362**

Pompeo Nomination—Agreement: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Mike Pompeo, of Kansas, to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency. **Page S365**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 89 yeas to 8 nays (Vote No. 31), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the nomination. **Pages S355–56**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, January 23, 2017, Senate resume consideration of the nomination, that there be 6 hours of debate on the nomination, equally divided in the usual form, and that following the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination, with no intervening action or debate; and that no further motions be in order. **Page S355**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 98 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. EX. 29), James Mattis, of Washington, to be Secretary of Defense. **Pages S349–55, S366**

By 88 yeas to 11 nays (Vote No. EX. 30), John F. Kelly, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Homeland Security. **Pages S349–55, S366**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Rex W. Tillerson, of Texas, to be Secretary of State.

Steven T. Mnuchin, of California, to be Secretary of the Treasury.

Steven T. Mnuchin, of California, to be United States Governor of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, United States Governor of the African Development Fund, and United States Governor of the Asian Development Bank.

Steven T. Mnuchin, of California, to be United States Governor of the International Monetary Fund,

United States Governor of the African Development Bank, United States Governor of the Inter-American Development Bank, and United States Governor of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for a term of five years.

James Mattis, of Washington, to be Secretary of Defense.

Jeff Sessions, of Alabama, to be Attorney General.

Ryan Zinke, of Montana, to be Secretary of the Interior.

Wilbur L. Ross, Jr., of Florida, to be Secretary of Commerce.

Thomas Price, of Georgia, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Benjamin S. Carson, Sr., of Florida, to be Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

Elaine L. Chao, of Kentucky, to be Secretary of Transportation.

James Richard Perry, of Texas, to be Secretary of Energy.

Elisabeth Prince DeVos, of Michigan, to be Secretary of Education.

Andrew F. Puzder, of Tennessee, to be Secretary of Labor.

David J. Shulkin, of Pennsylvania, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

John F. Kelly, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Homeland Security.

Daniel Coats, of Indiana, to be Director of National Intelligence.

Robert Lighthizer, of Florida, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador.

Mike Pompeo, of Kansas, to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Scott Pruitt, of Oklahoma, to be Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Todd M. Ricketts, of Illinois, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce.

Vincent Viola, of New York, to be Secretary of the Army.

Jay Clayton, of New York, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for a term expiring June 5, 2021.

Linda E. McMahon, of Connecticut, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

Seema Verma, of Indiana, to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Nikki R. Haley, of South Carolina, to be the Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of Ambassador, and the Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations.

Nikki R. Haley, of South Carolina, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations.

Terry Branstad, of Iowa, to be Ambassador to the People's Republic of China.

David Friedman, of New York, to be Ambassador to Israel. **Pages S365–66**

Nomination Discharged: The following nomination was discharged from further committee consideration and placed on the Executive Calendar:

Mike Pompeo, of Kansas, to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, which was sent to the Senate on January 20, 2017, from the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. **Page S355**

Messages from the House: **Page S360**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S360**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S361**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S361–62**

Additional Statements: **Pages S359–60**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—31) **Pages S354–56**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 4 p.m. and adjourned at 6:41 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, January 23, 2017. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S365.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: On Wednesday, January 18, 2017, Committee ordered favorably reported (upon receipt by the Senate) the nomination of James Mattis, of Washington, to be Secretary of Defense.

NOMINATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: On Wednesday, January 18, 2017, Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Wilbur L. Ross, Jr., to be Secretary of Commerce, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Rubio, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: On Thursday, January 19, 2017, Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Rick Perry, of Texas, to be Secretary of Energy, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Cornyn and

Manchin, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on Environment and Public Works: On Wednesday, January 18, 2017, Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Scott Pruitt, of Oklahoma, to be Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Inhofe and Lankford, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on Finance: On Thursday, January 19, 2017, Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Steven Terner Mnuchin, to be Secretary of the Treasury, after the nominee, who was introduced by Representatives McCarthy and Hensarling, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on Foreign Relations: On Wednesday, January 18, 2017, Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Nikki R. Haley, of South Carolina, to be the Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of Ambassador, and the Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations, and to be Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during her tenure of service as Representative to the United Nations, after the nominee testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

IMPROVING SMALL BUSINESS INPUT ON FEDERAL REGULATIONS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: On Thursday, January 19, 2017, Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management concluded a hearing to examine improving small business input on Federal regulations, focusing on ideas for Congress and a new Administration, after receiving testimony from Rosario Palmieri, National Association of Manufacturers, and Karen R. Harned, National Federation of Independent Business Small Business Legal Center, both of Washington, D.C.; Jerry Hietpas, Action Safety Supply Co., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and LaJuanna Russell, Business Management Associates, Inc., Alexandria, Virginia..

NOMINATION

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: On Wednesday, January 18, 2017, Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Tom Price, of Georgia, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Isakson, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 10 public bills, H.R. 589–598, were introduced. **Page H559**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H560–61**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative King (NY) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H555**

Western Hemisphere Drug Policy Commission—Appointment: Read a letter from Representative Pelosi, Minority Leader, in which she appointed the following individual to the Western Hemisphere Drug Policy Commission: Mr. Sam Farr of Carmel, California. **Page H555**

National Commission on Military, National and Public Service—Appointment: Read a letter from Representative Pelosi, Minority Leader, in which she appointed the following individual to the National Commission on Military, National and Public Service: Mr. Edward T. Allard III of Los Angeles, California. **Pages H555–56**

Inauguration Ceremonies: Pursuant to H. Res. 37, the House proceeded in a body to the Inauguration Ceremony for President Donald Trump and Vice President Michael Pence. **Page H556**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on page H555.

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 10 a.m. and at 12:27 p.m., pursuant to H. Res. 37, it stands adjourned until 12 noon on Monday, January 23, 2017.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2017

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider the nomination of Rex W. Tillerson, of Texas, to be Secretary of State, 4:30 p.m., SD–419.

House

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 7, the ''No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion and Abortion Insurance Full Disclosure Act of 2017'', 5 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of January 23 through January 27, 2017

Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, at approximately 3 p.m., Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Mike Pompeo, of Kansas, to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and after a period of debate, vote on confirmation of the nomination.

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 Armed Services: January 24, to hold hearings to examine the defense budget for fiscal year 2018 and onwards, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: January 24, organizational business meeting to consider committee rules, subcommittee assignments, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 115th Congress, and the nomination of Benjamin S. Carson, Sr., of Florida, to be Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on the Budget: January 24, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Mick Mulvaney, of South Carolina, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget, 10:30 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: January 24, organizational business meeting to consider committee rules, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 115th Congress, S. 19, to provide opportunities for broadband investment, S. 81, to establish an advisory office within the Bureau of Consumer Protection of the Federal Trade Commission to prevent fraud targeting seniors, S. 88, to ensure appropriate spectrum planning and interagency coordination to support the Internet of Things, S. 89, to amend title 46, United States Code, to exempt old vessels that only operate within inland waterways from the fire-retardant materials requirement if the owners of such vessels make annual structural alterations to at least 10 percent of the areas of the vessels that are not constructed of fire-retardant materials and for other purposes, S. 96, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to ensure the integrity of voice communications and to prevent unjust or unreasonable discrimination among areas of the United States in the delivery of such communications, S. 102, to direct the Federal Communications Commission to commence proceedings related to the resiliency of critical communications networks during times of emergency, S. 110, 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. 118, to make exclusive the authority of the Federal Government to regulate the labeling of products made in the United States and introduced in interstate or foreign commerce, S. 123, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require multi-line telephone systems to have a default configuration that permits users to directly initiate a call to 9–1–1 without dialing any additional digit, code, prefix, or post-fix, S. 129, to reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act, S. 134, to expand the prohibition on misleading or inaccurate caller identification information, S. 141, to improve understanding and forecasting of space weather events, H.R. 255, to authorize the National Science Foundation to support entrepreneurial programs for women, H.R. 321, to inspire women to enter the aerospace field, including science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, through mentorship and outreach, an original bill entitled ''Commercial Vessel Incidental Discharge Act'', an original bill entitled ''National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Amendments and Hydrographic Services Improvement Act Reauthorization and Amendments Act of 2017'', and an original bill entitled ''Federal Communications Commission Consolidated Reporting Act'', 10 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Finance: January 24, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Thomas Price, of Georgia, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: January 23, business meeting to consider the nomination of Rex W. Tillerson, of Texas, to be Secretary of State, 4:30 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: January 24, organizational business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 115th Congress, committee rules, subcommittee membership and jurisdiction, and the nomination of Elisabeth Prince DeVos, of Michigan, to be Secretary of Education, 2:30 p.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: January 24, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Mick Mulvaney, of South Carolina, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget, 2:30 p.m., SD–342.

Committee on the Judiciary: January 24, organizational business meeting to consider committee rules, subcommittee assignments, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 115th Congress, and the nomination of Jeff Sessions, of Alabama, to be Attorney General, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: January 24, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Linda E. McMahon, of Connecticut, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration, 10:30 a.m., SR–428A.

Select Committee on Intelligence: January 24, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House Committees

Committee on the Budget, January 24, Full Committee, organizational meeting for the 115th Congress; hearing entitled ''The Failures of Obamacare Harmful Effects and Broken Promises'', 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, January 24, Full Committee, organizational meeting for the 115th Congress, 10:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, January 24, Full Committee, organizational meeting for the 115th Congress, 11 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, January 24, Full Committee, organizational meeting for the 115th Congress, 1 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, January 24, Subcommittee on Oversight, organizational meeting for the 115th Congress; hearing on examining the effectiveness of the individual mandate under the Affordable Care Act, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, January 24, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Ongoing Intelligence Activities'', 10 a.m., HVC–304. This hearing will be closed.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

3 p.m., Monday, January 23

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Mike Pompeo, of Kansas, to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and after a period of debate, vote on confirmation of the nomination.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 noon, Monday, January 23

House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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