

sponsors its annual Angels in Adoption recognition gala. This event honors individuals across the Nation who are making a difference in the lives of young people in need of foster and forever homes.

As adoptive parents ourselves, the dedication and commitment to adoption and foster care by CCAI and every Angels in Adoption honoree this year are extremely near and dear to the hearts of my wife Kris and me.

I want to recognize the Angels in Adoption couple I nominated and who are being honored this year. I have known Jon and Carol Mielke of Bismarck, ND, for many years. Yet I am not sure our home community has any idea of all they have done to foster such vulnerable young children for nearly 20 years.

Jon and Carol became foster parents in early 2003, when their daughter was in college and their son a senior in high school. They made the decision to foster infants, they said, because they had “room in their home and room in their hearts.”

To date, they have taken into their home some 45 infants. Some were with them for only a couple of days. Others stayed nearly 3 years.

Always keeping in mind the main goal of foster care is family reunification, they have made an effort to remain in contact with the biological families of these children. Their first foster child was a newborn who had been abandoned at the bus station. They cared for her for 2-and-a-half months. This girl, who recently graduated from high school, is one of the children with whom Jon and Carol have stayed in touch. Another set of twins, now teenagers, visited them for a week earlier this year.

Jon was a longtime administrative manager for a State agency, and Carol's profession was accounting. He has since retired, and she later became a licensed practical nurse, keeping flexible work hours to be available for the children when they come into their home.

Because of Jon's background in legislation and lobbying, he has provided testimony on foster care issues before the legislature. This has helped bring positive statutory changes to some State laws.

Jon and Carol have been active in the regional foster care association, with Jon serving as president one year. They also mentor new foster parents and have appeared in media campaigns promoting foster care. In 2006, they were named North Dakota's Foster Parents of the Year.

The lifelong impact of the love and care they have given to each and every baby coming into their home will never be accurately measured. And, after nearly two decades, they continue to remain dedicated to foster care because of their unwavering belief they can make a difference in the life of a child.

I join all North Dakotans and the entire Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute in congratulating and

honoring Jon and Carol Mielke. We thank you for your years of dedication and the work you continue to do fostering infants in your home. You are exceptionally deserving of recognition as Angels in Adoption.●

TRIBUTE TO JUSTIN MITCHELL

● Mr. PAUL. Madam President, we are all indebted to the special teachers we encountered during our formal education: those who made a subject come alive for us—perhaps for the very first time—and sparked a lifelong interest in a subject or in a field of study. Today, I want to recognize a Kentucky teacher who is doing just that: bringing history and civics education to life for students at Franklin-Simpson Middle School in Franklin, KY.

How many students are truly interested in history and civics in the seventh or eighth grade? But motivating his students to move beyond memorizing facts and dates is exactly what Justin Mitchell is known for. Ask his colleagues—or visit his social media sites—and you will find that he is wildly creative in his mission to make social studies education interesting, challenging, and relevant.

Justin Mitchell earned degrees in social studies and history at Western Kentucky University—in my hometown of Bowling Green—and is now a doctoral candidate there. He is a McConnell scholar who regularly participates in the McConnell Center's Civics Education Program, and he deploys his leadership skills outside of the classroom by mentoring students at his church.

While his fellow teachers, students, and their families have known for years that Justin is an exceptional teacher, this year, he was recognized by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History as Kentucky's History Teacher of the Year. I am pleased to congratulate Justin on this accomplishment, to thank him for the impact that he is making on his students, and to create this permanent tribute to him in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the U.S. Senate.●

REMEMBERING WILLIAM “BUD” LACOUNTE

● Mr. TESTER. Madam President, I rise today to honor the life of William “Bud” LaCounte, a distinguished Montanan and decorated veteran of World War II.

While Bud is no longer with us, his legacy lives on. On behalf of myself, my fellow Montanans, and all Americans, I would like extend our deepest gratitude for his service to this Nation.

Bud's story is one of incredible courage and sacrifice, having survived both American Indian Boarding School and D-day. Born in Bainville, MT, where he now rests, he was a proud member of the Turtle Mountain Tribe of Chippewa Indians. At the age of just 6, he endured the unimaginable when was

taken away from his parents and sent to Fort Totten Indian School.

But his commitment to answering the call of duty never faded. And on the eve of the Second World War, Bud enlisted in the U.S. Army. Not long after he joined, Bud deployed to France and fought bravely in the battle of Omaha Beach in Normandy on June 6, 1944.

After the war, he returned to Montana and settled into his life in Billings as a loving husband, dedicated father and grandfather, rancher, dancer, and storyteller. While he has since passed, his memory and spirit lives on in each of us—in his stories, in his children and grandchildren, and in his enduring service and sacrifice to this Nation.

I now have the profound honor of presenting Bud's family with the French Legion of Honor Medal for his bravery in the line of duty. This medal serves as a small token of our country's appreciation for Bud's incredible service and outstanding character.

Let us pay a final salute to Bud, who represents the very best of this great country.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:23 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2265. An act to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to postpone the date of payment or satisfaction upon redemption of certain securities in the case of the financial exploitation of specified adults, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2989. An act to amend securities and banking laws to make the information reported to financial regulatory agencies electronically searchable, to further enable the development of RegTech and Artificial Intelligence applications, to put the United States on a path towards building a comprehensive Standard Business Reporting program to ultimately harmonize and reduce the private sector's regulatory compliance burden, while enhancing transparency and accountability, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4111. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to direct the United States Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund to advocate that the Fund provide technical assistance to Fund members seeking to enhance their capacity to evaluate the legal and financial terms of sovereign debt contracts, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5142. An act to award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal, in commemoration of the servicemembers who perished in Afghanistan on August 26, 2021, during the evacuation of citizens of the United States and Afghan allies at Hamid Karzai International Airport, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 2265. An act to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to postpone the date of payment or satisfaction upon redemption of certain securities in the case of the financial

exploitation of specified adults, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 2989. An act to amend securities and banking laws to make the information reported to financial regulatory agencies electronically searchable, to further enable the development of RegTech and Artificial Intelligence applications, to put the United States on a path towards building a comprehensive Standard Business Reporting program to ultimately harmonize and reduce the private sector's regulatory compliance burden, while enhancing transparency and accountability, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 4111. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to direct the United States Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund to advocate that the Fund provide technical assistance to Fund members seeking to enhance their capacity to evaluate the legal and financial terms of sovereign debt contracts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

H.R. 3110. An act to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to expand access to breastfeeding accommodations in the workplace, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments:

S. 2201. A bill to manage supply chain risk through counterintelligence training, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-43).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2293. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide certain employment rights to reservists of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-44).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mrs. MURRAY for the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

*Larry D. Turner, of North Carolina, to be Inspector General, Department of Labor.

*Sandra D. Bruce, of Delaware, to be Inspector General, Department of Education.

*Deirdre Hamilton, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Mediation Board for a term expiring July 1, 2022.

*Deirdre Hamilton, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Mediation Board for a term expiring July 1, 2025.

*Michael D. Smith, of Virginia, to be Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

*Gerald W. Fauth, of Virginia, to be a Member of the National Mediation Board for a term expiring July 1, 2023.

*Linda A. Puchala, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Mediation Board for a term expiring July 1, 2024.

*Amy Loyd, of New Mexico, to be Assistant Secretary for Career, Technical, and Adult Education, Department of Education.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

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. HAGERTY (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. COTTON, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. SASSE, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. WICKER, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LEE, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. PAUL, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. ERNST, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. FISCHER, and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 3063. A bill to prohibit the use of funds for a United States Embassy, Consulate General, Legation, Consular Office, or any other diplomatic facility in Jerusalem other than the United States Embassy to the State of Israel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 3064. A bill to authorize a White House Conference on Food, Nutrition, Hunger, and Health, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO:

S. 3065. A bill to establish national data privacy standards in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. KING):

S. 3066. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a battery material processing grant program and a battery manufacturing and recycling grant program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO:

S. 3067. A bill to amend titles 23 and 49, United States Code, to provide for new and emerging technologies in transportation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 3068. A bill to support stability across the Taiwan Strait; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 3069. A bill to reauthorize the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1990, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 3070. A bill to improve the retirement security of American families by increasing Social Security benefits for current and future beneficiaries while making Social Security stronger for future generations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 3071. A bill to protect our Social Security system and improve benefits for current and future generations; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 3072. A bill to establish an Office of City and State Diplomacy within the State Department, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. PADILLA:

S. 3073. A bill to prohibit discrimination in health care and require the provision of equitable health care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. 3074. A bill to establish the Payroll Audit Independent Determination program in the Department of Labor; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. COONS:

S. 3075. A bill making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 3076. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to prohibit officers of the Federal Reserve from trading certain securities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO:

S. 3077. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the limitation on the estate tax valuation of certain real property used in farming or other trades or businesses; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 3078. A bill to extend flexible use of John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program funding to address pandemic-related challenges for older foster youth; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. INHOFE, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. TUBERVILLE, and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. 3079. A bill to exempt essential workers from Federal COVID-19 vaccine mandates; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. RISCH):

S. Res. 427. A resolution to commemorate the 30-year anniversary of the 1991 Paris Peace Agreements with Cambodia and to call upon all signatories to those Agreements to fulfill their commitments to secure a peaceful, prosperous, democratic, and sovereign Cambodia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KING, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):