

hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

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

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:58 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5093. An act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer certain National Forest System land in the State of Washington to Skamania County, Washington.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 1094(c)(5)(A) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81), and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker and Majority Leader of the Senate jointly appoint the following individual to the Afghanistan War Commission as co-chair: Ms. Shamila Chaudhary of Washington, DC.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 5093. An act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer certain National Forest System land in the State of Washington to Skamania County, Washington; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-4755. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Border Security Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Conforming Amendments Related to Temporary Entry of Business Persons Under the Agreement Between the United States of America, the United Mexican States, and Canada" (RIN1651-AB42) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 25, 2022; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4756. A communication from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Annual Report for fiscal year 2021; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4757. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Television Broadcasting Services; Medford, OR" (MB Docket No. 21-155) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 27, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4758. A communication from the Chairman of the Office of Proceedings, Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Petition for Rule-making—Railroad Consolidation Procedures—Exemption for Emergency Temporary Trackage Rights" ((RIN2140-AB54) (Docket No. EP 282)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4759. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Bering Sea Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648-XA517) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4760. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Less Than 60 Feet (18.3 Meters) Length Overall Using Hook-and-Line or Pot Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648-XA431) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4761. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Exchange of Flatfish in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648-XA485) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4762. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648-XA430) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4763. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Blackspotted and Rougheye Rockfish in the Central Aleutian Islands and Western Aleutian Islands Districts of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648-XA415) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4764. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Groundfish Fishery by Non-Rockfish Program Catcher Vessels Using Trawl Gear in the Western and Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648-XA913) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Com-

mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4765. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Sablefish in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648-XA414) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4766. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 630 in the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648-XA529) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4767. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 620 in the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648-XA528) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4768. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Exchange of Flatfish in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648-XA601) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4769. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648-XA586) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4770. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Exchange of Flatfish in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648-XA553) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4771. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Exchange of Flatfish in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648-XA530) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4772. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Inseason

Adjustment to the 2021 Gulf of Alaska Pollock and Pacific Cod Total Allowable Catch Amounts” (RIN0648-XA725) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4773. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Bering Sea Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XA676) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4774. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Arrowtooth Flounder in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XA669) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4775. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Several Groundfish Species in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XA664) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4776. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Pacific Island Fisheries; 2020 U.S. Territorial Longline Bigeye Tuna Catch Limits for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; Correction” (RIN0648-XA647) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4777. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 620 in the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XA602) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4778. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 630 in the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XA774) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4779. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod in the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XA759) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4780. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Ma-

rine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Inseason Adjustment of Groundfish in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands” (RIN0648-XA727) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4781. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher/Processors using Hook-and-Line Gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XA787) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4782. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Vessels using Pot Gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XA780) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4783. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels using Trawl Gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XA805) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4784. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in the West Yakutat District of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XA987) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4785. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in the West Yakutat District of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XA999) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4786. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, nine legislative proposals relative to helping agencies recruit and retain a highly skilled federal workforce; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

#### PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

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

POM-175. A resolution from the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico expressing its firm support to congressional bill H.R. 7409, known as the “Territorial Relief Under Sustainable Tran-

sitions for Puerto Rico Act of 2022” (Trust for Puerto Rico Act of 2022), introduced by Congressman Ritchie Torres, that would amend the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act (PROMESA) in order to facilitate the termination of the Financial Oversight Board after certification of a balanced budget for two consecutive fiscal years; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 764

Ove the past decades, Puerto Rico’s economic growth has experienced a deceleration that has resulted in the loss of competition in the private sector and a severe financial crisis in the governmental sector.

The Island’s economic recession began in 2006. However, it should be noted that the financial crisis precedes it, because previous government administrations issued debt amounting to billions of dollars to finance budget deficits, thus presenting to the Island the illusion of a balanced budget, as provided by our Constitution. It is worth noting that a \$45 billion debt was issued between 2000 and 2012. Approximately half of the money was used to finance budget deficits and to defray the government’s payroll expense and spending.

We must remember that the financial crisis broke that started during the first decade of the 21st century led to the subsequent enactment of the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act (PROMESA) and the creation of the Financial Oversight Board, hereinafter the “Board,” for the purpose of managing Puerto Rico’s finances.

Ever since PROMESA and the Board became effective in 2016, the government of Puerto Rico has maneuvered to meet the financial requirements imposed within this new reality. Under PROMESA, the territorial government must approve a balanced budget for four (4) consecutive fiscal years in order to require the termination of the Board. Given this scenario, it must be noted that, since the Board began operations, the first balanced budget was approved by the current Legislative Assembly for fiscal year 2021-2022.

In view of this context, and given the imposition of an antidemocratic body such as the Financial Oversight Board, Congressman Ritchie Torres started this initiative to amend PROMESA in order to reduce the required number of balanced budgets from four (4) to just two (2). Furthermore, this measure establishes that the Board shall be terminated 90 days after the certification of the second balanced budget. Thus, any ambiguity within the statute in effect regarding the Board’s termination is eliminated.

This House of Representatives believes that the bill introduced by Congressman Ritchie Torres (H.R. 7409, better known as “Trust for Puerto Rico Act of 2022”) provides a mechanism to restore power to the people of Puerto Rico, and consequently, to its democratically elected officials. Liberty and democracy are two pillars of our government and our goal must be to strengthen them; therefore, we are duty-bound to promote and support policies aimed at its attainment. It is time to raise our voices and join in any effort that seeks to restore the people of Puerto Rico’s control and power over its finances as soon as possible.

For all of the foregoing, this House of Representatives expresses its firm support to congressional bill H.R. 7409, known as the “Territorial Relief Under Sustainable Transitions for Puerto Rico Act of 2022” (Trust for Puerto Rico Act of 2022), introduced by Congressman Ritchie Torres. This bill would amend the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act