

long summer in order to grow and produce seed, meaning that most of the world's chia plants are grown in regions near the equator, such as Central America. Farmers everywhere took it for granted that this plant could not be grown north of the U.S.-Mexico border, but the breeding program over at the University Kentucky sought to change that. Over a period spanning 6 to 8 years, researchers Dr. David Hildebrand and Dr. Tim Phillips, both plant and soil scientists, used decades old breeding methods to create a new strain of chia that would flower earlier in the year, allowing the crop to survive in less temperate climates than those near the equator. Once the scientists created a product they were confident in, they were careful in selecting a steward for their new "Early Flowering" chia seed. Dr. Hildebrand knew Chris Kummer from his days as a student at UK and knew of his farming background; therefore he immediately came to mind.

In 2011, Dr. Phillips and Dr. Hildebrand gave Mr. Kummer half the world's seed supply of this new strain of chia. In the first year of planting, the Kummers lost most of their chia crops, as they and the researchers over at University of Kentucky were still learning best practices for growing this new crop. But through the persistence instilled in him from his farmer forebears, Chris and his wife absorbed as much knowledge as they could from this first planting season and put it to the test the next year. By the end of their second planting season, the Kummers had already entered into commercial production. The success of this second season led UK to purchase a patent for the seed, ensuring that it only be used for benefit of American farmers, domestic food manufacturers, and domestic consumers.

Today, Heartland Chia works with several farmers across four different States that all use the Kummer's chia for manufacturing processes. By producing this previously ungrowable plant in the U.S., the Kummers have not only added to the biodiversity of the State, they have created a reliable source of what is now widely considered "a superfood." In a recent publication, the Mayo Clinic listed chia as one of the few foods truly deserving the distinction of "superfood" due its long list of health and nutritional benefits. Given this growth in consumer demand, it was only natural that Mr. Kummer would embark on this experimental journey with the support of his family, University of Kentucky scientists, as well as food manufacturers seeking top-quality chia.

Chris has been celebrated for his innovative spirit as several food companies encouraged him to pursue this unlikely feat of growing chia on American soil. Chris has fulfilled a need within the U.S. market as many food suppliers lacked a reliable source for top quality chia seeds. After overcoming the odds, the Kummers con-

tinue to grow and produce their own chia and market their products direct to consumers and to food suppliers alike. Not only are they doing a great service to the economy and ecology of Kentucky, they are spreading the good word about an unlikely food that greatly bolsters our body's health. Through persistence and dedication, the Kummers have made their dream a reality, to the great benefit of Kentucky and beyond. Congratulations to Chris and Jill Kummer, along with the entire team at Heartland Chia. I thank you for your innovative outlook and entrepreneurial spirit, and I look forward to seeing your continued growth and success in Kentucky.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

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

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

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 10:03 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 3103. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to eliminate the statute of limitations for the filing of a civil claim for any person who, while a minor, was a victim of a violation of section 1589, 1590, 1591, 2241(c), 2242, 2243, 2251, 2251A, 2252, 2252A, 2260, 2421, 2422, or 2423 of such title.

S. 4785. An act to extend by 19 days the authorization for the special assessment for the Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund.

H.R. 5754. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the ability of veterans to electronically submit complaints about the delivery of health care services by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

At 12:22 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 442. An act to amend title 40, United States Code, to require the Administrator of General Services to procure the most life-cycle cost effective and energy efficient lighting products and to issue guidance on the efficiency, effectiveness, and economy of those products, and for other purposes.

S. 2293. An act to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency As-

sistance Act to provide certain employment rights to reservists of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes.

S. 4205. An act to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to establish a working group relating to best practices and Federal guidance for animals in emergencies and disasters, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 884. An act to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a national aviation preparedness plan for communicable disease outbreaks, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1468. An act to amend title 40, United States Code, to eliminate the leasing authority of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3173. An act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish requirements with respect to the use of prior authorization under Medicare Advantage plans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5774. An act to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to ensure that unmet needs after a major disaster are met.

H.R. 5865. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4110 Bluebonnet Drive in Stafford, Texas, as the "Leonard Scarcella Post Office Building".

H.R. 5916. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to allow for the electronic request of certain records, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7735. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to update the appraisal requirements for certain loans guaranteed by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7846. An act to increase, effective as of December 1, 2022, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7939. An act to make permanent certain educational assistance benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in the case of changes to courses of education by reason of emergency situations, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8260. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to shorten the timeframe for designation of benefits under Department of Veterans Affairs life insurance programs, to improve the treatment of undisbursed life insurance benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, September 15, 2022, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 3103. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to eliminate the statute of limitations for the filing of a civil claim for any person who, while a minor, was a victim of a violation of section 1589, 1590, 1591, 2241(c), 2242, 2243, 2251, 2251A, 2252, 2252A, 2260, 2421, 2422, or 2423 of such title.

S. 4785. An act to extend by 19 days the authorization for the special assessment for the Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund.

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-5013. A communication from the Director of the Regulations Management Division, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rural eConnectivity Program" received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 11, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5014. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pesticides; Certification of Pesticide Applicators; Further Extension to Expiration Date of Certification Plans" ((FRL No. 9134.1-04-OCSPP) (RIN2070-AL01)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5015. A communication from the Director of Rural Development, Rural Housing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Programs" (RIN0575-AD22) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5016. A communication from the Chief of the Planning and Regulatory Affairs Branch, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Child Nutrition Programs: Transitional Standards for Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium; Correction" (RIN0584-AE81) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5017. A communication from the Acting Director of the Regulations Development Staff, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Changes to Accreditation of Non-Federal Analytical Testing Laboratories" (RIN0583-AD70) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5018. A communication from the Acting Director of the Regulations Development Staff, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rescission of Dual Labeling Requirements for Certain Packages of Meat and Poultry" (RIN0583-AD70) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5019. A communication from the Director of the Regulations Management Division, Rural Development, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIP) for Fiscal Year 2022" received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 4553. A bill to extend other transaction authority for the Department of Homeland Security (Rept. No. 117-149).

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 4428. A bill to support the security of Taiwan and its right of self-determination, and for other purposes.

S. 4653. A bill to provide for certain authorities of the Department of State, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF
COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. DURBIN for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Bradley N. Garcia, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Dana M. Douglas, of Louisiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.

Anne M. Nardacci, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York.

Jerry W. Blackwell, of Minnesota, to be United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota.

Frances Kay Behm, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Kevin G. Ritz, of Tennessee, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Tennessee for the term of four years.

(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. REED (for himself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 4857. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require companies to file public reports after meeting certain quantitative thresholds, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MARSHALL:

S. 4858. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to require electronic communication service providers and remote computing services to report to the Attorney General the unlawful sale and distribution of controlled substances; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 4859. A bill to reauthorize the Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant Program Authorization Act of 2018, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 4860. A bill to provide for the establishment of a grazing management program on

Federal land in Malheur County, Oregon, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ROUNDS (for himself, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 4861. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to exempt employees in certain farm-related service industries and employees of State, local, and Tribal governments from entry-level driver training requirements for operating a commercial motor vehicle and allow States to issue restricted commercial driver's licenses to owners and employees of certain small businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 4862. A bill to establish a commission on long-term care; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 4863. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to improve the Women's Business Center Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 4864. A bill to amend the Natural Gas Act to bolster fairness and transparency in the consideration of interstate natural gas pipeline permits, to provide for greater public input opportunities in the natural gas pipeline permitting process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 4865. A bill to establish the Foundation for Digital Equity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

S. 4866. A bill to establish a program to address sickle cell disease and other heritable hemoglobinopathies; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. REED, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. KELLY, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 4867. A bill to provide enhanced student loan relief to educators; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 4868. A bill to provide support and assistance to unborn children, pregnant women, parents, and families; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 4869. A bill to index certain thresholds for inflation; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 4870. A bill to approve the settlement of the water right claims of the Tule River Tribe, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 4871. A bill to establish an office to coordinate work relating to behavioral health crisis care and to improve the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. SMITH):