

VT. Dan & Whit's is a local institution, carrying products from coffee to nails, breakfast sandwiches to rubber gloves. As one employee stated, "Dan & Whit's is the heartbeat of this community"—and I could not agree more.

For decades, Dan Fraser has been an integral member of the Norwich community. Since he was in fourth grade, Dan has been working at the general store, named for his grandfather Dan Fraser, and has been a full-time employee since 1990. Dan's philanthropy and dedication to his community, whether it be on the Harford Town Selectboard or in special education, exemplifies what it means to be a community leader.

Small businesses are the heart and soul of small towns and rural communities. Small businesses account for 99 percent of all businesses in Vermont, and our State serves as a model for the Nation, highlighting that local communities are at their best when small businesses are given the resources they need to thrive. Supporting our neighbors and supporting local businesses is the Vermont way. The town of Norwich is a better place because of Dan & Whit's.

The COVID-19 pandemic made clear what Vermonters already knew: Small businesses and general stores are essential to our communities. The sacrifices that Dan & Whit's made during the pandemic, including a grocery delivery fund for folks who lost their jobs as a result of the pandemic, illustrate the store's commitment to serving the community. Even when staffing shortages nearly forced the store to close, they made sure to meet the community where they were and did all they could to ensure the community could thrive in trying times.

Margaret and I will miss the warm welcome from Dan when we visit the store. His ability to always point us to what we need underscores the store's slogan: "If we don't have it, you don't need it." While the store may no longer have Dan, the Norwich community will always need him. His enthusiasm and passion for his community will be especially missed, along with his colorful and lively shirts and shoes.

Dan has served his community well, and Margaret and I are wishing him well in his next chapter of life.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. McLaughlin, 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. 3152. An act to impose sanctions with respect to countries, individuals, and entities that engage in any effort to acquire, possess, develop, transport, transfer, or deploy Iranian missiles and related goods and technology, including materials and equipment, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3389. An act to require the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, and the Secretary of the

Interior to conduct an evaluation with respect to the use of the container aerial firefighting system (CAFFS), 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. 3152. An act to impose sanctions with respect to countries, individuals, and entities that engage in any effort to acquire, possess, develop, transport, transfer, or deploy Iranian missiles and related goods and technology, including materials and equipment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 3389. An act to require the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, and the Secretary of the Interior to conduct an evaluation with respect to the use of the container aerial firefighting system (CAFFS), and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

PRIVILEGED NOMINATION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On request by Senator BILL HAGERTY, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Claudia Slacik, of New York, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 2026. (Reappointment).

On request by Senator BILL HAGERTY, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: William Brodsky, of Illinois, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 2026. (Reappointment).

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-2059. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, a report relative to the issuance of an Executive Order declaring a national emergency to deal with the threat of advancement by countries of concern in sensitive technologies and products critical to the military, intelligence, surveillance, or cyber-enabled capabilities of such countries; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2060. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to Ethiopia that was declared in Executive Order 14046 of September 17, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2061. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to the terrorist attacks on the United States of September 11, 2001 that was declared in Proclamation 7463 of September 14, 2001; to the

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2062. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to the threat of foreign interference in or undermining public confidence in United States elections that was declared in Executive Order 13848 of September 12, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2063. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2064. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 14046 with respect to Ethiopia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2065. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 14064 with respect to the widespread humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan and the potential for a deepening economic collapse in Afghanistan; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2066. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13848 with respect to the threat of foreign interference in or undermining public confidence in United States elections; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2067. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 14014 with respect to the situation in and in relation to Burma; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2068. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13566 with respect to Libya; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2069. A communication from the Chair and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Kazakhstan; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2070. A communication from the Chair and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Iraq; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2071. A communication from the Chair and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Angola; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2072. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to the Congress on the Profitability of Credit Card Operations of Depository Institutions"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2073. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and

Sustainment), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Defense Production Act Fund Annual Report For Fiscal Year 2022”; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2074. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 109th Annual Report of the Federal Reserve Board covering operations for calendar year 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2075. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Revisions to the Unverified List” (RIN0694-AJ28) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2076. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Trading and Markets, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Exemption for Certain Exchange Members” (RIN3235-AN17) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 6, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2077. A communication from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Mali Sanctions Regulations” received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 6, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2078. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Cybersecurity Risk Management, Strategy, Governance, and Incident Disclosure” (RIN3235-AM89) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2079. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Private Fund Advisors: Documentation of Registered Investment Adviser Compliance Review” (RIN3235-AN07) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2080. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting additional legislative proposals that the Department of Defense requests be enacted during the first session of the 118th Congress; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2081. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Regulations and Standards Branch, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Oil and Gas and Sulfur Operations in the Outer Continental Shelf—Blowout Preventer Systems and Well Control Revisions” (RIN1014-AA52) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 6, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2082. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Dehumidifiers” (RIN1904-AE60) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 6, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2083. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Dishwashers” (RIN1904-AF50) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 6, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2084. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Improvements to Generator Interconnection Procedures and Agreements” ((RIN1902-AG00) (Docket No. RM22-14-000)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 6, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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-41. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana urging and requesting the United States Congress to not support legislation, or other efforts, relating to the adoption of a central bank digital currency in the United States; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 71

Whereas, on March 9, 2022, President Joseph R. Biden issued Executive Order 14067 (executive order), “Ensuring Responsible Development of Digital Assets”, to establish a broad interagency effort to study and develop a United States central bank digital currency (CBDC); and

Whereas, the executive order established an interagency effort to develop “Policy and Actions Related to United States Central Bank Digital Currencies”; and

Whereas, the executive order states, “within 180 days of the date of this order, the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Director of National Intelligence, and the heads of other relevant agencies, shall submit to the President a report on the future of money and payment systems”; and

Whereas, the executive order states the term “central bank digital currency” or CBDC refers to a form of digital money or monetary value, denomination in the national unit of account, that is a direct liability of the central bank; and

Whereas, the executive order requires the United States attorney general, together with the secretary of the Treasury and the chairman of the Federal Reserve, to provide the president a legislative proposal for a CBDC within two hundred ten days of the executive order; and

Whereas, The Federal Reserve bank of New York and ten financial institutions completed testing of certain features related to a CBDC in 2022; and

Whereas, the CBDC under development and testing pursuant to the executive order will include programmable design features that will control the ability of a person to freely utilize the CBDC; and

Whereas, a United States CBDC raises significant concerns over privacy for individuals and businesses in Louisiana; and

Whereas, the adoption of a CBDC by the federal government would be an unacceptable expansion of federal authority; and

Whereas, the adoption of a CBDC by the federal government would hand over to the Federal Reserve unprecedented control of the lives, freedoms, choices, and sovereignty of the people of Louisiana. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge the United States Congress not to support legislation, or other efforts, relating to the adoption of a central bank digital currency in the United States. Be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the president of the United States, the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, the chairman of the Federal Reserve, the secretary of the Treasury, and each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-42. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana urging the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to establish Fort Jackson in Plaquemines Parish as a national park; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 42

Whereas, on August 25, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed the “Organic Act” creating the National Park Service, a federal bureau in the Department of the Interior responsible for maintaining national parks and monuments; and

Whereas, today, the National Park Service manages four hundred individual units which cover more than eighty-five million acres in all fifty states, the District of Columbia, and US territories; and

Whereas, the National Park System also includes more than one hundred fifty related areas and numerous programs that assist in conserving the nation’s natural and cultural heritage; and

Whereas, Fort Jackson is situated thirty-two nautical miles from the Gulf of Mexico and sixty-five miles in a southeasterly direction from New Orleans on the west bank of the Mississippi River in Plaquemines Parish and possesses nationally significant natural and cultural resources; and

Whereas, construction of Fort Jackson was begun in 1822 upon the recommendation of its namesake General Andrew Jackson who recognized the need for additional fortifications to protect the mouth of the Mississippi River from attack; and

Whereas, the construction of star-shaped Fort Jackson was completed in 1832, and the fort was readied for service during the Mexican War in 1846; and

Whereas, in April of 1862, Fort Jackson was the site of an important battle of the Civil War, sustaining days of shelling as Confederate troops fought, to prevent Union forces from reaching New Orleans; and

Whereas, Fort Jackson was donated to Plaquemines Parish in 1960 and since that time the parish and its people have invested in the conservation and renovation of the fort, which efforts have made it one of the principal historical attractions in the region. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to establish Fort Jackson in Plaquemines Parish as a national park; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-43. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana