

home. Now, he uses his time volunteering across our State. He started by volunteering as a volleyball, softball, and basketball coach in Dora, AL. Now, he volunteers with veterans and faith groups in the Wiregrass. Bob and his wife are actively involved in Post Oak Baptist Church in Ozark. Bob helps fix donated appliances for the Dale County Baptist Association's thrift store. He also serves as a service officer for Chapter No. 94 of the Disabled American Veterans, where he helps veterans with benefits and medical appointments.

Bob is also very involved with Friends of Army Aviation, helping inspire future generations of aviators and supporting aviator veterans. Friends of Army Aviation President Doc Holladay says that Bob "works tirelessly and consistently on any job that he is assigned. There is no hill too high for a climber like Bob."

Alabama is fortunate that Bob chose to use his talents to make our State a better place to call home. I am proud to recognize Bob Ammons as the November Veteran of the Month.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Kelly, one of his secretaries.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 12170 OF NOVEMBER 14, 1979, WITH RESPECT TO IRAN—PM 30

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order 12170 of November 14, 1979, is to continue in effect beyond November 14, 2023.

Our relations with Iran have not yet normalized, and the process of implementing the agreements with Iran,

dated January 19, 1981, is ongoing. Therefore I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12170 with respect to Iran.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, November 7, 2023.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:05 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. 359. An act to establish Fort San Gerónimo del Boqueron in Puerto Rico as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1318. An act to authorize the location of a monument on the National Mall to commemorate and honor the women's suffrage movement and the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1607. An act to clarify jurisdiction with respect to certain Bureau of Reclamation pumped storage development, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3448. An act to amend chapter 3081 of title 54, United States Code, to enhance the protection and preservation of America's battlefields.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 12:41 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 366. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to treat certain individuals who served in Vietnam as a member of the armed forces of the Republic of Korea as a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States for purposes of the provision of health care by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

At 6:27 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. 4821. An act making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, 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. 359. An act to establish Fort San Gerónimo del Boquerón in Puerto Rico as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1607. An act to clarify jurisdiction with respect to certain Bureau of Reclamation pumped storage development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 3448. An act to amend chapter 3081 of title 54, United States Code, to enhance the protection and preservation of America's

battlefields; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

MEASURES DISCHARGED PETITION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, hereby direct that the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 38, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Highway Administration relating to "Waiver of Buy America Requirements for Electric Vehicle Chargers", and, further, that the joint resolution be immediately placed upon the Legislative Calendar under General Orders.

Marco Rubio, Mike Braun, John Barasso, Chuck Grassley, John Thune, Rick Scott, Tommy Tuberville, Bill Hagerty, Cynthia M. Lummis, Ron Johnson, Mike Rounds, Katie Boyd Britt, Shelley Moore Capito, John Cornyn, Mitt Romney, John Hoeven, Roger Marshall, Tom Cotton, Lindsey Graham, Eric Schmitt, Ted Budd, Josh Hawley, Kevin Cramer, James Lankford, Thom Tillis, J.D. Vance, John Kennedy, Mitch McConnell, Ted Cruz, John Boozman.

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following joint resolution was discharged from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, by petition, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 802(c), and placed on the calendar:

S.J. Res. 38. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Highway Administration relating to "Waiver of Buy America Requirements for Electric Vehicle Chargers".

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 3774. An act to impose additional sanctions with respect to the importation or facilitation of the importation of petroleum products from Iran, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6126. An act making emergency supplemental appropriations to respond to the attacks in Israel for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

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

H.R. 4821. An act making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

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-2702. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Management, U.S. Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of the Freedom of Information Act"

(RIN0412-AA97) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2023; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2703. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Management, U.S. Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Implementation of the HAVANA Act of 2021” (RIN0412-AB11) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2023; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2704. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Management, U.S. Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “USAID Grant Regulations: Removing the Program Income Restriction on For-Profit Entities” (RIN0412-AB01) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2023; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2705. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to Israel in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 23-023); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2706. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 40(g) (2) of the Arms Export Control Act, the report of proposed exports to Syria (Transmittal No. DDTC 23-056); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2707. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to plans to provide Ukraine up to \$125,000,000 in Department of Defense articles and services, and military education and training, under drawdowns previously directed under section 506(a) (1) of the FAA, including for self-defense and border security operations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2708. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Final Regulations: Financial value transparency and gainful employment” (RIN1840-AD57) received in the Office of the President pro tempore of the Senate; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2709. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Community Services Block Grant Report to Congress for Fiscal Year 2018” and includes a report entitled “Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Performance Measurement Report”; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2710. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the issuance of an Executive Order that takes additional steps to deal with the national emergency with respect to significant malicious cyber enabled activities declared in Executive Order 13694 of April 1, 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2711. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Elimination of Mandatory Roth Distributions” (5 CFR Part 1650) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2712. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the agencies’ use of student loan repayments as a strategic tool for the purposes of recruitment and retention during calendar year 2021; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2713. A communication from the Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “2023 Civil Monetary Penalties Inflation Adjustments for Ethics in Government Act Violations” (RIN3209-AA66) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2714. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-261, “District of Columbia Housing Authority Stabilization and Reform Temporary Amendment Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2715. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-262, “Tenant Payment Plan Phasing Continuation Temporary Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2716. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-263, “Voluntary Agreement Moratorium Temporary Amendment Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2717. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-264, “Buzzard Point Park and Trails National Park Service Grant Temporary Amendment Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2718. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-288, “River East at Grandview Condominiums Assistance Tax Exemption Temporary Amendment Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2719. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-289, “Office of Administrative Hearings Jurisdiction Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2720. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-290, “Sign Regulations Temporary Amendment Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2721. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-282, “Public Health Emergency Credit Alert Amendment Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2722. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-282, “Alexander Crummell Way Designation Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2723. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-284, “William R. Spaulding

Way Designation Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2724. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-285, “Sterling A. Brown Way Designation Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2725. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-286, “Rayford Logan Way Designation Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2726. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-287, “Industrial Safety Act Clarification Amendment Act of 2023”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2727. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2728. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2729. A communication from the Marine Mammal Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Testing and Training Operations in the Eglin Gulf Test and Training Range” (RIN0648-BL77) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2730. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters; Amendment 39-22512” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1506)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2731. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace: Cedartown, GA” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1186)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2732. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, 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 Western Aleutian District in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XC379) received in the Office of the

President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2733. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, 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 Bering Sea Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XC393) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2734. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries Off West Coast States; Modification of the West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Actions #37 Through #45” (RIN0648-XC370) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2735. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, 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 Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XC366) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2736. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, 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; Sable Fish in the Bering Sea Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XC393) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2737. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, 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 and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XC381) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2738. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, 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 Central Aleutian District of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XC380) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2739. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, 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; Atka Mackerel in the Central Aleutian District of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XC383) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2740. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Fisheries; 2023 Fishing Quotas for Atlantic

Surfclams and Ocean Quahogs; and Suspension of Atlantic Surfclam Minimum Size Limit” (RIN0648-XC516) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2741. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Bluefish Fishery; 2023 Specifications” (RIN0648-XC422) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2742. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Revisions to Framework Adjustment 63 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan and Sector Annual Catch Entitlements” (RIN0648-XC472) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2743. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Electronic Monitoring Program Regulations for Bottom Trawl and Non-Whiting Midwater Trawl Vessels in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Trawl Catch Share Program” (RIN0648-BH70) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2744. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan; Amendment 30; 2023-24 Biennial Specifications and Management Measures” (RIN0648-BL48) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2745. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Amendment 22 to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fishery Management Plan” (RIN0648-BL43) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2746. A communication from the Acting Secretary of the Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Inflation Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties” (RIN3072-AC94) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2747. A communication from the Acting Secretary of the Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Delegations to Bureau of Enforcement, Investigations, and Compliance” (RIN3072-AC97) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2748. A communication from the Acting Secretary of the Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Update of Existing

User Fees” (RIN3072-AC96) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2749. A communication from the Acting Secretary of the Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Civil Penalty Amendments to Rules of Practice and Procedure” (RIN3072-AC95) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2750. A communication from the Deputy Division Chief of Competition Policy, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Numbering Policies for Modern Communications; Telephone Number Requirements for IP-Enabled Service Providers; Implementation of TRACED Act Section 6(A)—Knowledge of Customers by Entities with Access to Numbering Resources; Process Reform for Executive Branch Review of Certain FCC Applications and Petitions Involving Foreign Ownership” ((RIN3060-AK36) (WC Docket Nos. 13-97, 07-243, 20-67) (IB Docket No. 16-155)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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-82. A memorial adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of New Mexico supporting Ukraine against Russian aggression; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

HOUSE MEMORIAL NO. 55

Whereas, the post-war international security order, led by the North Atlantic treaty organization, relied upon diplomacy, peace and communication rather than armed conflict to ensure prosperity and stability for more than seventy years; and

Whereas, following the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Ukrainian people voted overwhelmingly to form a nation independent from Russia and built a thriving democratic country grounded in the rule of law; and

Whereas, more than thirty years ago, Ukraine declared its independence, and in 1994, the United States, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom signed an agreement whereby each country pledged to respect the independence and sovereignty of Ukraine's borders in return for its nuclear disarmament; and

Whereas, in 2014, the pro-western Euromaidan protest movement in Ukraine led to the resignation of authoritarian president Victor Yanukovich, a brutal ally of Russian president Vladimir Putin, and ushered in democratically elected leaders who have sought closer ties to the United States, the European Union and Great Britain; and

Whereas, Ukraine is recognized as a peaceful and honorable democratic republic that is governed by democratically elected President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal; and

Whereas, in order to manufacture a pretext to invade and occupy Ukraine, Vladimir Putin and his surrogates lied to the people of Russia and the global community, falsely claiming that Ukraine posed a threat to Russians and that he was launching a crusade against “Ukrainian Nazis”; and

Whereas, on February 24, 2022, Vladimir Putin launched an unjust, unwarranted and