

Whereas National Speech and Debate Education Day acknowledges that most achievements, celebrations, commemorations, and pivotal moments in modern history begin, end, or are crystallized with public address;

Whereas National Speech and Debate Education Day recognizes that learning to research, construct, and present an argument is integral to personal advocacy, social movements, and the making of public policy;

Whereas the National Speech & Debate Association, in conjunction with national and local partners, honors and celebrates the importance of speech and debate through National Speech and Debate Education Day; and

Whereas National Speech and Debate Education Day emphasizes the importance of speech and debate education and the integration of speech and debate education across grade levels and disciplines: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 1, 2024, as “National Speech and Debate Education Day”;

(2) strongly affirms the purposes of National Speech and Debate Education Day; and

(3) encourages educational institutions, businesses, community and civic associations, and all people of the United States to celebrate and promote National Speech and Debate Education Day.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1614. Mr. PAUL (for himself and Mr. BRAUN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 7463, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2024, and for other purposes.

SA 1615. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7454, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 1614.** Mr. PAUL (for himself and Mr. BRAUN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 7463, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2024, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

#### **SEC. . PROHIBITIONS RELATING TO THE PURCHASE OR SALE OF STATE OR MUNICIPAL SECURITIES.**

(a) **EMERGENCY LENDING PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES.**—The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System may not establish any emergency lending program or facility, including pursuant to section 13(3) of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 343(3)), that purchases or sells any security issued by a State or municipality, including a bond, note, draft, or bill of exchange.

(b) **OPEN MARKET OPERATIONS.**—No Federal reserve bank may purchase or sell any security described in subsection (a), including pursuant to section 14 of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 353 et seq.).

**SA 1615.** Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7454, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improve-

ment program, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

#### **TITLE IV—OTHER MATTERS**

#### **SEC. 401. EXPANDING USE OF INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES IN THE GULF OF MEXICO.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall prioritize the authorization of an eligible UAS test range sponsor partnering with an eligible airport authority to achieve the goals specified in subsection (b).

(b) **GOALS.**—The goals of a partnership authorized pursuant to subsection (a) shall be to test the operations of innovative technologies in both commercial and non-commercial applications to—

(1) identify challenges associated with aviation operations over large bodies of water;

(2) provide transportation of cargo and passengers to offshore energy infrastructure;

(3) assess the impacts of operations in salt-water environments;

(4) identify the challenges of integrating such technologies in complex airspace, including with commercial rotorcraft; and

(5) identify the differences between coordinating with Federal air traffic control towers and towers operated under the FAA Contract Tower Program.

(c) **BRIEFING TO CONGRESS.**—The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall provide an annual briefing to the appropriate committees of Congress on the status of the partnership authorized under this section, including detailing any barriers to the commercialization of innovative technologies in the Gulf of Mexico.

(d) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **ELIGIBLE AIRPORT AUTHORITY.**—The term “eligible airport authority” means an AIP-eligible airport authority that is—

(A) located in a state bordering the Gulf of Mexico which does not already contain a UAS Test Range;

(B) has an air traffic control tower operated under the FAA Contract Tower Program;

(C) is located within 60 miles of a port; and

(D) does not have any scheduled passenger airline service as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) **ELIGIBLE UAS TEST RANGE SPONSOR.**—The term “eligible UAS test range sponsor” means an existing sponsor of a UAS test range located in a landlocked State.

(3) **INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES.**—The term “innovative technologies” means unmanned aircraft systems and powered-lift aircraft.

(4) **UAS.**—The term “UAS” means an unmanned aircraft system.

(5) **UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM.**—The term “unmanned aircraft system” has the meaning given such term in section 44801 of title 49, United States Code.

#### **AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I have three requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

#### **COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES**

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 29, 2024, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### **COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 29, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

#### **SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING**

The Special Committee on Aging is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 29, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### **SIGNING AUTHORITY**

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the senior Senator from Hawaii be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions from February 29, 2024, through March 5, 2024.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### **APPOINTMENT**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 106-286, appoints the following Members to serve on the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People’s Republic of China: the Honorable SHERROD BROWN of Ohio; the Honorable LAPHONZA R. BUTLER of California.

#### **JUSTICE FOR MURDER VICTIMS ACT**

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 3859, introduced earlier today by Senators GRASSLEY and OSSOFF.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3859) to ensure that homicides can be prosecuted under Federal law without regard to the time elapsed between the act or omission that caused the death of the victim and the death itself.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHUMER. I further ask that the bill be considered read three times and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 3859) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 3859

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Justice for Murder Victims Act”.

**SEC. 2. HOMICIDE OFFENSES.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 51 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“§ 1123. No maximum time period between act or omission and death of victim**

“(a) IN GENERAL.—A prosecution may be instituted for any homicide offense under this title without regard to the time that elapsed between—

“(1) the act or omission that caused the death of the victim; and

“(2) the death of the victim.

“(b) RELATION TO STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—Nothing in subsection (a) shall be construed to supersede the limitations period under section 3282(a), to the extent applicable.

“(c) MAXIMUM TIME PERIOD APPLICABLE IF DEATH PENALTY IMPOSED.—A sentence of death may not be imposed for a homicide offense under this title unless the Government proves beyond a reasonable doubt that not more than 1 year and 1 day elapsed between—

“(1) the act or omission that caused the death of the victim; and

“(2) the death of the victim.”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of sections for chapter 51 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“1123. No maximum time period between act or omission and death of victim.”.

(c) APPLICABILITY.—Section 1123(a) of title 18, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall apply with respect to an act or omission described in that section that occurs after the date of enactment of this Act.

(d) MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR FIRST-DEGREE MURDER BASED ON TIME PERIOD BETWEEN ACT OR OMISSION AND DEATH OF VICTIM.—Section 1111(b) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after “imprisonment for life” the following: “, unless the death of the victim occurred more than 1 year and 1 day after the act or omission that caused the death of the victim, in which case the punishment shall be imprisonment for any term of years or for life”.

**VICTIMS’ VOICES OUTSIDE AND INSIDE THE COURTROOM EFFECTIVENESS ACT**

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. 3706 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3706) to amend section 3663A of title 18, United States Code, to clarify that restitution includes necessary and reasonable expenses incurred by a person who has assumed the victim’s rights.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 3706) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 3706

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Victims’ Voices Outside and Inside the Courtroom Effectiveness Act” or the “Victims’ VOICES Act”.

**SEC. 2. RESTITUTION FOR EXPENSES OF PERSONS WHO HAVE ASSUMED THE VICTIM’S RIGHTS.**

Section 3663A(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4) CLARIFICATION.—In ordering restitution under this section, a court shall order the defendant to make restitution to a person who has assumed the victim’s rights under paragraph (2) to reimburse that person’s necessary and reasonable—

“(A) lost income, child care, transportation, and other expenses incurred during and directly related to participation in the investigation or prosecution of the offense or attendance at proceedings related to the offense;

“(B) lost income, transportation, and other expenses incurred that are directly related to transporting the victim for necessary medical and related professional services and devices relating to physical, psychiatric, and psychological care, including nonmedical care and treatment rendered in accordance with a method of healing recognized by the law of the place of treatment; and

“(C) lost income, transportation, and other expenses incurred that are directly related to transporting the victim to receive necessary physical and occupational therapy and rehabilitation.”.

**NATIONAL SPEECH AND DEBATE EDUCATION DAY**

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 570, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 570) designating March 1, 2024, as “National Speech and Debate Education Day”.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 570) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

**MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 3853**

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3853) to extend the period for filing claims under the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act and to provide for compensation under such Act for claims relating to Manhattan Project waste, and to improve compensation for workers involved in uranium mining.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I now ask for its second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

**ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2024, THROUGH TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024**

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned to convene for pro forma session only, with no business conducted, at 12 noon on Friday, March 1; and that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m. on Tuesday, March 5; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Keohane nomination; further, that the cloture motions filed during today’s session ripen at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TOMORROW**

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 8:22 p.m., adjourned until Friday, March 1, 2024, at 12 noon.

**NOMINATIONS**

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

**FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

JUDY W. CHANG, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2029, VICE ALLISON CLEMENTS, TERM EXPIRING

DAVID ROSNER, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2027, VICE RICHARD GLICK, TERM EXPIRED.

LINDSAY S. SEE, OF WEST VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2028, VICE JAMES P. DANLY, TERM EXPIRED.