

January 23, 2024, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed roundtable.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS AND
SPENDING OVERSIGHT

The Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Spending Oversight of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at 2:45 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. SCHMITT. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that William Wallace, an intern in my office, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the Congress.

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

Mr. SCHMITT. By the way, I want to point out that intern, William Wallace, should not be confused with the William Wallace in "Braveheart." Centuries apart, but same fighting spirit, so we are happy to have him.

AMENDING THE HOUSING ACT OF
1949

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 3646, introduced earlier today.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3646) to amend the Housing Act of 1949 to extend the term of rural housing site loans and clarify the permissible uses of such loans.

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

Mr. MORAN. 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. 3646) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 3646

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

SECTION 1. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO PROVIDE SITES FOR RURAL HOUSING FOR LOW- AND MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES.

Section 524(a)(1) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490d(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by inserting after "development of land" the following: "including for activities necessary for the development of land, such as surveying, architecture, and engineering,"; and

(2) in the second sentence—

(A) by striking "two years" and inserting "five years"; and

(B) by striking "or within such additional period as may be authorized by the Secretary in any case as being necessary to carry out the purposes of this section".

REMEMBERING CECIL O'BRATE

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I am here today to pay tribute and to honor and to mourn the passing of an American farmer, a Kansas farmer, an entrepreneur, a businessman, a philanthropist, a good friend, and mentor, Cecil O'Brate.

Cecil was a strong advocate for Kansas and was committed to helping others succeed, and he is worthy of our tribute today and into the future.

Cecil was born in 1928 in Enid, OK, during the Great Depression. He became a Kansan; graduated from Syracuse High School in our State; and before completing college in 1948, he left school to farm 3,000 rented acres in Kansas. Ironically, at the time of his death, he owned and operated tens of thousands of acres of farming land, including the original 3,000 he leased.

Through investments in Southwest Kansas communities and support for various organizations in Kansas and across the country, Cecil O'Brate and his wife Frances have positively transformed countless lives.

He established a business called American Warrior in 1984, which became one of Kansas's largest independent oil and gas producers in our State. And in 2013, Cecil and Frances established the O'Brate Foundation, which awards college scholarships and teaches life skills to students, most of whom grew up in the foster care system or below poverty level. Cecil loved to help other people succeed, particularly young people.

He gave generously to many charities, and I have no doubt that the O'Brate Foundation will continue to provide educational opportunities to Kansans for years to come. I have had the privilege of speaking at the O'Brate Scholars event in Manhattan, KS, and it was moving to see how Cecil's generosity was transforming the future of those young men and women.

Despite achieving great means and influence, he remained dedicated to the Kansas and midwestern values he learned as a young man on the farm fields in Hamilton County. And Cecil conducted himself always with humility and authenticity.

He lived in Garden City for 60 years. To nearly everyone Cecil met, he would share that there is no substitute for an honest day's work, an inquisitive mind, and a desire to always do more. His life was a testament to those principles, and he lived them each day with authenticity and purpose.

In many ways, Cecil O'Brate, his family, his business, exemplify the American dream. A boy who grew up in the Great Depression was successful in business, utilized that success to help other people, and in the process became a friend of President George W. Bush. I call it the American dream. It is what we are here to make sure remains alive and well for our citizens today and the citizens who follow us.

I pay tribute and respect to Cecil O'Brate—all the good work and the

person that he was, the human being that he was.

Robba and I are praying for his wife of 76 years, Frances; his four sons Patrick, Michael, Steve, and Mark; and the entire O'Brate family and the community of Southwest Kansas.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

RECOGNIZING AND SUPPORTING
THE EFFORTS OF THE NEW
HEIGHTS BID COMMITTEE TO
BRING THE 2027 FEDERATION
INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL
ASSOCIATION (FIFA) WOMEN'S
WORLD CUP COMPETITION TO
THE UNITED STATES AND MEX-
ICO

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Con. Res. 26.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 26) recognizing and supporting the efforts of the New Heights Bid Committee to bring the 2027 Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) Women's World Cup competition to the United States and Mexico.

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

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 26) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

NATIONAL STALKING AWARENESS
MONTH

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 528.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 528) raising awareness and encouraging the prevention of stalking by designating January 2024 as "National Stalking Awareness Month".

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and 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 ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 528) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of January 18, 2024, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Republican leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 114-255, appoints the following individuals to serve as members of the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee: Dr. Steven Hester of Kentucky (reappointment) and a Ms. Trudi Matthews of Kentucky.

The Chair announces, on behalf of the Republican leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 100-458, sec. 114(b)(2)(c), the appointment of the following individual to serve a 6-year term as a member of the Board of Trustees of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development: the Honorable ROGER F.

WICKER, of Mississippi (reappointment).

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2024

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 24; 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 Austin nomination; further, that notwithstanding rule XXII, at 11:30 a.m., the Senate vote on cloture on the Austin nomination, followed immediately by a vote on cloture on the Brisco nomination; further, that if cloture has been invoked on either nomination, all time be considered expired at 2:15 p.m. and the Senate vote on confirmation of the nominations in the order in which cloture was invoked; further, that following the disposition of the Brisco nomination, the Senate resume consideration of the Lund nomination and

that the cloture motion ripen at 6:15 p.m.; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed during Wednesday's session, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. 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 6:15 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, January 24, 2024, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate January 23, 2024:

AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JOEL MATTHEW SZABAT, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A DIRECTOR OF THE AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS.

ANTHONY ROSARIO COSCIA, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE A DIRECTOR OF THE AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS.

CHRISTOPHER KOOS, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE A DIRECTOR OF THE AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS.