

Whereas 436 units of the National Wildlife Refuge System have hunting programs and 378 units have fishing programs which support, respectively, more than 2,600,000 hunting visits and more than 8,600,000 fishing visits annually;

Whereas national wildlife refuges provide an important opportunity for children to discover and gain a greater appreciation for the natural world;

Whereas, in fiscal year 2023, more than 23,000 volunteers contributed approximately 900,000 volunteer hours in national wildlife refuges, which is equal to the number of hours worked by 550 full-time employees;

Whereas approximately 180 national wildlife refuge "Friends" organizations provide additional volunteer labor and serve as an important link between national wildlife refuges and local communities;

Whereas 101 units of the National Wildlife Refuge System are within 25 miles of population centers of 250,000 people or more;

Whereas, through the Urban Wildlife Conservation Program, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service works to dismantle barriers that have blocked underserved communities from full and equal participation in outdoor recreation and wildlife conservation;

Whereas the Urban Wildlife Conservation Program fosters strong new conservation coalitions, educates and employs youth, engages communities, builds trust in government, and connects individuals with nature;

Whereas national wildlife refuges provide opportunities for people from all backgrounds to explore, connect with, and preserve the natural heritage of the United States;

Whereas, since 1995, national wildlife refuges across the United States have held festivals, educational programs, guided tours, and other events to celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week during the second full week of October;

Whereas the United States Fish and Wildlife Service has designated the week beginning on October 13, 2024, as National Wildlife Refuge Week; and

Whereas the designation of National Wildlife Refuge Week by the Senate would recognize more than a century of conservation in the United States, raise awareness about the importance of wildlife and the National Wildlife Refuge System, and celebrate the myriad recreational opportunities available for the enjoyment of this network of protected lands: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning on October 13, 2024, as "National Wildlife Refuge Week";

(2) encourages the observance of National Wildlife Refuge Week with appropriate events and activities;

(3) recognizes the importance of national wildlife refuges to wildlife conservation, the protection of imperiled species and ecosystems, and wildlife-dependent recreational uses;

(4) acknowledges the importance of national wildlife refuges for their recreational opportunities and contribution to local economies across the United States;

(5) identifies the significance of national wildlife refuges in advancing the traditions of wildlife observation, photography, and interpretation, as well as environmental education;

(6) finds that national wildlife refuges play a vital role in securing the hunting and fishing heritage of the United States for future generations;

(7) recognizes the important work of urban national wildlife refuges in welcoming racially and ethnically diverse urban communities that were long excluded, including work—

(A) to foster strong new conservation coalitions;

(B) to provide education and employment opportunities to youth;

(C) to improve communities;

(D) to build trust in government; and

(E) to connect individuals with nature;

(8) recognizes the commitment of the National Wildlife Refuge System to engagement, relationships, knowledge-sharing, and co-stewardship of National Wildlife Refuge System lands and waters with Tribes, Alaska Native Corporations, Alaska Native organizations, and the Native Hawaiian community;

(9) acknowledges the role of national wildlife refuges in conserving waterfowl and waterfowl habitat under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703 et seq.);

(10) reaffirms the support of the Senate for wildlife conservation and the National Wildlife Refuge System; and

(11) expresses the intent of the Senate—

(A) to continue working to conserve wildlife; and

(B) to support the management by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service of the National Wildlife Refuge System for current and future generations.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. MERKLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to grant floor privileges to my interns for their shadow days on the following dates: Amelia Nason for November 13, 2024, and Rufaro Muchaka for December 3, 2024.

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

SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2023

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 354, S. 2581.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2581) to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Secure Rural Schools Reauthorization Act of 2023".

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY SELF-DETERMINATION ACT OF 2000.

(a) SECURE PAYMENTS FOR STATES AND COUNTIES CONTAINING FEDERAL LAND.—

(1) SECURE PAYMENTS.—Section 101 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7111) is amended, in subsections (a) and (b), by striking "2023" each place it appears and inserting "2026".

(2) DISTRIBUTION OF PAYMENTS TO ELIGIBLE COUNTIES.—Section 103(d)(2) of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7113(d)(2)) is amended by striking "2023" and inserting "2026".

(b) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT SPECIAL PROJECTS ON FEDERAL LAND.—

(1) COMMITTEE COMPOSITION WAIVER AUTHORITY.—Section 205(d)(6)(C) of the Secure Rural

Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7125(d)(6)(C)) is amended by striking "2023" and inserting "2026".

(2) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY.—Section 208 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7128) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking "2025" and inserting "2028"; and

(B) in subsection (b), by striking "2026" and inserting "2029".

(c) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO EXPEND COUNTY FUNDS.—Section 305 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7144) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking "2025" and inserting "2028"; and

(2) in subsection (b), by striking "2026" and inserting "2029".

SEC. 3. RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE PILOT PROGRAM EXTENSION.

Section 205(g) of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7125(g)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (5), by striking "2023" and inserting "2026"; and

(2) in paragraph (6), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking "the date described in paragraph (5)" and inserting "October 1, 2023".

SEC. 4. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

(a) RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEES.—Section 205 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7125) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking "concerned," and inserting "concerned"; and

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking "the date of the enactment of this Act" and inserting "October 3, 2008"; and

(2) in subsection (d)(4), by striking "to extent" and inserting "to the extent".

(b) USE OF PROJECT FUNDS.—Section 206(b)(2) of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7126(b)(2)) is amended by striking "concerned," and inserting "concerned".

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be considered and agreed to; the bill, as amended, 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 committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill (S. 2581), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE WEEK

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 892, 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. 892) designating the week beginning on October 13, 2024, as "National Wildlife Refuge Week".

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 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. 892) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2024

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 12 noon on Wednesday, November 13; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that following the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Hawley nomination; that the Hawley cloture motion ripen at 12:30 p.m.; that following the Hawley cloture vote, the Senate recess until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; that if cloture is invoked on the Hawley nomination, all postcloture time be considered expired at 2:30 p.m.; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed during Wednesday's session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 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 6:56 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, November 13, 2024, at 12 noon.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. BARBRA S. BULS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. PATRIC D. COGGIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. JACOB L. HAMMONS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. DANIEL S. ZEVITZ

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. DANIEL D. BOYACK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. RICKY L. MILLS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. DAVID B. JOHNSON

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. EUGENE D. COX

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be general

LT. GEN. CHRISTOPHER T. DONAHUE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. KEVIN F. MEISLER

BRIG. GEN. DEAN P. THOMPSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. FREDDY L. ADAMS II
COL. MICHAEL J. ADAMSKI
COL. JARED D. BORDWELL
COL. KEVIN D. BRADLEY
COL. DONALD K. BROOKS
COL. STEPHEN E. CAPEHART
COL. ADAM M. COBB
COL. JOHN K. CURRY
COL. DANIEL J. DUNCAN
COL. ANTWAN L. DUNMYER
COL. ANTHONY R. GIBBS
COL. PETER L. GILBERT
COL. MATTHEW J. HARDMAN
COL. GLENN A. HENKE
COL. JASON K. JEFFERIS
COL. ERIC M. JOHNSON
COL. MICHAEL R. KALOOSTIAN
COL. SEAN P. KELLY
COL. ANDREW J. KISER
COL. DAVID M. KOBS
COL. STEPHEN J. KOLOUCH
COL. TRAVIS L. MCINTOSH
COL. JASON H. ROSENSTRAUCH
COL. MATTHEW S. ROSS
COL. SEAN F. STINCHON
COL. JACK S. TAYLOR
COL. KEVIN M. TRUJILLO
COL. JONATHAN M. VELISHKA
COL. GEORGE H. WALTER, JR.
COL. ANNEMARIE R. WIERSGALLA

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. ROBERT C. FULFORD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. ADAM L. CHALKLEY
BRIG. GEN. JOSEPH R. CLEARFIELD
BRIG. GEN. MARK H. CLINGAN
BRIG. GEN. KYLE B. ELLISON
BRIG. GEN. WALKER M. FIELD
BRIG. GEN. ANTHONY M. HENDERSON
BRIG. GEN. MATTHEW T. MOWERY
BRIG. GEN. ANDREW M. NIBBEL
BRIG. GEN. FARRELL J. SULLIVAN
BRIG. GEN. JASON G. WOODWORTH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. MARK A. CUNNINGHAM

BRIG. GEN. VALERIA A. JACKSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. JOSEPH A. KATZ
COL. DAVID K. WINNACKER

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. DAMIAN D. FLATT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. OMARR E. TOBIAS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. REGINALD S. EWING III

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. JEREAL E. DORSEY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. RAYMOND P. OWENS III

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. ERIN E.O. ACOSTA
CAPT. BENJAMIN A. SNELL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. WALTER H. ALLMAN III
CAPT. WESLEY P. BRINGHAM
CAPT. RICHARD G. BURGESS
CAPT. DARYLE D. CARDONE
CAPT. CAMERON R. CHEN
CAPT. MATTHEW J. DUFFY
CAPT. JOHN P. FRIEDMAN
CAPT. WILLIAM K. GANTT, JR.
CAPT. MICHAEL R. JARRETT
CAPT. DAVID LOO
CAPT. GARY G. MONTALVIO JR.
CAPT. DAVIDTAVIS M. POLLARD
CAPT. MATTHEW T. POTTENBURGH
CAPT. WILLIAM R. REED
CAPT. KARREY D. SANDERS
CAPT. CHARLES R. SARGEANT
CAPT. JOHN W. STAFFORD
CAPT. THOMAS J. ZERR

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. KERTRECK V. BROOKS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. ANDREW M. BIEHN
CAPT. DANIEL L. LANNAMANN
CAPT. BRIAN A. METCALF

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 2121(E):

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. JOHN F. BARRESI
CAPT. MATTHEW T. BROWN
CAPT. KEVIN M. CAROLL
CAPT. CHRISTOPHER J. HULSER
CAPT. TINA J. PENA

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

ISRAEL DAVID KING

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624: