

a visionary leader and a scientist's scientist, serving as the connective tissue to unite and inspire the Department during this paradigm shift in technology, exactly as he had done so many times in the past.

Charlie's sudden passing came as a devastating shock to the multitude of people he touched throughout his life; the Department of Energy and the national labs are still reeling from this loss. Charlie dedicated his life to his Nation, and always did so with tremendous humility and an infectious curiosity.

But he was so much more than a public servant and scientist; he was a dedicated husband, father, and grandfather. He had a passion for the outdoors, the night sky, and regularly went backpacking with his family to share both. He was also an accomplished musician and shared his talents by performing in several local Los Alamos theater productions.

He is survived by his wife of 47 years Janet Robb McMillan, son Paul McMillan and spouse Suzanne Long, daughters Caroline McMillan and Katherine McCurry, her spouse Paul McCurry, and their son Oliver McCurry.

Charlie leaves behind an incredible legacy of national service, scientific achievement, and deep personal connections. We are proud that he chose to make New Mexico his home and grateful for the time he spent with us in our community. His significant contributions to the world and his generous spirit will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

#### TRIBUTE TO KATE M. KÄUFER

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I rise to congratulate Kate M. Käufer, the fearless leader of my defense staff, on more than 20 years of distinguished Federal service and on her well-earned retirement.

For the last 4 years, it has been a privilege of a lifetime to serve as chairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee supporting our military and our intelligence community. The subcommittee's unique jurisdiction appropriates more than half of the Nation's discretionary funding: \$852 billion in this year's Senate bill. It is almost impossible for any one human being to wrap their arms around such an enormous national security enterprise. But I can think of at least one exception: Kate M. Käufer.

Born in Germany, Kate began her Federal service as a Presidential Management Intern for the U.S. Marine Corps in June 2003; she joined the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee in December 2004. In her 20 years on the subcommittee, she has managed just about every appropriations account and issue in our jurisdiction with an incisive hungry analytical mind. Shipbuilding, satellites, intelligence activities, research, and innovation—you name it, Kate has left her mark. I want to extend my particular thanks to her

and her loved ones these last 2 years as my clerk, for the late nights and weekends, the interrupted family vacations, and the weight of leading an indispensable subcommittee.

Kate exemplifies the unique spirit and culture of our subcommittee. Her mantra was always, "We solve problems." In every interaction—whether with me, my colleagues, or fellow staff—she focused on getting real things done, in the most bipartisan way possible. That is quite an achievement in Washington these days. In short, she was always an upbeat professional of the first order. The Senate will miss her, as will this subcommittee.

In addition, Kate is a tremendous mentor to those around her, teaching defense appropriations courses at Georgetown University, University of North Carolina, and Defense Acquisition University. She somehow also finds the time to be an accomplished triathlete, an avid traveler and hiker, and a passionate soccer fan.

In closing, I wish continued success and happiness to Kate, her partner, and her family as she embarks on her next great adventure.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### REMEMBERING MARTIN COPELAND GRISWOLD

• Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I rise to honor the life of Martin Copeland Griswold, who died on November 30, 2024, at the age of 92. Martin Copeland was a sixth generation Florida farmer, starting his career as a member of the Future Farmers of America with 80 acres of land and working his way to serve as FFA State president in 1951–52. He was the chief executive officer of Griswold Farms, producing food, fiber, and timber on a 4,800-acre family farm, and at the time of his death, Copeland was still farming. Copeland also served on the Northwest Florida Water Management District governing board for 8 years. As an influential and dedicated Florida farmer making a significant impact in northwest Florida, and across the State, Copeland was inducted into the Florida Agriculture Hall of Fame. Martin Copeland Griswold of Chumuckla, FL, is survived by his wife of 72 years Winona; his children Marty (Diane), Von (Lisa), Vicki (Jeff) Miller, Paul (Alesia); 12 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Kelly, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages

from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:50 a.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 bills, without amendment:

S. 50. An act to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to give priority consideration to selecting Pensacola and Perdido Bays as an estuary of national significance, and for other purposes.

S. 310. An act to establish an advisory group to encourage and foster collaborative efforts among individuals and entities engaged in disaster recovery relating to debris removal, and for other purposes.

S. 1478. An act to designate United States Route 20 in the States of Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and Massachusetts as the "National Medal of Honor Highway", and for other purposes.

S. 3475. An act to amend 49, United States Code, to allow the Secretary of Transportation to designate an authorized operator of the commercial driver's license information system, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

2672. An act to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide for the authority to reimburse local governments or electric cooperatives for interest expenses, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2892. An act to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on the effectiveness of emergency alerting systems, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7671. An act to amend section 324 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to incentivize States, Indian Tribes, and Territories to close disaster recovery projects by authorizing the use of excess funds for management costs for other disaster recovery projects.

H.R. 8689. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to require Amtrak to include information on base pay and bonus compensation of certain Amtrak executives, and for other purposes.

H.R. 9541. An act to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize Federal agencies to provide certain essential assistance for hazard mitigation for electric utilities, 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. 2672. An act to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide for the authority to reimburse local governments or electric cooperatives for interest expenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2892. An act to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on the effectiveness of emergency alerting systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 8689. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to require Amtrak to include information on base pay and bonus compensation of certain Amtrak executives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 9541. An act to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize Federal agencies to provide certain essential assistance for hazard mitigation for electric utilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

H.R. 7671. An act to amend section 324 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to incentivize States, Indian Tribes, and Territories to close disaster recovery projects by authorizing the use of excess funds for management costs for other disaster recovery projects.

### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 82. An act to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

### ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on December 10, 2024, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 91. An act to award a Congressional Gold Medal collectively to 60 diplomats, in recognition of their bravery and heroism during the Holocaust.

S. 4243. An act to award posthumously the Congressional Gold Medal to Shirley Chisholm.

### 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-6730. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Second Remedial Amendment Cycle for section 403(b) Pre-approved Plans: Issuance of Opinion Letters, Plan Adoption Deadline, Opening of Determination Letter Program, and Related Issues" (Announcement 2024-38) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6731. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report on Unobligated Balances for Appropriations Re-

lating to Quality Measurement"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6732. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "2024 Report to Congress—Annual Update: Identification of Quality Measurement Priorities and Associated Funding for the Consensus-Based Entity and Other Entities"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6733. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Income Tax Treatment of Certain Amounts Paid or Incurred Pursuant to Agreements with the Department of Commerce Required Under the CHIPS Act of 2022" (Announcement 2024-40) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6734. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Recourse Partnership Liabilities and Related Party Rules" (RIN1545-BL21) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6735. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Disclosures of Return Information Reflected on Returns to Officers and Employees of the Department of Commerce, including the Bureau of the Census, for Certain Statistical Purposes and Related Activities" (RIN1545-BQ74) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6736. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Definition of Energy Property and Rules Applicable to the Energy Credit" (RIN1545-BQ40) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6737. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Federal Vacancies Reform Act, changes that occurred as of November 22, 2024, and additional report on departure of ambassadors"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6738. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the intent to exercise under section 614(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, to provide assistance to Ukraine; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6739. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Determination Under Section 614(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to Provide Assistance to Ukraine"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6740. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to Israel and Romania for the manufacture of significant

military equipment abroad (Transmittal No. DDTC 24-071); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6741. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services in the amount of \$100,000,000 for the manufacture of significant military equipment abroad to various countries (Transmittal No. DDTC 24-072); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6742. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report and the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the report on other U.S. contributions to the United Nations and its affiliated agencies during fiscal year 2023; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6743. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clinical Trials Registration and Results Information Submission" (RIN0925-AA71) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6744. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Sixteenth Annual Report on Delays in Approvals of Applications Related to Citizen Petitions and Petitions for Stay of Agency Action: FY 2023"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6745. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease: 2024 Update"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6746. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Prescription Drug Spending, Pricing Trends, and Premiums in Private Health Insurance Plans"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6747. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the Department's Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6748. A communication from the Acting Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6749. A joint communication from the Chairman and the General Counsel, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report for the period of April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6750. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.