

Nita's legacy, millions of children around the world have the chance at a better future.

Nita was beloved by legislators on both sides of the aisle, as evidenced by the many bipartisan statements after she passed. But this love could not match that of her family, including her three children, her eight grandchildren, and her devoted husband Stephen Lowey. No matter how pressing her responsibilities were in DC, Nita's family remained the center of her life, and her commitment was an example to us all.

Nita was a force to be reckoned with, and her legacy will long outlive her. Her memory will be a blessing to the millions of lives that have benefited from her work, and she will continue to be an inspiration to me and all those who are compelled to repair the world.

#### TRIBUTE TO ZACHARY NORTHCUTT

Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Mr. Zachary Northcutt of Florida for his promotion to lieutenant commander of the Navy after 12 years of dedicated service to our country in the U.S. Navy.

Before coming on to serve as a legislative fellow in my office, Zach enlisted and served as a division officer in the U.S. Navy from 2013 to 2018, overseeing all aspects of missile systems onboard the USS *Princeton* and then as a training officer onboard the USS *Curtis Wilbur*, where he managed a command of 300 personnel. After his time at sea, Zach moved to Annapolis, MD, to start as a seamanship and navigation instructor at the U.S. Naval Academy, conveying his lessons learned during his time onboard to midshipmen. Zach was involved in their instruction of navigation principles and helped develop new curriculum.

Zach then moved to Yokosuka, Kanagawa, Japan in 2021, where he served as a department head, responsible for the weapons systems and all external and internal communications, computers network, and navigation equipment onboard USS *Rafael Peralta*. Since November 2024, Zach has served my legislative team as they review and formulate policy proposals, address constituent concerns, and support my work on the Senate Armed Services Committee.

I am grateful for Zach's service to our country and particularly the role he has played in protecting America's interest in the Indo-Pacific region. It is truly an honor to be part of commemorating his latest achievement, promotion to lieutenant commander in the Navy. I wish him all the best as he assumes the responsibilities of this new role. He shares this achievement with his loving wife Erika, daughter Peggy, and their growing family.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### RECOGNIZING THE NORTH DAKOTA BOYS CLASS A BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS FROM KINDRED HIGH SCHOOL

• Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, high school basketball tournaments are a highlight every March in North Dakota. Athletes, coaches, students, parents, and fans of all ages come together from around the State to make these tournaments unforgettable experiences.

This year's boys class A basketball championship on March 22 was an epic game, a rematch of the Kindred Vikings and Devils Lake Firebirds teams that played for the title last year—add to that an unlikely comeback from a 26-point deficit and a Kindred buzzer beater win of 59 to 58. It was even more exciting for my family because Kindred is my hometown, and I lettered all 4 years in Kindred High School sports.

Our teams in the late 1970s did not compare to the athletic excellence of the players today. This year, with only one loss the entire season, the Kindred Vikings took home their second boy's basketball championship trophy, having won their first in 2021. They entered the tournament as the No. 1-seeded team and kept their winning streak going up to the final game. Guard Brooks Bakko made the winning point in the last-second tip-in.

These 15 talented players all contributed to their successful season by tapping into the strength of each other. They demonstrated teamwork at its finest. This year's players are Brooks Bakko, Gabriel Iverson, Karson Ouse, Jakob Starcevic, Presley Peraza, Izaak Spelhaug, Jackson Schlieman, Kylan Swenson, Gabe Whipple, Eli Maaack, Carter Gronwold, Tyler Gronwold, Graham Hesse, Kyle Campbell, and Lukas Starcevic. Scoring leaders for the championship game were forward Karson Ouse with 17 points, Jakob Starcevic with 13, Brooks Bakko with 12, and Presley Peraza with 10. And, Brooks Bakko and Presley Peraza were selected by the State sportscasters and sportswriters to be on the All-State Team.

I congratulate the team, as well as Coach Brad Woehl, assistant coaches Brent Plante, Matt Hagen, and Jimmy Hoy, and all the loyal fans on this State championship. A sincere thanks also goes to the Kindred Public School administrators, teachers, staff, and the entire community for the role they play in supporting quality education.

This was a championship game we will remember for years. I join all North Dakotans in thanking each and every Kindred Vikings player for inspiring us with your basketball excellence. You continue to show us what can be achieved by combining faith and passion with determination and teamwork.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:53 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 14. Concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2025 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2026 through 2034.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

H. Con. Res. 14. Concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2025 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2026 through 2034.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. CRAPO for the Committee on Finance.

\*Frank Bisignano, of New Jersey, to be Commissioner of Social Security Administration for the term expiring January 19, 2031.

By Ms. ERNST for the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

\*William Briggs, of Texas, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

\*Casey Mulligan, of Illinois, to be Chief Counsel for Advocacy, Small Business Administration.

\*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 1246. A bill to establish the Federal Emergency Management Agency as a cabinet-level independent agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SCHMITT:

S. 1247. A bill to ensure the ability of public safety officers to retain their right to free speech on matters related to public safety, working conditions, and other matters; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MULLIN (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 1248. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to require the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to test a model to improve access to specialty health services for certain Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 1249. A bill to prescribe zoning authority with respect to commercial unmanned aircraft systems and to preserve State, local, and Tribal authorities and private property with respect to unmanned aircraft systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 1250. A bill to authorize Counter-UAS activities on and off commercial service airport property, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. MOODY (for herself and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 1251. A bill to modify the minimum required weight of orange juice soluble solids; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 1252. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to promote the increased use of renewable natural gas, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful transportation-related emissions that contribute to poor air quality, and to increase job creation and economic opportunity throughout the United States; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself and Mr. BUDD):

S. 1253. A bill to establish the Office of the Special Inspector General for Unlawful Discrimination in Higher Education within the Department of Education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 1254. A bill to amend the Aquifer Recharge Flexibility Act to clarify a provision relating to conveyances for aquifer recharge purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mrs. BRITT, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 1255. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to reissue certain regulations relating to the taking of double-crested cormorants at aquaculture facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 1256. A bill to authorize the Pines Foundation to establish the Fire Island AIDS Memorial, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 1257. A bill to amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to authorize the use of funds for certain additional Carey Act projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 1258. A bill to prohibit the sale of food that is, or contains, unsafe poppy seeds; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 1259. A bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to require the public disclosure of certain vehicle and aircraft manifest information; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. DAINES, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. WARNER, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. WARNOCK, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. MORAN):

S. 1260. A bill to reform rural housing programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. THUNE, Ms. SMITH, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. COTTON, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. KAINE, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. GALLEGGO, Mr. MORAN, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. KING, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. COONS, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. KELLY, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. WARNOCK, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 1261. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 1262. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to release a reversionary interest in certain land in the Black River State Forest in Millston, Wisconsin, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. KIM):

S. 1263. A bill to establish the Office of Security Training and Counterintelligence in the Executive Office of the President, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BENNET:

S. 1264. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a demonstration program to promote collaborative treatment of mental and physical health comorbidities under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GALLEGGO:

S. 1265. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to establish an Inspector General of the Office of the United States Trade Representative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. BRITT):

S. 1266. A bill to establish a Youth Mental Health Research Initiative in the National Institutes of Health for purposes of encouraging collaborative research to improve youth mental health; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 1267. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to pay costs associated with the delivery of automobiles adapted for operation by a disabled individual to eligible persons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MARKEY:

S. 1268. A bill to amend title 49 of the United States Code, to revise the qualifications for organization designation authorization holders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 1269. A bill to promote United States leadership in technical standards by directing the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Department of State to take certain actions to encourage and enable

United States participation in developing standards and specifications for artificial intelligence and other critical and emerging technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 132

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 132, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the rules for postponing certain deadlines by reason of disaster.

S. 138

At the request of Mr. SHEEHY, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGGO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 138, a bill to require each enterprise to include on the Uniform Residential Loan Application a disclaimer to increase awareness of the direct and guaranteed home loan programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 160

At the request of Mr. SHEEHY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 160, a bill to amend the Wildfire Suppression Aircraft Transfer Act of 1996 to reauthorize the sale by the Department of Defense of aircraft and parts for wildfire suppression purposes, and for other purposes.

S. 339

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 339, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of multi-cancer early detection screening tests.

S. 343

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. ALSOBROOKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 343, a bill to require full funding of part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

S. 423

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 423, a bill to protect regular order for budgeting for the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 498

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 498, a bill to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the African Americans who served with Union forces during the Civil War, in recognition of their bravery and outstanding service.

S. 527

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 527, a bill to require the Federal Trade Commission to study the