

*Resolved*, That the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Tuesday, April 24, 2018, as the fourth annual Oil and Natural Gas Industry Day at the state capitol and does hereby commend the industry for more than a century of partnership with Louisiana, providing jobs and economic benefits for the state while providing the energy that fuels a nation; and be it further

*Resolved*, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate, the clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress.

POM-235. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana urging the United States Congress to allow for variances on certain projects regulated by the Clean Water Act and the Rivers and Harbors Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 41

Whereas, the federal Clean Water Act establishes a program to regulate the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands; and

Whereas, the federal Rivers and Harbors Act requires authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the construction of any structure in or over any navigable waters of the United States, the excavation and dredging or deposition of material, or any obstruction or alteration to a navigable water; and

Whereas, protection of the coast and mitigation of wetland loss is vital to the future of this state and the many projects designed to protect and preserve the state's coast invariably require dredging, obstructing, or altering of waters of the United States; and

Whereas, the Clean Water Act and the Rivers and Harbors Act mandate that local, municipal, and state projects aimed at mitigating coastal wetland losses require permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and

Whereas, like federal law, Louisiana law requires compensatory mitigation at a level sufficient to replace the ecological value of the wetlands lost as a result of permitted projects, but allows for variances to this requirement when the permittee has demonstrated that the required mitigation would render the proposed project impracticable if the project is a clearly overriding public interest; and

Whereas, the Clean Waters Act and the Rivers and Harbors Act do not allow for such variances when a project to mitigate coastal wetland loss is being considered, even when that project has a clearly overriding public interest; and

Whereas, in an effort to help the state protect its valuable coast and wetlands, federal law should allow for a variance for a project that has a clearly overriding public interest. Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Legislature of Louisiana memorializes the Congress of the United States to allow for variances on certain projects regulated by the Clean Water Act and the Rivers and Harbors Act. Be it further

*Resolved*, That a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of Representatives and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress.

POM-236. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging the President of the United States and the United States Congress to swiftly renegotiate and ratify the North American

Free Trade Agreement to maintain the global competitiveness of Arizona's businesses and citizens; to the Committee on Finance.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 1016

Whereas, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) created the largest single free trade area in the world and has produced significant economic benefits to the State of Arizona; and

Whereas, one in five Arizona jobs are linked to trade in goods and countless others are linked to trade in services and international tourism; and

Whereas, in 2014, over 236,000 Arizona jobs relied on trade and investment with our two largest trading partners, Canada and Mexico; and

Whereas, NAFTA has facilitated the growth of significant new cross-border manufacturing and supply chains in industries such as aerospace, agriculture, electronics and automotive; and

Whereas, NAFTA has facilitated the expansion of Arizona businesses into the Mexican market; and

Whereas, the NAFTA-member countries of Canada and Mexico are Arizona's largest foreign direct-investment and trading partners; and

Whereas, in 2016, Arizona had \$15.7 billion in combined trade, nearly 38% of the state's total trade, with Mexico and maintained a trade surplus of \$830 million; and

Whereas, in 2016, Arizona had \$3.5 billion in combined trade with Canada and maintained a trade surplus of \$810 million; and

Whereas, tourism with our NAFTA partners is a significant driving force of Arizona's economic success; and

Whereas, 3.8 million annual Mexican visitors are responsible for \$7.3 million per day, or 66% of all Arizona visitor expenditures, and the annual economic impact to Arizona from Mexican and Canadian visitors is \$5 billion; and

Whereas, NAFTA may usefully be updated to include new opportunities for Arizona companies; and

Whereas, withdrawing the United States from NAFTA would negatively impact Arizona's exporting and importing companies, the vast majority of which are small businesses, as well as the entire Arizona tourism industry; and

Whereas, withdrawing the United States would further discourage foreign investment in this state and the resulting job creation, would further suit in significant job losses across all sectors, with aerospace, tech, and agribusiness likely the hardest hit, and would be potentially devastating to the economic vitality of this state.

Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring, prays:

1. That the President of the United States constructively and swiftly negotiate modifications to NAFTA to strengthen and modernize the agreement, maintain the trilateral nature of the agreement as it currently exists between Canada, Mexico and the United States and conclude the negotiations by the date agreed.

2. That the Congress of the United States swiftly ratify and certify the new terms of NAFTA to reduce business uncertainty and maintain the global competitiveness of Arizona's businesses and citizens.

3. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the United States Trade Representative, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

H.R. 1900. A bill to designate the Veterans Memorial and Museum in Columbus, Ohio, as the National Veterans Memorial and Museum, and for other purposes.

By Mr. BARRASSO, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, without amendment:

S. 2377. A bill to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 200 West 2nd Street in Dayton, Ohio, as the "Walter H. Rice Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

S. 2734. A bill to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 1300 Victoria Street in Laredo, Texas, as the "George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 2857. A bill to designate the Nordic Museum in Seattle, Washington, as the "National Nordic Museum", and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. INHOFE for Mr. MCCAIN for the Committee on Armed Services.

\*Gregory J. Slavonic, of Oklahoma, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

\*James N. Stewart, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

\*Lisa Porter, of Virginia, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of Defense.

\*Charles P. Verdon, of California, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration.

\*James H. Anderson, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Navy nomination of Capt. Peter G. Vasely, to be Rear Admiral (Lower Half).

Army nomination of Col. Diron J. Cruz, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Col. Daniel T. Lasica, to be brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. Bradford J. Shwedo, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Antonio A. Aguto, Jr. and ending with Brig. Gen. Joel K. Tyler, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 24, 2018. (minus 1 nominee: Brig. Gen. Michel M. Russell, Sr.)

Army nomination of Col. Wendy L. Harter, to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Col. Shan K. Bagby, to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Col. Michael L. Place, to be Brigadier General.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. Craig S. Faller, to be Vice Admiral.

Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Warren D. Berry, to be Lieutenant General.

Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Donald E. Kirkland, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Darsie D. Rogers, Jr., to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Bradley A. Becker, to be Lieutenant General.

Navy nomination of Vice Adm. Michael M. Gilday, to be Vice Admiral.

Marine Corps nomination of Lt. Gen. Lewis A. Craparotta, to be Lieutenant General.

Marine Corps nomination of Lt. Gen. Daniel J. O'Donohue, to be Lieutenant General.