

EC-2970. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning the security measures at the Hellenikon International Airport; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2971. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on products used for airport pavement maintenance and rehabilitation; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2972. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of three rules including a rule entitled "Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska," received on May 29, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2973. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area," received on May 30, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2974. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area," received on May 29, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2975. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pacific Halibut Fisheries," received on May 29, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2976. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of six rules including a rule entitled "Vehicle Identification Number Requirements," (RIN2127-AF69, 2127-AF46, 2137-AC66, 2115-AE46) received on June 3, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2977. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of twenty-three rules including a rule entitled "Child Restraint Systems," (RIN2120-AF52, 2120-AF57, 2120-AA63, 2120-AA66, 2120-AA64) received on June 3, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2978. A communication from the Program Management Officer, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska," (RIN0648-AI56) received on May 29, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2979. A communication from the Program Management Officer, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Foreign and Domestic Fishing," (RIN0648-AC61) received on May 20, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2980. A communication from the Program Management Officer, National Marine

Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of three rules including a rule entitled "General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries," received on June 3, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2981. A communication from the Program Management Officer, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Northeast Multispecies Fishery," (RIN0648-AI94) received on June 3, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. FAIRCLOTH:

S. 1853. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to clarify the Federal jurisdiction over offenses relating to damage to religious property; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ASHCROFT (for Mr. DOLE (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LOTT, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. INHOFE)):

S. 1854. A bill to amend Federal criminal law with respect to the prosecution of violent and repeat juvenile offenders and controlled substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRAMM (for himself and Mr. D'AMATO):

S. 1855. A bill to reduce registration fees required to be paid by issuers of securities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. FAIRCLOTH:

S. 1853. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to clarify the Federal jurisdiction over offenses relating to damage to religious property; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

THE CHURCH ARSON PREVENTION ACT OF 1996

Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, over the weekend in my home State of North Carolina, a small black church—the Matthew Murkland Presbyterian Church was destroyed by fire.

This is truly a terrible act. I cannot think of a more despicable act than to burn any church. Nevertheless, this is the 30th such fire for a black church in the last 18 months. In fact, there are reports of another occurring last night.

At this time, we do not know if this is a nationwide effort by some hate group, or the acts of crazed individuals. I would suspect that some of this has been organized, and that some of these are copycat crimes.

Whatever the motivation, the legislation I am introducing would clarify that to burn any church is a Federal crime. Further, this lowers the threshold of damage necessary to make it a Federal crime from \$10,000 in damages to \$5,000 in damages.

This makes certain that those that are doing this on an organized basis across the Nation will surely be brought to justice for the crimes they are committing.

This is the same bill that Congressmen HYDE and CONYERS have introduced in the House of Representatives.

The President has announced his support for this legislation. It is my hope that the Congress can act on this bill soon and send it to the President.

By Mr. ASHCROFT (for Mr. DOLE (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LOTT, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. INHOFE)):

S. 1854. A bill to amend Federal criminal law with respect to the prosecution of violent and repeat juvenile offenders and controlled substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

THE VIOLENT AND REPEAT JUVENILE OFFENDER REFORM ACT OF 1996

Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, it seems like the latest incomprehensible tragedy is only the next newspaper away. Today we have an epidemic of juvenile crime. It means that frequently students are unable to focus on their lessons as they seek to enhance their capacity to be of service to themselves, their family, and fellow man as they are in school. They are diverted and distracted because they have concerns about their own safety. They fear they might be robbed or raped. It is not a question of someone throwing spit balls. As a matter of fact, an 8-year-old girl from St. Louis wrote me that crime is real. It has to do with weapons. It has to do with people losing their lives. Young children are afraid. Citizens are afraid to leave their homes because they fear the senseless, mindless attack of predatory youngsters who have become a major threat to the personal security and integrity of individuals in our culture.

We rejoice in the fact there has been some drop in overall crime rates. Frankly, crime rates had nowhere else to go, in general, but down. But they are coming down, and I am pleased by it. But I think it is important we not be deluded, we not be fooled. The fact that, overall, crime rates are coming down should not mask something which should alert us and should literally prompt us into significant response, and that is that, while, overall, crime rates are going down, juvenile crime rates have been skyrocketing. So those components of the crime rate which would signal what we can expect in the future are telling us to beware, to be alert, to brace ourselves, because between 1988 and 1992, juvenile arrests for violent crime increased by 47 percent while adult violent crime arrests increased only by 19 percent. So we had a 2.5-to-1 higher increase, higher explosion in growth in juvenile crime.

Juvenile murders increased by 26 percent, forcible rapes by 41 percent, juvenile robberies by 39 percent, aggravated assaults by 27 percent—an exploding,