Ms. Niland, 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. 79. Concurrent resolution permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to award a Congressional gold medal to Jackie Robinson (posthumously), in recognition of his many contributions to the Nation.

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–1124. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Closures of pollock in statistical area 630 in the Gulf of Alaska” received on February 28, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1125. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone (Including 3 Regulations): [CGD05–05–008], COTP, Western Alaska 05–002], [COTP, Western Alaska 05–0011]” (RIN1625–AA00) received on February 28, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1126. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Regulated Navigation Area: [CGD07–04–153], Brunswick, Georgia, Turtle River, in the Vicinity of the Sidney Lanier Bridge” (RIN1625–AA11) received on February 28, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1127. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Drawbridge Operation Regulations (Including 3 Regulations): [CGD05–04–179], [CGD08–04–036], [CGD08–04–042]” (RIN1625–AA09) received on February 28, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1128. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Drawbridge Operation Regulations (Including 5 Regulations): [CGD05–05–009], [CGD05–05–010], [CGD01–05–013], [CGD01–05–007], [CGD01–05–008]” (RIN1625–AA08) received on February 28, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1129. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army, Department of the Army, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Water Resources Act of 2000 received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1130. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for the Buena Vista Lake

Shrew” (RIN1018–AT96) received on February 28, 2005; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1131. A communication from the Chief Financial Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of an audit for fiscal year 2004 received on February 11, 2005; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

EC–1132. A communication from the Federal Liaison Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Revision of Search and Examination Fees for Patent Cooperation Treaty Applications Entering National Phase in the United States” (RIN10651–AB48) received on February 28, 2005; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–1133. A communication from the Deputy Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits” received on February 17, 2005; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–1134. A communication from the President, Secretary, Federal Disability Retirement and Survivorship Appeals Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Foundation’s Annual Report for the year ending February 28, 2005; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–1135. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “The National Healthcare Disparities Report 2004” received on February 28, 2005; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.


EC–1137. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Guidance Related to Section 936 Termination” (Notice 2005–21) received February 28, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.


EC–1139. A communication from the Chairman, U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled “Performance Budget Justification for Fiscal Year 2006” received February 28, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–1140. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Competition in Contracting Act of 1984 received on February 28, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–1141. A communication from the Independent Counsel, Office of Independent Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Independent Counsel’s report to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–1142. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on assistance provided by the Department of Defense to civilian departments during fiscal year 2004 received on February 28, 2005; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1143. A communication from the Principal Deputy for Personnel and Readiness, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the authorization to wear the insignia of the grade of vice admiral; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1144. A communication from the Principal Deputy for Personnel and Readiness, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the authorization to wear the insignia of the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1145. A communication from the Principal Deputy for Personnel and Readiness, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the authorization to wear the insignia of the grade of major general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1146. A communication from the Principal Deputy for Personnel and Readiness, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the authorization to wear the insignia of the grade of lieutenant commander; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1147. A communication from the Office of Personnel and Readiness, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1148. A communication from the Principal Deputy for Personnel and Readiness, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Cooperative Threat Reduction Annual Report” to Congress received February 28, 2005; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1149. A communication from the Principal Deputy for Personnel and Readiness, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to The Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 received on February 28, 2005; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1150. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Annual Report on the Department of Defense Mentor-Protege Program” received on February 28, 2005; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1151. A communication from the Executive Secretary and Chief of Staff, U.S. Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance, received on February 28, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–1152. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the texts and background documents relating to international agreements, other than treaties; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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:

Robert C. HATCH
S. 476. A bill to authorize the Boy Scouts of America to exchange certain land in the
State of Utah acquired under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 477. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to include Indian tribes among the entities consulted with respect to activity by the Secretary of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. LEAHY:

S. 478. A bill to designate the annex to the E. Barrett Prettyman Federal Building and United States Courthouse located at 333 Constitution Avenue Northwest in the District of Columbia as the “William B. Bryant Annex; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. CANTWELL:

S. 479. A bill to amend title 4 of the United States Code to prohibit a State from imposing a discriminatory tax on income earned within such State by nonresidents of such State; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 480. A bill to extend Federal recognition to the Chickahominy Indian Tribe, the Chickahominy Indian Tribe—Eastern Division, the Pamunkey Tribe, the Rappahannock Tribe, Inc., the Monacan Indian Nation, and the Nansemond Indian Tribe; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

S. 481. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the period of eligibility for health care for combat service in the Persian Gulf War or future hostilities from two years to five years after discharge or release; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself and Mr. DORGAN):

S. 482. A bill to provide environmental assistance to non-Federal interests in the State of North Dakota; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 483. A bill to strengthen religious liberty and combat government hostility to expressions of faith, by extending the reach of the Equal Access Act to elementary schools; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 484. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal civilian and military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pretax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. Bunning, and Mr. Bingaman):

S. 485. A bill to authorize and amend the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself and Mr. DODD):

S. 486. A bill to require the Secretary of the Navy to procure helicopters under the VH-3D presidential helicopter fleet replacement program that are wholly manufactured in the United States; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for himself, Mr. SMITH, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. JEFFFORDS):

S. 487. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide leave for members of the Armed Forces in connection with adoption of children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 488. A bill to establish a commercial truck highway safety demonstration program in the State of Maine, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Mr. KYL, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 489. A bill to amend section 111 of title 28, United States Code, to limit the duration of Federal consent decrees to which State and local governments are a party, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 11

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 11, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to ensure that the strength of the Armed Forces and the protections and benefits for members of the Armed Forces and their families are adequate for keeping the commitment of the people of the United States to support their service members, and for other purposes.

S. 43

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 43, a bill to provide certain enhancements to the Montgomery GI Bill Program for certain individuals who serve as members of the Armed Forces after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, and for other purposes.

S. 50

At the request of Mr. INOUYE, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 50, a bill to authorize and strengthen the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s tsunami detection, forecast, warning, and mitigation program, and for other purposes.

S. 121

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAFFERTY) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 121, a bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to improve the benefits provided for survivors of deceased members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 188

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 188, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2005 through 2011 to carry out the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program.

S. 196

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 196, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the taxation of income of controlled foreign corporations attributable to imported property.

S. 203

At the request of Mr. THOMAS, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 203, a bill to reduce temporarily the royalty required to be paid for sodium produced on Federal lands, and for other purposes.

S. 241

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 241, a bill to amend section 202 of the Communications Act of 1934 to provide that funds received as universal service contributions and the universal service support programs established pursuant to that section are not subject to certain provisions of title 31, United States Code, commonly known as the Antideficiency Act.

S. 270

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 270, a bill to provide a framework for consideration by the legislative and executive branches of proposed unilateral economic sanctions in order to ensure coordination of United States policy with respect to trade, security, and human rights.

S. 271

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 271, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to clarify when organizations described in section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 must register as political committees, and for other purposes.

S. 285

At the request of Mr. BOND, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 285, a bill to reauthorize the Children’s Hospitals Graduate Medical Education Program.

S. 295

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 295, a bill to authorize appropriate action in the negotiations with the People’s Republic of China regarding China’s undervalued currency are not successful.

S. 296

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 296, a bill to authorize appropriations for the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program, and for other purposes.

S. 352

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 352, a bill to revise certain requirements for H-2B employers and require submission of information regarding H-2B non-immigrants, and for other purposes.
At the request of Mr. INOUYE, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 363, a bill to amend the Non-Indigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 to establish vessel ballast water management requirements, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. ENZIGER, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 362, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to strengthen prohibitions against animal fighting, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. DE MINT), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DOLE), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. GREGG), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 397, a bill to prohibit civil liability actions from being brought or continued against manufacturers, distributors, dealers, or importers of firearms or ammunition for damages, injunctive or other relief resulting from the misuse of their products by others.

At the request of Mr. ENZIGER, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 403, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking minors across State lines in circumvention of laws requiring the involvement of parents in abortion decisions.

At the request of Mr. BOND, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of the Public Health Service Act to provide for arthritis research and public health, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 450, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require a voter-verified paper record, to improve provisional balloting, to impose additional requirements under such Act, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 456, a bill to amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act to permit States to use a consolidated set of work requirements under the temporary assistance for needy families program for recipients who are determined by appropriate agencies working in coordination to have a disability and to be in need of specialized activities.

At the request of Mr. DODD, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFFEE) were added as cosponsors of S. 467, a bill to extend the applicability of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002.

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. BONITZ) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 33, a resolution urging the Government of Canada to end the commercial seal hunt.

At the request of Mr. LITTO, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. ASHTON), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DE WINE), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. SOWE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 44, a resolution celebrating Black History Month.

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNSACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 56, a resolution designating the month of March as Deep-Vein Thrombosis Awareness Month, in memory of journalist David Bloom.

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DE WINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 59, a resolution urging the European Union to maintain its arms export embargo on the People's Republic of China.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself and Mr. INOUYE):

S. 477. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to include Indian tribes among the entities consulted with respect to activities carried out by the Secretary of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002. Senator INOUYE joins me in sponsoring this measure.

It is well known that tribal governments serve as the primary instruments of law enforcement and emergency response for the more than fifty million acres of land that comprise Indian country.

More than twenty-five Indian tribes have jurisdiction over lands that are either adjacent to international borders or are directly accessible to an international border by boat. These lands consist of over 260 miles of the 7,400 miles of the international borders the United States shares with Canada and Mexico.

But it is not only tribes located on or near international borders or waters that have a role to play in protecting the Nation's strategic assets. Energy resources located on tribal lands make up a significant share of the United States' energy resources. Tribal governments hold title to 30 percent of the coal resources west of the Mississippi River, 37 percent of potential uranium and renewable energy sources, 55 percent of oil and gas resources in the United States.

There is also extensive infrastructure located on or near tribal lands that is critical to our Nation's security—infrastructure that our Indian tribes have jurisdiction over including dams, hydroelectric facilities, nuclear power generating plants, oil and gas pipelines, transportation corridors of railroads and highway systems, and communications towers.

Like any other governments, tribal governments need the necessary resources to develop their capacities to respond to threats of terrorism including access to information and information warning systems, law enforcement data bases, and health alert systems related to the possible use of chemical and biological warfare.

The Homeland Security Act of 2002 provides the authority for the establishment of the Department of Homeland Security and the various duties and responsibilities of the Department and its employees. Many provisions of the Act reference State and local governments, but unfortunately, Indian tribal governments were erroneously addressed in the definition of "local government" in the Act as if tribal governments were political subdivisions of each State.

The Federal government has long recognized that Indian tribes are separate, independent Sovereigns, with which the United States has a government-to-government relationship. The U.S. Supreme Court has consistently sustained this status and the United States' relationship with the tribal governments. The United States' policy of tribal self-governance and self-determination has proven to be the most successful for Indian tribes.

The measure that I introduce today would treat Indian tribes as the separate political entities that they are, consistent with the Federal policy of tribal self-governance and self-determination. The bill amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 by removing Indian tribes from the definition of "local government" and instead including the terms "Indian tribe" and "tribal government" in the appropriate