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–1362. A communication from the Associate General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2015, to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–1363. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary for Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department of Defense’s Evaluation of the TRICARE Program for fiscal year 2015; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1364. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule entitled “Revisions to the Export Administration Regulations, 15 CFR Parts 732, 736, 738, and 744; Advanced Payments and Exports of Dual Use Items; Update of the Export Control Regime Plenary Agreements” (RIN0969–AG41) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1365. A communication from the Counsel, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Submission of Credit Card Agreements Under the Truth in Lending Act” (RIN3170–AA50) (Docket No. CPFB–2015–0006) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1366. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Removal of Transferred OTS Regulations Regarding Rules of Practice and Procedure and Amendments to FDIC Rules and Regulations” (RIN3064–AE80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1367. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Yemen that was originally declared in Executive Order 13691 on May 16, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1368. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Burma that was originally declared in Executive Order 13047 of May 20, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1369. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the stabilization of Iraq that was declared in Executive Order 12768 of May 22, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1370. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Office of the Secretary, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Stemme AG Gliders” (RIN0668–XDB8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1371. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Shrimp–Grouper Resource Areas of the South Atlantic; 2013–2016 Recreational Fishing Season for Black Sea Bass” (RIN0668–XDB8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1372. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pollock in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands” (RIN0668–XDB8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1373. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Determination of Exclusion or Deduction for 2015” (Notice 2015–33) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2015; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–1374. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a strategy for Support for Russia Democracy and Civil Society Organizations; a strategy for Assistance to Civil Society in the U.S. - Russia Joint Working Group for Anticipated Defense Articles, Defense Services, and Training to Ukraine; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–1375. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to overseas surplus property; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–1376. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 56(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 14–14); to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC–1377. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Financial Report for the Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA) for fiscal year 2014; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–1378. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the Performance Report for fiscal year 2014 for the Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA); to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–1379. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA) annual report on Drug Shortages for Calendar Year 2014; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–1380. A communication from the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts and a Member of the Federal Council on the Arts and Humanities, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the Arts and Artifacts Indemnity Program for fiscal year 2014; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–1381. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs Annual Report to Congress for fiscal year 2013; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–1382. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report on applications made by the Government for authority to conduct electronic surveillance for foreign intelligence during calendar year 2015 relative to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–1383. A communication from the Chief Information Analyst, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Driving Distance Eligibility” received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 22, 2015; to the Committee on veterans’ Affairs.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred as indicated:

POM–17. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of North Dakota urging the United States Congress to call a constitutional convention for the sole purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States which requires a balanced federal budget; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 2015

Whereas, Article V of the Constitution of the United States mandates that upon the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the states, Congress shall call a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States which shall be valid, to all intents and purposes, as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the states, or by conventions in three-fourths thereof; and

Whereas, this application is to be considered as covering the balanced budget amendment language of the presently outstanding balanced budget applications from other states; and

Whereas, this application shall be aggregated for the purpose of requiring the calling of a convention for proposing a balanced budget amendment, but shall not be aggregated with any applications on any other subject; and

Whereas, this application is a continuing application until the legislatures of at least two-thirds of the states have made applications on the same subject; and

Whereas, the North Dakota Legislative Assembly deems an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring a balanced federal budget to be necessary for the good of the American people: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of North Dakota, the Senate concurring therein: That the Sixty-fourth Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to call a convention of the states limited to proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring that in the absence of a national emergency the total of all federal appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal year may not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for that fiscal year, together with any related appropriate fiscal restraints; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the President of the United States and the Speaker and Clerk of the House of Representatives of the Congress, to each member
of the United States Congressional Delegation, and also to transmit copies to the preceding officers of each of the legislative houses in the United States, requesting their cooperation.

POM-18. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of Rockland County, New York, calling for the United States Department of Transportation to immediately turn its attention to increasing the strictness of the regulations that govern rail transport of hazardous liquid; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ISAKSON, from the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs:

Report to accompany H.R. 203, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for the conduct of annual evaluations of mental health care and suicide prevention programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to require a pilot program on loan reimbursement for psychiatrists who agree to serve in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114-94).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Sally Quillian Yates, of Georgia, to be Deputy Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration.

Kara Farnandez Stoll, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit.

Roseann A. Ketchmark, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time, and referred to committee, and referred, and referred, as indicated:

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 1064. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with regard to research on asthma, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself and Mr. COYNE):

S. 1066. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage, as supplies associated with the injection of insulin, of containment, removal, decontamination and disposal of home-generated needles, syringes, and other sharps through a sharps container, decontamination/destruction device, or safe sharps disposal program under part D of the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. HELLER):

S. 1067. A bill to require the periodic review and automatic termination of Federal regulations: the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 1068. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to protect the bulk-power system from cyber security threats; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 1069. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for qualified conservation contributions which include National Scenic Trails; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 1070. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for clarification regarding the children to whom entitlement to educational assistance may be transferred under Post-9/11 Educational Assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Mr. TOOMEY (for himself, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. CORKER):

S. 1071. A bill to amend the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 to expand the amount available for victims of child abuse, sexual assault, domestic violence, and other crimes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MARKET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. COONS):

S. 1072. A bill to require the Supreme Court of the United States to promulgate a code of ethics for the Federal Judiciary.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. WARNER, Mr. COATS, and Mr. BUCHER):

S. 1073. A bill to amend the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Improvement Act of 2012, including making changes to the Do Not Pay initiative, for improved detection, prevention, and recovery of improper payments to deceased individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. Peters, Mr. Markey, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 1074. A bill to increase the status of the North Country, Ice Age, and New England National Scenic Trails as units of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 1075. A bill to strengthen and extend the authorization of appropriations for the Carol M. White Physical Education Program and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. McCUIKIESKI, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 1076. A bill to require mobile service providers and smartphone manufacturers to give consumers the ability to remotely delete data from smartphones and render smartphones inoperable; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BURR (for himself, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. HATCH):

S. 1077. A bill to require for expedited development and priority review for breakthrough devices; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HASCY:

S. 1078. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to carry out programs and activities that connect people in the United States, especially children, youth, and families, with the outdoors; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. 1079. A bill to amend titles XI and XVIII of the Social Security Act and title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to improve coverage for colorectal screening tests under Medicare and private health insurance coverage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 1080. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to limit the jurisdiction of Federal courts to consider same-sex marriage; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 1081. A bill to end the use of body-gripping traps in the National Wildlife Refuge System; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 1082. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the removal or demotion of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs based on performance or misconduct, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Mr. NELSON (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. FRANKEN, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. REED, Ms. KLOBUCAR, Mrs. SCHARING, Mr. LEZAMA, Mr. BROWN, Mr. UDALL, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. MENKLEY):

S. 1083. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require drug manufacturers to provide drug rebates for drugs dispensed to low-income individuals under the Medicare prescription drug benefit program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 1084. A bill to promote transparency by permitting the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board to allow its disciplinary proceedings to be open to the public, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ranking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. COLINS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. TEFFT, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 1085. A bill to expand eligibility for the program of comprehensive assistance for family caregivers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to expand benefits available to participants under such program, to enhance special compensation for members of the uniformed services who require assistance in everyday life, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. J. Res. 12. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to marriage; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. J. Res. 13. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to prohibit any law, in the United States, from denying or abridging the equal protection of the laws among citizens of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were introduced, read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. KIRK (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. Res. 148. A resolution condemning the Government of Iran’s state-sponsored persecution of its Baha’i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants