

EC 1074. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to authorize payment of arrears to the United Nations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC 1075. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on U.S. Government assistance to and cooperative activities with the New Independent States of the former Soviet Union; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC 1076. A communication from the Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule regarding the Operator Licensing Program (received on February 5, 1997); to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC 1077. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule relative to final regulations, (RIN1820-AB12) received on February 4, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC 1078. A communication from the Director of Regulations Policy, Management Staff, Office of Policy, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Investigational Device Exemptions," received on February 4, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC 1079. A communication from the Director of Regulations Policy, Management Staff, Office of Policy, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Saccharin and its Salts," received on February 10, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC 1080. A communication from the Director of Regulations Policy, Management Staff, Office of Policy, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Food Labeling: Health Claims," received on February 10, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC 1081. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the National Practitioner Data Bank Malpractice Reporting Requirements; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC 1082. A communication from the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 11-458 adopted by the Council; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC 1083. A communication from the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 11-525 adopted by the Council on December 3, 1996; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC 1084. A communication from the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 11-526 adopted by the Council on December 3, 1996; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC 1085. A communication from the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 11-512 adopted by the Council on December 3, 1996; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1086. A communication from the Executive Director of the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Necessity and Costs of District of Columbia Services"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1087. A communication from the Chair of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commis-

sion of the United States, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Government in the Sunshine Act for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1088. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the statement of recommended accounting standards; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1089. A communication from the Executive Director of the Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of additions to the Procurement List received on February 4, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1090. A communication from the Corporation For Public Broadcasting, transmitting jointly, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1996; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1091. A communication from the Administrator and Chief Executive Officer of the Bonneville Power Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-31. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of New Hampshire; ordered to lie on the table.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, Paul E. Tsongas, former United States Senator, on January 18, 1997, succumbed to pneumonia after a courageous battle with health problems that had plagued him since he was diagnosed with cancer in 1983; and

Whereas, born on February 14, 1941 and brought up in Lowell, Massachusetts, he was viewed as one of Lowell's finest sons who used the values he learned on the streets of Lowell to eventually lead a bipartisan effort to encourage Congress to balance the federal budget; and

Whereas, his Lowell high school years, while working at the family dry-cleaning shop, were followed by graduation from Dartmouth College, Peace Corps in Ethiopia and the West Indies, Yale Law School, and a congressional internship; and

Whereas, he began his political career in 1968 when he was elected to the city council in Lowell, then ran for Middlesex County commissioner and won in 1972, and in 1974 at the age of 33, continued on to the United States Congress; and

Whereas, throughout his life, he practiced law and remained active in public affairs, speaking out on both local and national issues; and

Whereas, he shattered ideological stereotypes, favoring "liberalism that works," as symbolized by the federally financed urban park that drew high-tech companies to the empty mills along the Merrimack River in his native city; and

Whereas, he won the 1992 New Hampshire primary and, although they frequently disagreed early in 1992, President Clinton eventually agreed with the former senator on many issues and adopted much of the Tsongas platform a year later in his State of the Union address; and

Whereas, in 1992, he joined former United States Senator Warren Rudman as a found-

ing member of the Concord Coalition, a public interest group focusing attention on the nation's economic problems and pushing the need for balancing the nation's books to the forefront of public awareness; and

Whereas, although he was viewed as "an outspoken man and a determined and successful politician who never shied away from tough political realities," he was also "a good listener, a good coalition builder, and you knew he was always working for the public good," now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the New Hampshire senate recognize the many accomplishments and contributions of former Senator Paul E. Tsongas; and

That condolences be extended to his wife, Niki, and three daughters, Ashley, Katina, and Molly; and

That copies of this resolution, signed by the president of the senate, be forwarded by the senate clerk to the Tsongas family, to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, to each member of the New Hampshire Congressional delegation, and to the state library.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. WARNER, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, without amendment:

S. Res. 54. An original resolution authorizing biennial expenditures by committees of the Senate.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. D'AMATO, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

Janet L. Yellen, of California, to be a Member of the Council of Economic Advisers.

(The above nomination was reported with the recommendation that she be confirmed, subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

By Mr. BOND, from the Committee on Small Business.

Aida Alvarez, of New York, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

(The above nomination was reported with the recommendation that she be confirmed.)

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. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. FORD, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BOND, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. BROWBACK, Mr. BURNS, Mr. COATS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. ENZI, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. HELMS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr.

LOTT, Mr. MACK, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, and Mr. THURMOND):

S. 304. A bill to clarify Federal law with respect to assisted suicide, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. D'AMATO (for himself, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. ROBB, Mr. REID, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. DODD, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. MACK, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. KERREY, Mr. BOND, Mr. BURNS, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. REED, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. KOHL, Mr. HATCH, Mr. ENZI, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. CLELAND, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. KERRY, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. LOTT, Mr. GORTON, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. LUGAR, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. SHELBY, and Mr. THOMAS):

S. 305. A bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Francis Albert "Frank" Sinatra in recognition of his outstanding and enduring contributions through his entertainment career and humanitarian activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. FORD:

S. 306. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a decrease in the maximum rate of tax on capital gains which is based on the length of time the taxpayer held the capital asset; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LUGAR (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. MCCONNELL, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 307. A bill to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to authorize the transfer to States of surplus personal property for donation to nonprofit providers of assistance to impoverished families and individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. THOMAS (for himself and Mr. ENZI):

S. 308. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study concerning grazing use of certain land within and adjacent to Grand Teton National Park, WY, and to extend temporarily certain grazing privileges; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 309. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the establishment or collection of parking fees by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs at any parking facility connected with a Department of Veterans Affairs medical facility operated under a health-care resources sharing agreement with the Department of Defense; to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. MACK):

S. 310. A bill to temporarily waive the enrollment composition rule under the medicaid program for certain health maintenance organizations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRAHAM:

S. 311. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve preventive benefits under the medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. FORD:

S. 312. A bill to revise the boundary of the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site in Larue County, KY, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 313. A bill to repeal a provision of the International Air Transportation Competition Act of 1979 relating to air transportation from Love Field, TX; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. THOMAS (for himself, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. KYL, Mr. ENZI, Mr. BROWNBACK, and Mr. CRAIG):

S. 314. A bill to require that the Federal Government procure from the private sector the goods and services necessary for the operations and management of certain Government agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. HARKIN:

S. 315. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce tax benefits for foreign corporations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 316. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to provide for a review of a decision concerning a construction grant for the Ypsilanti Wastewater Treatment Plant in Washtenaw County, MI; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. BENNETT):

S. 317. A bill to reauthorize and amend the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. D'AMATO:

S. 318. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to require automatic cancellation and notice of cancellation rights with respect to private mortgage insurance which is required by a creditor as a condition for entering into a residential mortgage transition, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN:

S. 319. A bill to designate the national cemetery established at the former site of the Joliet Arsenal, IL, as the "Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery"; to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

By Mr. ASHCROFT (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. BOND, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BURNS, Mr. CAMPBELL, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. FRIST, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INOUE, Mr. MACK, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, and Mr. THOMAS):

S.J. Res. 16. A joint resolution proposing a constitutional amendment to limit congressional terms; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. WARNER:

S. Res. 54. An original resolution authorizing biennial expenditures by committees of the Senate; from the Committee on Rules and Administration; placed on the calendar.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. FORD, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BOND, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BURNS, Mr.

COATS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. ENZI, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. HELMS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. MACK, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, and Mr. THURMOND):

S. 304. A bill to clarify Federal law with respect to assisted suicide, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

THE ASSISTED SUICIDE FUNDING RESTRICTION ACT

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation, along with Senator ASHCROFT and 28 of our colleagues from both sides of the aisle, that will prohibit Federal funds from being used to pay for the costs associated with assisted suicide.

I want to say right off that the Dorgan-Ashcroft bill does not attempt to address the broad and complex issue of whether there is a constitutional right to die. That job belongs to the Supreme Court, and as you all know, the High Court is expected to issue a decision later this year to answer this fundamental question.

It is the job of Congress, however, to determine how our Federal resources will be allocated. I do not believe Congress ever intended for Federal funding to be used for assisted suicide, and my bill will ensure that such funding does not occur.

I understand that the decisions that confront individuals and their families when a terminal illness strikes are among the most difficult a family will ever have to make. At times like this, each of us must rely on our own religious beliefs and conscience to guide us.

But regardless of one's personal views about assisted suicide, I feel strongly that Federal tax dollars should not be used for this controversial practice, and the vast majority of Americans agree with me. In fact, when asked in a poll in November of last year whether tax dollars should be spent for assisting suicide, 87 percent of Americans feel tax money should not be spent for this purpose.

The Assisted Suicide Funding Restriction Act prevents any Federal funding from being used for any item or service which is intended to cause, or assist in causing, the suicide, euthanasia, or mercy killing of any individual.

This bill does make some important exceptions. First, this bill explicitly provides that it does not limit the withholding or withdrawal of medical treatment or of nutrition or hydration from terminally ill patients who have decided that they do not want their lives sustained by medical technology. Most people and States recognize that there are ethical, moral, and legal distinctions between actively taking steps to end a patient's life and withholding or withdrawing treatment in order to allow a patient to die naturally. Every State now has a law in place governing a patient's right to lay out in advance, through an advanced directive, living will, or some other means, his or her