

grown up, I have begun to notice more and more people I know using legal and illegal drugs. Never before did I even know 'Meth' existed. But now, my school feels there is a need to take courses about it. I agree with you that drug use should stop, and fast." Or Christina, 12, who writes about her concern for what's being done to stop underage drug use. Or Heath, a senior, concerned about growing use in junior high and elementary schools. Or Jennie, a junior, who has seen peers using PCP and crack or acid. Or the many others who have written confused about what they should think or what our policy is.

It is to this and following generations that we are responsible for and to. They look to us for guidance. They rely on us to protect them and their futures. That is what is at issue here. The efforts that we undertake to keep our society drug free are the things that we do to protect our kids. We do this because it is the responsible thing to do. We do this because no sane or civilized society can long endure that fails its children.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Wednesday, March 5, the Federal debt stood at \$5,359,515,287,678.12.

One year ago, March 5, the Federal debt stood at \$5,016,462,000,000.

Five years ago, March 5, 1992, the Federal debt stood at \$3,849,118,000,000.

Ten years ago, March 5, 1987, the Federal debt stood at \$2,258,090,000,000.

Fifteen years ago, March 5, 1982, the Federal debt stood at \$1,045,007,000,000 which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion—\$4,314,508,287,678.12—during the past 15 years.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

##### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### REPORT CONCERNING THE TRADE POLICY AGENDA AND THE TRADE AGREEMENTS PROGRAM—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 21

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

*To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by section 163 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2213), I transmit herewith the 1997 Trade Policy Agenda and 1996 Annual Report on the Trade Agreements Program.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 6, 1997.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:11 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 513. An act to exempt certain contracts entered into by the government of the District of Columbia from review by the Council of the District of Columbia; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 4. Concurrent resolution commending and thanking the Honorable Warren Christopher for his exemplary service as Secretary of State.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 17. Concurrent resolution congratulating the people of Guatemala on the success of the recent negotiations to establish a peace process for Guatemala.

H. Con. Res. 18. Concurrent resolution congratulating the people of the Republic of Nicaragua on the success of their democratic elections held on October 20, 1996.

H. Con. Res. 31. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the display of the Ten Commandments by Judge Roy S. Moore, a judge on the circuit court of the State of Alabama.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 513. An act to exempt certain contracts entered into by the government of the District of Columbia from review by the Council of the District of Columbia; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

The following measures were read and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 17. Concurrent resolution congratulating the people of Guatemala on the success of the recent negotiations to establish a peace process for Guatemala; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H. Con. Res. 18. Concurrent resolution congratulating the people of the Republic of Nicaragua on the success of their democratic

elections held on October 20, 1996; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H. Con. Res. 31. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the display of the Ten Commandments by Judge Roy S. Moore, a judge on the circuit court of the State of Alabama; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-1318. A communication from the Administrator of the Food and Consumer Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Food Assistance in Disaster and Distress Situations" received on February 26, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1319. A communication from the Secretary of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules including a rule entitled "Anti-manipulation Rules Concerning Securities Offerings" (RIN3235-AF54, AF97); to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1320. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "New Starts Criteria" (RIN2132-AA50) received on February 27, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1321. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, case number 95-16; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-1322. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, case number 95-14; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-1323. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, four rules including a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans" (FRL5660-2, 5698-1, 5697-9, 5688-8) received on March 5, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1324. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Special Local Regulations" (RIN2115-AE46) received on February 27, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1325. A communication from the Managing Director of the Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Regulatory Flexibility Analysis" received on March 6, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1326. A communication from the Vice-Chairman of the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice relative to the D.C. fiscal year 1998 Budget and Financial Plan; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1327. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled

"The Contract Costs Act of 1997"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1328. A communication from the Regulatory Policy Officer, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to plastic explosives (RIN1512-AB63) received on February 24, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1329. A communication from the Vice President (Government Affairs), National Railroad Passenger Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1330. A communication from the Executive Secretary of the National Security Council, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1331. A communication from the Chief (Regulations Unit), Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Revenue Procedure 97-20 received on March 4, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1332. A communication from the Chief (Regulations Unit), Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Revenue Ruling 97-12 received on March 4, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1333. A communication from the Chief (Regulations Unit), Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Notice 97-16 received on March 4, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1334. A communication from the Chief (Regulations Unit), Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Announcement 97-22 received on March 4, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1335. A communication from the Chief (Regulations Unit), Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Announcement 97-24 received on March 4, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1336. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior (Land and Minerals Management), transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Mining Claims Under the General Mining Laws" (RIN1004-AC40) received on February 25, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1337. A communication from the Chair of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules including a rule entitled "Open Access Same-Time Information System" received on March 4, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1338. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the production of nuclear weapons; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1339. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the certification of a proposed approval of a manufacturing license agreement; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1340. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a Presidential Determination relative to suspending restrictions; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1341. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the certification of the proposed issuance of an export license; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

## 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-38. A resolution adopted by the Knoxville City Council relative to the land and water conservation fund; to the Committee on Appropriations.

POM-39. A resolution adopted by the Toledo City Council relative to the Clear Air Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-40. A resolution adopted by House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Delaware; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 11

Whereas, the annual Federal budget has not been balanced since 1969, and the federal public debt is now more than \$5 trillion—or \$20,000 for every man, woman, and child in America; and

Whereas, continued deficit spending demonstrates an unwillingness or inability of both the federal executive and legislative branches to spend no more than available revenues; and

Whereas, fiscal irresponsibility at the federal level is lowering our standard of living, destroying jobs, and endangering economic opportunity now and for the next generation; and

Whereas, the federal government's unlimited ability to borrow raises questions about fundamental principles and responsibilities of government, with potentially profound consequences for the nation and its people, making it an appropriate subject for limitation by the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas, the Constitution of the United States vests the ultimate responsibility to approve or disapprove constitutional amendments with the people, as represented by their elected state legislatures; and opposition by a small minority repeatedly has thwarted the will of the people that a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution should be submitted to the states for ratification; Now, therefore: Be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives of the 139th General Assembly of the State of Delaware* That the Congress of the United States expeditiously pass, and propose to the legislatures of the several states for ratification, an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring, in the absence of a national emergency, that 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; be it further

*Resolved* That the Clerk of the House transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, each Member of the Delaware Congressional Delegation, and the Secretary of State and the presiding officers of both Houses of the Legislatures of each of the other States in the Union.

## EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive report of committees was submitted:

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

Federico Peña, of Colorado, to be Secretary of Energy.

(The above nomination was reported with the recommendation that he 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. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary:

Merrick B. Garland, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Rose Ochi, of California, to be Director, Community Relations Service, for a term of four years.

Colleen Kollar-Kotelly, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

Lyle Weir Swenson, of South Dakota, to be United States Marshal for the District of South Dakota for the term of four years.

(The above nominations 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 by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. COATS:

S. 409. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for the implementation of systems for rating the specific content of specific television programs; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

S. 410. A bill to extend the effective date of the Investment Advisers Supervision Coordination Act; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. D'AMATO, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, and Mr. SPECTER):

S. 411. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for investment necessary to revitalize communities within the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

## STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. COATS:

S. 409. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for the implementation of systems for rating the specific content of specific television programs; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

## TV RATING SYSTEM LEGISLATION

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, this past Thursday the Senate Commerce Committee held a hearing on the current television rating system. I want to commend Senator MCCAIN for calling that hearing. It was very instructional for all of us. What was apparent from that hearing is the near universal dissatisfaction with the current Hollywood rating system, the need for immediate change, the utter failure of the industry to understand what parents want in a rating system, and the basic