

Senate to Ron Ledlow, the Deputy Director of the Senate Service Department, who is retiring after nearly 30 years of dedicated service to the Senate.

Ron Ledlow began his career 27 years ago this week as a pressman on the night shift in the Service Department and rose through the journeyman ranks into management, eventually serving as the Director of the Senate Service Department.

Ron has used his skill, creativity, and expertise in shepherding the Senate through nearly 30 years of changes in print, production, and graphics technology on which we as Members, and an institution, rely.

Through all of these changes, Ron has been driven by his high standards for quality control and exceptional customer service. His professionalism and respect for his employees and this institution have been a great example to his coworkers, and to all of us here in the Senate.

His contributions in support of democratic institutions are not limited to the U.S. Senate. In 1990, under the Gift of Democracy Resolution, Ron, along with several other congressional representatives, went to Poland as a technical adviser. His counsel and assistance helped strengthen the emerging democratic institutions of Poland. Ron's assistance was so valuable, that he was asked to return to Poland for another tour of duty.

Outside of his work in the Service Department, Ron has served on several committees for the U.S. Senate Federal Credit Union. Ron was an active member of the Senate Staff Club and served as the club's president in the mideighties. In 1991, Ron was presented with the Roll Call Sid Yudain Congressional Staffer of the Year Award.

Mr. President, our Senate family wishes Ron, his wife Dee, and his children Gerald and Steven the very best. We hope that Ron and Dee enjoy their well-deserved time on the links of South Carolina.

REGISTRATION OF MASS MAILINGS

The filing date for 1997 first quarter mass mailings is April 25, 1997. If a Senator's office did no mass mailings during this period, a form should be submitted that states "none."

Mass mailing registrations, or negative reports, should be submitted to the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, DC 20510-7116.

The Public Records office will be open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the filing date to accept these filings. For further information, please contact the Public Records office on (202) 224-0322.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:16 p.m. on Wednesday, April 16, 1997, a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz,

one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1001. An act to extend the term of appointment of certain members of the Prospective Payment Assessment Commission and the Physician Payment Review Commission.

H.R. 1225. An act to make a technical correction to title 28, United States Code, relating to jurisdiction for lawsuits against terrorist states.

H.R. 1226. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prevent the unauthorized inspection of tax returns or tax return information.

At 11:51 am. on Thursday, April 17, 1997, a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 111. An act to provide for the conveyance of a parcel of unused agricultural land in Dos Palos, California, to the Dos Palos Ag Boosters for use as a farm school.

H.R. 173. An act to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to authorize donation of Federal law enforcement canines that are no longer needed for official purposes to individuals with experience handling canines in the performance of law enforcement duties.

H.R. 607. An act to amend the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 to require notice of cancellation rights to private mortgage loans and to provide for cancellation of such insurance, and for other purposes.

H.R. 930. An act to Federal employees to use Federal travel charge cards for all payments of expenses of official Government travel, to amend title 31, United States Code, to establish requirements for prepayments audits of Federal agency transportation expenses, to authorize reimbursement of Federal agency employees for taxes incurred on travel or transportation reimbursements, and to authorize test programs for the payment of Federal employee travel expenses and relocation expenses.

H.R. 1090. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to allow revision of veterans benefits decisions based on clear and unmistakable error.

H.R. 1092. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the authority of the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs to enter into enhanced-use leases for Department of Veterans Affairs property, to rename the United States Court of Veterans Appeals and the National Cemetery System, and for other purposes.

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

H. Con. Res. 61. Concurrent resolution honoring the lifetime achievements of Jackie Robinson.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 111. An act to provide for the conveyance of a parcel of unused agricultural land in Dos Palos, California, to the Dos Palos Ag Boosters for use as a farm school; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

H.R. 173. An act to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to authorize donation of Federal law enforcement canines that are no longer needed for official purposes to individuals with experience handling canines in the performance of law enforcement duties; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 930. An act to Federal employees to use Federal travel charge cards for all payments of expenses of official Government travel, to amend title 31, United States Code, to establish requirements for prepayments audits of Federal agency transportation expenses, to authorize reimbursement of Federal agency employees for taxes incurred on travel or transportation reimbursements, and to authorize test programs for the payment of Federal employee travel expenses and relocation expenses; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 1090. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to allow revision of veterans benefits decisions based on clear and unmistakable error; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 1092. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the authority of the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs to enter into enhanced-use leases for Department of Veterans Affairs property, to rename the United States Court of Veterans Appeals and the National Cemetery System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

The following concurrent resolution was read and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 61. Concurrent resolution honoring the lifetime achievements of Jackie Robinson; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following measure was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1226. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prevent the unauthorized inspection of tax returns or tax return information.

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-1583. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, case number 94-10; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-1584. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule (RIN1076-AD66) received on April 10, 1997; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-1585. A communication from the Chairman of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the practice of preferencing; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1586. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of the Treasury, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to amend the Bretton Woods Agreements Act; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1587. A communication from the Director of the Peace Corps, transmitting, a draft

of proposed legislation entitled "The Peace Corps Act Amendments of 1997"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1588. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the transmittal of the certification of proposed issuance of an export license; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1589. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the transmittal of the certification of proposed issuance of an export license; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1590. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the transmittal of the certification of the proposed approval of a manufacturing license agreement; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1591. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the transmittal of the certification of the proposed approval of a manufacturing license agreement; 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-46. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Michigan; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 11

Whereas, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has a responsibility to review periodically the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone and particulate matter (PM); and

Whereas, the EPA is considering establishing a more stringent ozone standard and a new, more stringent standard for particulate matter at or below 2.5 microns (PM_{2.5}); and

Whereas, Michigan, through its local jurisdictions, businesses, and citizens, has supported health-based National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) that are premised on sound science; and

Whereas, Michigan has made significant progress in meeting current NAAQS for both ozone and particulate matter (PM) under the Clean Air Act amendments of 1990, although there are some areas that have not yet come into compliance with the current standard(s); and

Whereas, Michigan, through its local jurisdictions, businesses, consumers, and taxpayers, has borne considerable cost to come into compliance with the current NAAQS for ozone and particulate matter; and

Whereas, the proposed new standards will significantly expand the number of non-attainment areas for both ozone and particulate matter. This may result in additional emission controls in all areas, thus imposing significant economic, administrative, and regulatory burdens on Michigan, its citizens, businesses, and local governments; and

Whereas, EPA's own Clean Air Science Advisory Committee (CASAC) was unable to find any "bright line" that would distinguish any public health benefit among any of the proposed new standards for ozone, including the current standard; and

Whereas, there is very little existing PM_{2.5} monitoring data; and

Whereas, there are many unanswered questions and scientific uncertainties regarding the health effects of particulate matter, in

particular PM_{2.5}, including: Divergent opinions among scientists who have investigated the issue; Exposure misclassification; Measurement errors; Lack of supporting toxicological data; Lack of a plausible toxicological mechanism; Lack of correlation between recorded PM levels and public health effects; Influence of other variables; and The existence of possible alternative explanations; and

Whereas, no scientific proof exists that establishing a more stringent ozone standard or a new, more stringent PM_{2.5} standard would avoid alleged adverse health, but it would assuredly impose significantly higher costs; and

Whereas, the issue of transported volatile organic compounds is not adequately addressed; Now therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That we advise and strongly urge the EPA to reaffirm the existing NAAQS for ozone; and be it further

Resolved, That we advise and strongly urge the EPA to reaffirm the existing NAAQS for PM₁₀; and be it further

Resolved, That we advise and strongly urge the EPA to refrain from establishing a new NAAQS for PM_{2.5} at this time and to gather the necessary PM_{2.5} monitoring data and conduct all necessary research needed to address the issue of causality and other critical and important unanswered scientific questions concerning PM_{2.5}; and be it further

Resolved, That we advise and strongly urge the EPA to identify any unfunded mandates or other administrative and economic burdens for state or local governments or agencies that would result from the proposed changes to the NAAQS for ozone and particulate matter; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, the administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and other appropriate administration officials.

POM-47. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Michigan; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 22

Whereas, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has a responsibility to review periodically the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone and particulate matter (PM); and

Whereas, the EPA is considering establishing a more stringent ozone standard and a new, more stringent standard for particulate matter at or below 2.5 microns (PM_{2.5}); and

Whereas, Michigan, through its local jurisdictions, businesses, and citizens, has supported health-based National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) that are premised on sound science; and

Whereas, Michigan has made significant progress in meeting current NAAQS for both ozone and particulate matter (PM) under the Clean Air Act amendments of 1990, although there are some areas that have not yet come into compliance with the current standard(s); and

Whereas, Michigan, through its local jurisdictions, businesses, consumers, and taxpayers, has borne considerable cost to come into compliance with the current NAAQS for ozone and particulate matter; and

Whereas, the proposed new standards will significantly expand the number of non-attainment areas for both ozone and particulate matter. This may result in additional emission controls in all areas, thus imposing

significant economic, administrative, and regulatory burdens on Michigan, its citizens, businesses, and local governments; and

Whereas, EPA's own Clean Air Science Advisory Committee (CASAC) was unable to find any "bright line" that would distinguish any public health benefit among any of the proposed new standards for ozone, including the current standard; and

Whereas, there is very little existing PM_{2.5} monitoring data; and

Whereas, there are many unanswered questions and scientific uncertainties regarding the health effects of particulate matter, in particular PM_{2.5}, including: Divergent opinions among scientists who have investigated the issue; Exposure misclassifications; Measurement errors; Lack of supporting toxicological data; Lack of a plausible toxicological mechanism; Lack of correlation between recorded PM levels and public health effects; Influence of other variables; and The existence of possible alternative explanations; and

Whereas, no scientific proof exists that establishing a more stringent ozone standard or a new, more stringent PM_{2.5} standard would avoid alleged adverse health, but it would assuredly impose significantly higher costs; and

Whereas, the issue of transported volatile organic compounds is not adequately addressed; and

Whereas, the EPA and its Clean Air Science Advisory Committee have raised issues relative to serious health concerns that may be addressed with a new PM_{2.5} standard; and

Whereas, scientists on the Clean Air Science Advisory Committee (CASAC) panel voted 19-2 that some new standard should be set to regulate PM_{2.5}; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we advise and strongly urge the EPA to reaffirm the existing NAAQS for ozone; and be it further

Resolved, That we advise and strongly urge the EPA to reaffirm the existing NAAQS for PM₁₀; and be it further

Resolved, That we advise and strongly urge the EPA to continue to work to establish a clear consensus among its own Science Advisory Committee for the level of a PM_{2.5} standard at a level at which the benefits outweigh the costs and to continue; and be it further

Resolved, That we advise and strongly urge the EPA to identify any unfunded mandates or other administrative and economic burdens for state or local governments or agencies that would result from the proposed changes to the NAAQS for ozone and particulate matter; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, the administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and other appropriate administration officials.

POM-48. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of West Virginia; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 7

Whereas, ambient air quality, regulated under the Federal Clean Air Act, has improved substantially since 1970 in West Virginia, and will continue to improve as the Clean Air Act amendments of 1990 are implemented to further reduce pollutants; and

Whereas, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which periodically reviews the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, proposes revisions to those standards that