

Foreign Service nominations beginning Kathleen Therese Austin, and ending Ronda S. Zander, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 13, 1997.

Foreign Service nominations beginning Kenton W. Keith, and ending Terrence W. Sullivan, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 13, 1997.

Foreign Service nominations beginning Daniel B. Conable, and ending Francis J. Tarrant, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 13, 1997.

Foreign Service nominations beginning Kenneth P. Moorefield, and ending James Wilson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 8, 1997.

Foreign Service nominations beginning Susan B. Aramayo, and ending Robert S. Morris, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 1997.

Navy nominations beginning Thomas P. Yavorski, and ending Robert J. Barton, III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 1997.

Navy nominations beginning Craig L. Herrick, and ending William F. Conroy, II, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 1997.

Public Health Service nominations beginning Dan L. Longo, and ending Christopher R. Walsh, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 30, 1997.

Public Health Service nominations beginning Larry J. Anderson, and ending John N. Zey, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 30, 1997.

Mr. LOTT. I do note, Mr. President, that I have discussed this with Senator DASCHLE and this substantially cleans the Executive Calendar. There are a few remaining, but they are awaiting companion nominations or have problems that I think we may resolve soon after we get back. This is a major list of nominations that are being confirmed this afternoon. I am glad we were able to work out the difficulties.

NOMINATIONS OF ANN JORGENSEN AND LOWELL JUNKINS

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I support the nomination of Ann Jorgensen to the Farm Credit Administration Board of Directors and Lowell Junkins to the Farmer Mac Board of Directors. Both nominees appeared before the Agriculture Committee on April 10 and both were favorably reported out of committee on April 15 by unanimous vote.

The Farm Credit System is an important source of agricultural credit for rural America. The system is regulated by the Farm Credit Administration, which has had a vacancy on its three-member Board since March 31, 1995. I am pleased that after that long vacancy we have a qualified nominee to complete the board. Ms. Jorgensen has a distinguished career in farming, entrepreneurship, and public service and will serve as an FCA board member.

Farmer Mac was created by Congress in 1988 to promote a secondary market

in farm real estate loans. The Farm Credit System Reform Act of 1996 provided Farmer Mac with additional authorities to develop a successful secondary market. The future of Farmer Mac will be determined in the next 2 years. It is important that qualified individuals serve on the board to help move Farmer Mac toward a successful secondary market for agricultural loans.

Mr. Junkins has served as a recess appointee to the Farmer Mac Board of Directors since April 1996. Mr. Junkins was also spoken highly of by the distinguished ranking member of the Agriculture Committee, Senator HARKIN, Senator GRASSLEY, and Congressman BOSWELL.

Ann Jorgensen and Lowell Junkins are well qualified and should be confirmed by the Senate to the Farm Credit Administration Board and the Farmer Mac Board respectively. I urge my colleagues to vote for their nomination.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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 sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

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-1974. A communication from the Acting Chair of the Federal Subsistence Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Subsistence Management Regulations" (RIN1018-AD90) received on May 21, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1975. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans' Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Reservists' Education" (RIN2900-AI54) received on May 20, 1997; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-1976. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "The Forfeiture Act of 1997"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1977. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Regulation C" received on May 20, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1978. A communication from the Acting General Counsel of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, five rules including a rule entitled "Manufactured Housing" (FR-4106, 4080, 4223, 4108, 4166) received on May 20, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. D'AMATO, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 462. A bill to reform and consolidate the public and assisted housing programs of the United States, and to redirect primary responsibility for these programs from the Federal Government to States and localities, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-21).

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 507. A bill to establish the United States Patent and Trademark Organization as a Government corporation, to amend the provisions of title 35, United States Code, relating to procedures for patent applications, commercial use of patents, reexamination reform, and for other purposes.

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. THOMAS (for himself and Mr. ENZI):

S. 799. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to transfer to the personal representative of the estate of Fred Steffens of Big Horn County, Wyoming, certain land comprising the Steffens family property; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself, Mr. KYL, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, and Mr. ALLARD):

S. 800. A bill to create a tax cut reserve fund to protect revenues generated by economic growth; to the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Governmental Affairs, jointly, pursuant to the order of August 4, 1977, as modified by the order of April 11, 1986, with instructions that if one Committee reports, the other Committee have thirty days to report or be discharged.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, and Mr. HUTCHINSON):

S. 801. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for improved and expedited procedures for resolving complaints of unlawful employment discrimination arising within the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

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

S. 802. A bill to provide for the retention of the name of the mountain at the Devils Tower National Monument in Wyoming known as "Devils Tower", and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. THURMOND (for himself and Mr. MURKOWSKI):

S. 803. A bill to permit the transportation of passengers between United States ports by certain foreign-flag vessels and to encourage United States-flag vessels to participate in

such transportation; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LUGAR, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. D'AMATO, and Mr. MOYNIHAN):

S. 804. A bill to restrict foreign assistance for countries providing sanctuary to indicted war criminals who are sought for prosecution before the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. LUGAR (for himself and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 805. A bill to reform the information technology systems of the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. CAMPBELL):

S. 806. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax credits for Indian investment and employment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

S. 807. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat for unemployment compensation purposes Indian tribal governments the same as State or local units of government or as nonprofit organizations; to the Committee on Finance.

S. 808. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the issuance of tax-exempt bonds by Indian tribal governments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

S. 809. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt from income taxation income derived from natural resources activities by a member of an Indian tribe directly or through a qualified Indian entity; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself and Mr. DEWINE):

S. 810. A bill to impose certain sanctions on the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. FORD:

S. 811. A bill for the relief of David Robert Zetter, Sabina Emily Seitz, and their son, Daniel Robert Zetter; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KOHL:

S. 812. A bill to establish an independent commission to recommend reforms in the laws relating to elections for Federal office; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. THURMOND (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN):

S. 813. A bill to amend chapter 91 of title 18, United States Code, to provide criminal penalties for theft and willful vandalism at national cemeteries; to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

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

S. 814. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to transfer to John R. and Margaret J. Lowe of Big Horn County, Wyoming, certain land so as to correct an error in the patent issued to their predecessors in interest; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. GORTON, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 815. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax treatment for foreign investment through a United States regulated investment company comparable to the tax treatment for direct foreign investment and investment through a foreign mutual fund; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CRAIG:

S. 816. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide a national standard

in accordance with which nonresidents of a State may carry certain concealed firearms in the State, and to exempt qualified current and former law enforcement officers from State laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed handguns; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 817. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit classification of certain hospitals as rural referral centers, to permit reclassification of certain hospitals for disproportionate share payments, and to permit sole community hospitals to rebase Medicare payments based upon fiscal year 1994 and 1995 costs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself and Mr. INOUE):

S. 818. A bill to improve the economic conditions and supply of housing in Native American communities by creating the Native American Financial Services Organization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BYRD (for himself, Mr. COVERDELL, and Mr. CLELAND):

S. Res. 90. A resolution authorizing the printing of the publication entitled "Dedication and Unveiling of the Statue of Richard Brevard Russell, Jr."; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE):

S. Res. 91. A resolution to authorize the production of records by the Select Committee on Intelligence; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG:

S. Res. 92. A resolution designating July 2, 1997, and July 2, 1998, as "National Literacy Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. Res. 93. A resolution designating the week beginning November 23, 1997, and the week beginning on November 22, 1998, as "National Family Week", and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WARNER:

S. Res. 94. A resolution commending the American Medical Association on its 150th anniversary, its 150 years of caring for the United States, and its continuing effort to uphold the principles upon which Nathan Davis, M.D. and his colleagues founded the American Medical Association to "promote the science and art of medicine and the betterment of public health"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GORTON:

S. Con. Res. 29. A concurrent resolution recommending the integration of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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

S. Con. Res. 30. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the Republic of China should be admitted to multilateral economic institutions, including the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

S. 799. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to transfer to the personal representative of the estate of Fred Steffens of Big Horn County, Wyoming, certain land comprising the Steffens family property; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

TRANSFER LEGISLATION

● Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I introduce legislation which would return a family farm in Big Horn County, WY, to its rightful owners. The family of Fred Steffens lost ownership of the property where they lived and prospered for almost 70 years, as a result of a misrepresentation by the original property owners. Mr. Steffens' relatives have explored every avenue to regain the title to their property, and are left with no other option than to seek congressional assistance. I stand before you today, on behalf of my constituents, to request help in providing a timely solution to this problem. It is my hope that in doing so, this wrong can be righted.

Upon the death of Fred Steffens on January 20, 1995, his sister, Marie Wambeke, was appointed personal representative of the 80-acre Steffens Estate. In February 1996, Ms. Wambeke learned from the Bureau of Land Management [BLM] that she did not have a clear title to her brother's property, and she submitted a color-of-title application. Shortly thereafter, Ms. Wambeke was informed that her brother's property was never patented, so her application was rejected.

The injustice of this situation is that when Mr. Steffens purchased this property in 1928, he did receive a Warranty Deed with Release of Homestead from the former owners. Unfortunately, these individuals did not have a reclamation entry to assign to Mr. Steffens. In fact, 2 years before selling the property, the original owners had been informed that the land they occupied was withdrawn by the Bureau of Reclamation for the Shoshone Reclamation Project. At the same time, they were notified that they had never truly owned the property.

Unethically, this did not stop them from selling the land to Mr. Steffens in 1928. In good faith Mr. Steffens purchased the property, paid taxes on the property from the time of purchase, and is on record at the Big Horn County Assessor's office as owner of this property. Due to the dishonesty of others, his family now faces the sobering reality of losing this land unless a title transfer can be effected legislatively.

Mr. President, the legislation I am introducing today would transfer the land from Fred Steffens' estate to his sister, Marie. This property has been in their family since 1928. Through no fault of their own, these folks are being forced to relinquish rights not only to their land, but to a part of their heritage and a legacy to their future generations. I hope we can expedite this matter by turning this land over to Marie Wambeke's ownership.