

from January 1, 1996 through December 31, 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2442. A communication from the Director, Executive Office for U.S. Trustees, U.S. Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule entitled "Qualifications and Standards for Standing Trustees", received on July 1, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2443. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2444. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, U.S. Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Justice Programs Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2445. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, U.S. Department of Justice, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "Victims' Rights Act of 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2446. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "Child Support Recovery Amendments Act of 1997"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2447. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, Federal Register Certifying Officer, Financial Management Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule entitled "Collection of Past-Due Support by Administrative Offset", received on June 2, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2448. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Bureau of the Public Debt, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule relative to trades rules, received on July 1, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2449. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to emigration laws; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2450. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule relative to applicable percentage, received on July 8, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2451. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule relative to the applicable percentage for oil and gas produced, received on July 8, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2452. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule relative to reference price, received on July 8, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2453. A communication from the Acting Commissioner of Social Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the strategic plan under the Government Performance and Results Act for calendar year 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2454. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule relative to reporting transfers, received on July 8, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2455. A communication from the Acting Commissioner of Social Security, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to institute a ticket system; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2456. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and

Plant Health Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule relative to Papaya, Carambola, and Litchi from Hawaii, received on July 8, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2457. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule relative to the Gypsy Moth, received on July 8, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2458. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule relative to spearmint oil, received on July 8, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2459. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule relative to upper Florida marketing, received on July 9, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2460. A communication from the Administrator, Farm Service Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule relative to the sugar loan program, received on July 8, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2461. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule relative to potatoes grown in Washington, received on July 8, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2462. A communication from the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation relative to fees for inspection; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2463. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, opposition to the Cochran-Durbin and Spence-Dellums amendments; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2464. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, opposition to restraint of the Cooperative Threat Reduction program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2465. A communication from the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the railroad retirement system under the Railroad Retirement Act; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-2466. A communication from the Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to monetary penalties for inflation (RIN 1212-AA86), received on July 8, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

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-166. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; to the Committee on Finance.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is the largest integrated health

care provider in the United States, with more than 200,000 employees and an annual budget of over \$16,000,000,000; and

Whereas, the VHA is under scrutiny by the President and the Congress of the United States to become a more cost-efficient health care delivery system; and

Whereas, as a group, VHA patients are older, sicker and poorer than persons using private health care facilities; and

Whereas, Medicare is not presently reimbursable to the VHA; and

Whereas, providing for Medicare reimbursement for health care services at a VHA facility would offer veterans more options and reduce the amount of other Federal funding utilized by the system; and

Whereas, United States Representative Bob Stump of Arizona has introduced House Resolution 1362 which would establish a demonstration project to provide for Medicare reimbursement for health care services provided to certain Medicare-eligible veterans in selected facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

Whereas, Pennsylvania has the fifth largest veteran population in the United States and would be a statistically significant choice for a demonstration program; and

Whereas, Veterans Integrated Service Network Number Four (VISN 4) includes all of the Veterans Administration Medical Centers in Pennsylvania and two Veterans Administration Medical Centers in states contiguous to Pennsylvania; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate of Pennsylvania memorialize Congress to select VISN 4 to participate in the demonstration project provided for in House Resolution 1362 and to participate in all demonstration programs for Medicare-eligible veterans; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

POM-167. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; to the Committee on Finance.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Federal Unified Gift and Estate Tax generates a minimal amount of Federal revenue, especially considering the high cost of collection and compliance, and has been shown to decrease those Federal revenues from what they might otherwise have been; and

Whereas, this "death tax" has been identified as destructive to job opportunity and expansion, especially to minority entrepreneurs and family farmers; and

Whereas, this "death tax" causes severe hardship to growing family businesses and family farming operations, often to the point of partial or complete forced liquidation, thereby depriving state and local governments of an important ongoing source of revenue; and

Whereas, critical state and local leadership assets are unnecessarily destroyed and forever lost to the future detriment of the community through relocation or liquidation; and

Whereas, local and state schools, churches and numerous charitable activities would greatly benefit from the increased employment and continued family business leadership; therefore be it

Resolved (the House of Representatives concurring), That the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress of the United States to immediately review the Federal Unified Gift and Estate Tax and to act either to repeal the law, or to give special exemptions to family owned farms and businesses, or to raise the

unified credit against the Gift and Estate Taxes, or to defer estate tax payments over a period of time; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 1004. An original bill making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-44).

S. 1005. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-45).

By Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Special report entitled "Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals from the Concurrent Resolution for Fiscal Year 1998" (Rept. No. 105-46).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. SHELBY, from the Select Committee on Intelligence:

George John Tenet, of Maryland, to be Director of Central Intelligence.

(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:

Anthony W. Ishii, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California.

Henry Harold Kennedy, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

Katharine Sweeney Hayden, of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey.

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

S. 1000. A bill to designate the United States courthouse at 500 State Avenue in Kansas City, Kansas, as the "Robert J. Dole United States Courthouse"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire (for himself and Mr. GREGG):

S. 1001. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to address the failure to appropriate sufficient funds to make full pay-

ments in lieu of taxes under chapter 69, of that title by exempting certain users of the National Forest System from fees imposed in connection with the use; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. COATS, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. NICKLES, and Mr. HELMS):

S. 1002. A bill to require Federal agencies to assess the impact of policies and regulations on families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. D'AMATO, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. THURMOND, and Mr. FAIRCLOTH):

S. 1003. A bill to amend chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code, to require the development and implementation by the Secretary of the Treasury of a national money laundering and related financial crimes strategy to combat money laundering and related financial crimes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DOMENICI:

S. 1004. An original bill making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. STEVENS:

S. 1005. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

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

S. 1006. A bill to authorize appropriations for the expansion of the columbarium of the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific; to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

By Mr. CHAFEE (by request):

S. 1007. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to reduce the costs of disaster relief and emergency assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. ROTH:

S. Con. Res. 38. A concurrent resolution to state the sense of the Congress regarding the obligations of the People's Republic of China under the Joint Declaration and the Basic Law to ensure that Hong Kong remains autonomous, the human rights of the people of Hong Kong remain protected, and the government of the Hong Kong SAR is elected democratically; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

S. 1000. A bill to designate the United States courthouse at 500 State Avenue in Kansas City, KS, as the "Robert J. Dole United States Courthouse"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

ROBERT J. DOLE UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I have the great pleasure of introducing legislation, along with my colleague, Senator BROWNBACK, to name the U.S. Courthouse at 500 State Avenue in Kansas City, KS, as the Robert J. Dole U.S. Courthouse. I think all of our colleagues know that although our esteemed former colleague has received scores of honors, I am pleased to lead the Kansas congressional delegation in naming this courthouse after Bob because it reflects his common sense and honest work in the U.S. Senate not only nationally but also in regard to Kansas.

Senator Dole's career on behalf of the State of Kansas is well-known—State Representative, Russell County attorney, Congressman of Kansas' big First Congressional District from 1961 to 1969, and Senator from 1969 to 1996. When Senator Dole stepped down from the Senate last year as Kansas' great senior Senator and longest-serving Republican majority leader, he showed determination and courage in his all-out effort to win the 1996 Presidential election.

Although being majority leader cast Senator Dole as a national political figure, forcing him to tackle every single issue before the Congress, he never stopped his tireless work on behalf of Kansans in all 105 counties. There was no inside the beltway for Bob Dole; it was inside the Sunflower State. If you travel into any Kansas community, be it Wichita or Wakeeney and ask a resident about Bob Dole, they will easily recall his care about their concerns. Kansans will tell you of getting the Social Security check delivered quicker or inserting some provision in legislation for a public works project that made a lot of sense and was a taxpayer investment. Whenever national disasters struck, Kansas Senator Dole also alerted the appropriate Federal disaster relief officials and personally tried to alleviate the emotional and the physical damage from tornadoes, droughts and floods.

Throughout Kansas, Senator Dole was always available. He listened and learned from farmers, soccer moms, businessmen, and children. The issues were as diverse as Kansas itself—economic development needs of our State urban areas like Kansas City, or a farmer's desire for higher grain prices and safer roads for drivers and transportation.

Mr. President, the Federal courthouse at 500 State Avenue in Kansas City, KS, is an example of Senator Dole's leadership in Kansas. He, with the support of a bipartisan group of local elected officials and community leaders, succeeded in keeping the courthouse in downtown Kansas City, KS. Now, this Federal presence has served to revitalize the neighborhoods. In fact, on Tuesday, another key component of his interest in Kansas City, KS, to this development effort was