

on Inaugural Ceremonies in connection with the proceedings and ceremonies conducted for the inauguration of the President-elect and the Vice President-elect of the United States.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill, H.R. 1000, to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize programs of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 1999, the Secretary of the Senate, on March 10, 2000, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives, announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 376. An act to amend the Communications Satellite Act of 1962 to promote competition and privatization in satellite communications, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 1999, the Secretary of the Senate, on March 15, 2000, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives, announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1000. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize programs of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announce that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1695. An act to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal public lands in the Ivanpah Valley, Nevada, to Clark County, Nevada, for the development of an airport facility, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2372. An act to simplify and expedite access to the Federal courts for injured parties whose rights and privileges, secured by the United States Constitution, have been deprived by final actions of Federal agencies, or other government officials or entities acting under color of State law; to prevent Federal courts from abstaining from exercising Federal jurisdiction in actions where no State law claim is alleged; to permit certification of unsettled State law questions that are essential to resolving Federal claims arising under the Constitution; and to clarify when government action is sufficiently final to ripen certain Federal claims arising under the Constitution.

H.R. 3843. An act to reauthorize programs to assist small business concerns, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3081. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax benefits for small businesses, to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to increase the minimum wage, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3699. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located

at 8409 Lee Highway in Merrifield, Virginia, as the "Joel T. Broyhill Postal Building."

H.R. 3701. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3118 Washington Boulevard in Arlington, Virginia, as the "Joseph L. Fisher Post Office Building."

H.R. 3845. An act to make corrections to the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 101(f)(3) of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 (42 U.S.C. 1320b-19), the Speaker has appointed the following members on the part of the House to the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Advisory Panel: Mr. Steve Start of Spokane, Washington, to a 4-year term and Ms. Susan Webb of Phoenix, Arizona, to a 2-year term.

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND) announced that on today, March 20, 2000, he had signed the following enrolled bill previously signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 1000. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize programs of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1695. A act to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal public lands in the Ivanpah Valley, Nevada, to Clark County, Nevada, for the development of an airport facility, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2372. An act to simplify and expedite access to the Federal courts for injured parties whose rights and privileges, secured by the United States Constitution, have been deprived by final actions of Federal agencies, or other government officials or entities acting under color of State law; to prevent Federal courts from abstaining from exercising Federal jurisdiction in actions where no State law claim is alleged; to permit certification of unsettled State law questions that are essential to resolving Federal claims arising under the Constitution; and to clarify when government action is sufficiently final to ripen certain Federal claims arising under the Constitution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 3843. An act to reauthorize programs to assist small business concerns, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

H.R. 3699. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8409 Lee Highway in Merrifield, Virginia, as the "Joel T. Broyhill Postal Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3701. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3118 Washington Boulevard in Arlington, Virginia, as the "Joseph L. Fisher Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3845. An act to make corrections to the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

#### ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that during the adjournment of the Senate on March 10, 2000, he had pre-

sented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 376. An act to amend the Communications Satellite Act of 1962 to promote competition and privatization in satellite communications, and for other purposes.

#### 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-7950. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Branch, U.S. Customs Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Customs Brokers" (RIN1515-AC34), received March 9, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7951. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; California State Implementation Plan Revision; South Coast Air Quality Management District" (FRL #6550-4), received March 9, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7952. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, Acquisition and Technology transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on DoD reimbursement of contractor environmental response action costs; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7953. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, a report entitled "EPA Operator Certification Guidelines State Implementation Guidance"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7954. A communication from the Executive Director, District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Annual Estimates of Revenues of the District of Columbia for FY 2001"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-7955. A communication from the Co-Chair, Presidential Members, U.S. Census Monitoring Board transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the 2000 census; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-7956. A communication from the Acting Solicitor, Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice" (RIN0651-AB13), received March 13, 2000; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7957. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Veterans Education: Increased Allowances for the Educational Assistance Test Program" (RIN2900-AJ87), received March 13, 2000; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-7958. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Child; Educational Institution" (RIN2900-AJ54), received March 13, 2000; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-7959. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing

Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Dried Prunes Produced in California; Changes in Producer District Boundaries" (Docket Number FV00-993-1 FIR), received March 10, 2000; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7960. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Vidalia Onions Grown in Georgia; Changing the Term of Office and the Nomination Deadlines" (Docket Number FV00-955-2 FIR), received March 10, 2000; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7961. A communication from the General Sales Manager and Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation, Foreign Agricultural Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report of the availability, distribution and value of commodities donated by the Commodity Credit Corporation to carry out assistance programs in both developing and friendly countries; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7962. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tribal Revenue Allocation Plans" (RIN1076-AD74), received March 10, 2000; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-7963. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Indian Environmental General Assistance Program, Final Guidelines on the Award and Management of General Assistance Agreements for Indian Tribes", received March 13, 2000; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-7964. A communication from the Acting Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on Military Assistance, Military Exports, and Military Imports; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7965. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State transmitting, pursuant to law, the FY 1999 Annual 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-7966. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7967. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medical Devices: Exemptions from Premarket Notification; Class II Devices; Vascular Tunnelers" (Docket No. 99P-4064), received March 14, 2000; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7968. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medical Devices: Anesthesiology Devices; Classification of Nitric Oxide Administration Apparatus, Nitric Oxide Analyzer, and Nitrogen Dioxide Analyzer"

(Docket No. 96P-0436), received March 13, 2000; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7969. A communication from the Acting Director, Defense Procurement, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cargo Preference—Subcontracts for Commercial Items" (DFARS Case 98-D014), received March 13, 2000; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7970. A communication from the Acting Director, Defense Procurement, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Prison Industries Waiver Threshold" (DFARS Case 2000-D005), received March 13, 2000; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7971. A communication from the Acting Director, Defense Procurement, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Construction and Service Contracts in Noncontiguous States" (DFARS Case 99-D308), received March 13, 2000; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7972. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report for calendar year 1999 entitled "Department of Energy Activities Relating to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7973. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the amount of DoD purchases from foreign entities during fiscal year 1999; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7974. A communication from the Under Secretary, Acquisition and Technology, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Restructuring Costs Associated with Business Combinations"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7975. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulation Y (Bank Holding Companies and Change in Bank Control; Securities Underwriting, Dealing, and Market-Making Activities of Financial Holding Companies)" (R-1063), received March 13, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7976. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulation H (Membership of State Banking Institutions in the Federal Reserve System)" (R-1064), received March 10, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7977. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulation Y (Bank Holding Companies and Change in Bank Control)" (R-1062), received March 10, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7978. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Editorial Clarification and Revisions to the Export Administration Regulations", received March 13, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7979. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the Export Administration Regulations; Administrative Enforcement Proceedings", received March 13, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7980. A communication from the Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Department of the Treasury transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendments to the Bank Secrecy Act Regulations—Requirement that Money Transmitters and Money Order and Travelers Check Issuers, Sellers, and Redeemers Report Suspicious Transactions" (RIN1506-AA20), received March 10, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7981. A communication from the President of the United States of America, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency declared with respect to Iran on March 15, 1995; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7982. A communication from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to China; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7983. A communication from the Chairman, Appraisal Sub Committee, Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7984. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to danger pay in Uganda; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7985. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to danger pay in Uganda; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7986. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedule of Fees for Consular Services, Department of State and Overseas Embassies and Consulates", received March 14, 2000; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7987. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of recommendations for legislative action; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-7988. A communication from the Director, Policy Directives and Instructions Branch, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Petitioning Requirements for the H-1B Nonimmigrant Classification under Public Law 105-277" (RIN1115-AF31) (INS No. 1962-98), received March 14, 2000; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7989. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Personal Watercraft Use Within the NPS System" (RIN1024-AC65), received March 14, 2000; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-7990. A communication from the Administrator, Farm Service Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Streamlining Regulations for Real Estate and Chatel Appraisals; Correction" (RIN0560-AF69), received March 13, 2000; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7991. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cucurbitacins; Exemption

from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL #6485-3), received March 14, 2000; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7992. A communication from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Mexico; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7993. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, a report entitled "Section 1018—Disclosure Rule Enforcement Response Policy"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7994. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plan for New Mexico: Transportation Conformity Rule" (FRL #6561-6), received March 14, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7995. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Award of Grants for Special Projects and Programs Authorized by this Agency's FY 2000 Appropriations Act"; received March 14, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7996. A communication from the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Status for *Holocarpa macradenia* (Santa Cruz tarplant)" (RIN1018-AE80), received March 14, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7997. A communication from the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Rule for Endangered Status for Four Plants from South Central Coastal California" (RIN1018-AE81), received March 14, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7998. A communication from the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Rule to List Purple Amole (*Chlorogalum purpureum*) as threatened" (RIN1018-AE76), received March 14, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7999. A communication from the Deputy Chief, Auctions and Industry Analysis Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Part 90 of the Commission's Rules to Facilitate Future Development of SMR Systems in the 800 MHz Frequency Band, Regulatory Treatment of Mobile Services, and Competitive Bidding" (PR Docket No. 93-144; GN Docket No. 93-252; PP Docket No. 93-253; FCC 99-270), received March 14, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8000. A communication from the Chief, Legal Branch, Accounting Safeguards Division, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "1998 Biennial Regulatory Review-Review of Depreciation Requirements for Incumbent

Local Exchange Carriers" (FCC 99-397; CC Docket No. 98-137), received March 14, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8001. A communication from the Senior Attorney, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities" (FCC 00-56), received March 14, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8002. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries Off West Coast and Western Pacific States; West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Adjustment in the Opening Date of Recreational Seasons From Point Arena to the U.S.-Mexico Border" (02220E), received March 13, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8003. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Closes Directed Fishing for Pacific Cod for Inshore Processing Component in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska", received March 13, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8004. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Closure of the Commercial Hook-and-Line Fishery for King Mackerel in the Florida West Coast Subzone", received March 13, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8005. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Fishery Management Plan for the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fisheries; Extension of an Interim Rule", received March 13, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8006. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Framework 12 to the Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan", received March 13, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8007. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Model SA.315B, SA.316B, SA.316C, SA.318B, SA.318C, SA.319B, SE313B, SE3130, SE3160 and SA3180 Helicopters; Request for Comments; Docket No. 99-SW-76 (3-9/3-9)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-0134), received March 10, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8008. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company GE90-85B Series Turbofan Engines; Request for Comments; Docket No. 2000-NE-06 (3-9/3-9)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-

0135), received March 10, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8009. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bob Fields Aerocessories Inflatable Door Seals; Docket No. 99-SW-76 (3-9/3-9)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-0136), received March 10, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8010. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Alexander Schleicher GmbH and Co. Model ASW-27 Sailplanes; Docket No. 99-CE-70 (3-8/3-9)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-0137), received March 10, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8011. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 757-200, -200PF, and -200CB Series Airplanes Powered by Rolls-Royce RB211-535C/E4/E4B Turbofan Engines; Request for Comments; Docket No. 99-SW-76 (3-9/3-9)" (RIN2120-AA64) (2000-01324), received March 10, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### 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-430. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the State of Maine relative to the entry of China into the World Trade Organization; to the Committee on Finance.

#### RESOLUTION

Whereas, the nation of China has taken steps to become a member of the World Trade Organization; and

Whereas, membership in the World Trade Organization would give China recognition and status as an equal, legitimate partner with other countries in world trade; and

Whereas, China has an abysmal record of human rights, imprisoning those who attempt to engage in legitimate political opposition and oppressing those whose religious or political beliefs differ from those of the regime; and

Whereas, China ignores the rights of its workers and intimidates and imprisons those who seek to improve labor conditions in the country; and

Whereas, China's neighbors consider it a military threat; and

Whereas, the World Trade Organization, through its promotion of global markets, promotes multinational corporations that exploit child labor and sponsor sweatshops and poor working conditions; and

Whereas, the World Trade Organization has not shown itself to be a champion of reform in member countries; and

Whereas, membership in the World Trade Organization would increase import of cheap textiles, made inexpensive by the low pay and poor working conditions of Chinese laborers; and

Whereas, these cheap textile imports would unfairly compete with and would harm Maine's shirt, textile and manufacturing industries; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That We, your Memorialists, respectfully request that the members of the