

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

H. Con. Res. 229. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the United States Congressional Philharmonic Society and its mission of promoting musical excellence throughout the educational system and encouraging people of all ages to commit to the love and expression of musical performance.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3030. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 757 Warren Road in Ithaca, New York, as the "Matthew F. McHugh Post Office"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3535. An act to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to eliminate the wasteful and unsportsmanlike practice of shark finning; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 4241. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1818 Milton Avenue in Janesville, Wisconsin, as the "Les Aspin Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 229. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the United States Congressional Philharmonic Society and its mission of promoting musical excellence throughout the educational system and encouraging people of all ages to commit to the love and expression of musical performance; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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-9141. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Analysis, Department of Veterans' Affairs, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to authorize major medical facility projects for the Department of Veterans Affairs for Fiscal Year 2001 and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-9142. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Analysis, Department of Veterans' Affairs, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "The Veterans Housing Loan Amendments of 2000"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-9143. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on transportation security for calendar year 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-9144. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the Automotive Fuel Economy Program for calendar year 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-9145. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal

Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for calendar year 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-9146. A communication from the President and Chairman of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a statement with respect to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Taiwan; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-9147. A communication from the Chairman of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the provisions of the new part 702 concerning the NCUA Board; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-9148. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to agency compliance with mandatory use concerning Government charge cards; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-9149. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Costs and Benefits of Federal Regulations, 1999"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-9150. A communication from the Commissioner of Social Security, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "The Social Security Administration Fiscal Year 2001 Budget Support Act"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-9151. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of the Treasury, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to amend the Customs user fee statute to extend for seven years the authorization for collection of such fees; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-9152. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on geographic adjustment factors under the Medicare Program; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-9153. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Presidential Determination 2000-22 concerning the extension of waiver authority for Belarus; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-9154. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Presidential Determination 2000-23 concerning the extension of waiver authority for the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-9155. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Presidential Determination 2000-21 concerning the extension of waiver authority for Vietnam; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-9156. A communication from the Chair of the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Selected Medicare Issues"; to the Committee on Finance.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of committee were submitted:

By Mr. HELMS for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Edward E. Kaufman, of Delaware, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term expiring August 13, 2000. (Reappointment)

Alberto J. Mora, of Florida, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors

for a term expiring August 13, 2000. (Reappointment)

David N. Greenlee, of Maryland, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Paraguay.

Susan S. Jacobs, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Papua New Guinea, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Solomon Islands, and as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Vanuatu.

John F. Tefft, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Lithuania.

John R. Dinger, of Florida, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Mongolia.

Donna Jean Hrinak, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Venezuela.

John Martin O'Keefe, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Kyrgyz Republic.

Edward William Gnehm, Jr., of Georgia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Minister, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Australia.

Daniel A. Johnson, of Florida, Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Suriname.

V. Manuel Rocha, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Bolivia.

Rose M. Likins, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of El Salvador.

W. Robert Pearson, of Tennessee, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Turkey.

Marc Grossman, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Minister, to be Director General of the Foreign Service.

Anne Woods Patterson, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Colombia.

James Donald Walsh, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Argentina.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that

they be confirmed subject to the nominees' commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, for the Committee on Foreign Relations, I report favorably nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS of the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

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

Foreign Service nominations beginning Craig B. Allen and ending Daniel E. Harris, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on April 7, 2000.

Foreign Service nominations beginning C. Franklin Foster, Jr. and ending Michael Patrick Glover, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on April 7, 2000.

Foreign Service nominations beginning Leslie O'Connor and ending David P. Lambert, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on May 11, 2000.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. ASHCROFT, and Mr. ABRAHAM):

S. 2685. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives for the production, sale, and use of highly-efficient, advanced technology motor vehicles and to amend the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to undertake an assessment of the relative effectiveness of current and potential methods to further encourage the development of the most fuel efficient vehicles for use in interstate commerce in the United States; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 2686. A bill to amend chapter 36 of title 39, United States Code, to modify rates relating to reduced rate mail matter, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire:

S. 2687. A bill regarding the sale and transfer of Moskit anti-ship missiles by the Russian Federation; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. INOUE (for himself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. DODD, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 2688. A bill to amend the Native American Languages Act to provide for the support of Native American Language Survival Schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 2689. A bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Andrew Jackson Higgins (posthumously), and to the D-day Museum in recognition of the contributions of Higgins Industries and the more than 30,000 employees of Higgins Industries to the Nation and to world peace during World War II; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. KERREY, and Mr. WELLSTONE.

S. 2690. A bill to reduce the risk that innocent persons may be executed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. SMITH of Oregon):

S. 2691. A bill to provide further protections for the watershed of the Little Sandy River as part of the Bull Run Watershed Management Unit, Oregon, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2692. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to improve the safety of imported products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. Res. 317. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate to congratulate and thank the members of the United States Armed Forces who participated in the June 6, 1944, D-Day invasion of Europe for forever changing the course of history by helping bring an end to World War II; to the Committee Armed Services.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. GREGG, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. ROBB, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. Res. 318. A resolution honoring the 129 sailors and civilians lost aboard the U.S.S. Thresher (SSN 593) on April 10, 1963; extending the gratitude of the Nation for their last, full measure of devotion; and acknowledging the contributions of the Naval Submarine Service and the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard to the defense of the Nation; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. ROBB (for himself, Mr. REID, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. Con. Res. 120. A concurrent resolution to express the sense of Congress regarding the need to pass legislation to increase penalties on perpetrators of hate crimes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

S. 2686. A bill to amend chapter 36 of title 39, United States Code, to modify rates relating to reduced rate mail matter, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE THE PROCESS FOR ESTABLISHING NONPROFIT POSTAGE RATES

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, today I am introducing a bill to improve the process used by the United States Postal Service to establish postage rates for nonprofit and other reduced-rate mailers.

Under the current rate setting procedure, nonprofit postage rates have changed significantly, often rising

more than corresponding commercial rates. In fact, in some cases, nonprofit mail rates have increased so much that the nonprofit rates are higher than similar commercial rates. According to the Postal Service, the unpredictable rate changes experienced by nonprofit mailers stem from difficulties the Service has had with gathering accurate cost data for small subclasses of mail.

By establishing a structured relationship between nonprofit and commercial postage rates, this legislation would protect all categories of nonprofit mail from unpredictable rate swings in the future. The bill would set nonprofit and classroom Periodical rates at 95 percent of the commercial counterpart rates (excluding the advertising portion), set nonprofit Standard A rates at 60 percent of the commercial Standard A rates, and set Library and Educational Matter rates at 95 percent of the rates for the special subclass of commercial Standard B mail.

The Postal Service recently proposed to increase postage rates for all classes of mail, and this proposal is now pending before the Postal Rate Commission. As part of its request, the Postal Service asked for nonprofit postage rates that are premised on the enactment of this, or similar, legislation to change the process for setting nonprofit mail rates. Without this legislation, nonprofit mailers will face potential double-digit rate hikes.

This bill achieves an appropriate balance between nonprofit and commercial postage rates, and provides nonprofit mailers with much needed rate predictability. It is a compromise solution that is supported by the United States Postal Service and several major commercial and nonprofit mailer associations, including: the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers, the National Federation of Nonprofits, the Direct Marketing Association, the Magazine Publishers of America, and the Association of Postal Commerce.

I invite my colleagues to support this effort to protect nonprofit mailers by improving the method for establishing nonprofit postage rates.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2686

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SPECIAL RATEMAKING PROVISIONS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF REGULAR RATES FOR MAIL CLASSES WITH CERTAIN PREFERRED SUBCLASSES.—Section 3622 of title 39, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) Regular rates for each class or subclass of mail that includes 1 or more special rate categories for mail under former section 4358(d) or (e), 4452(b) or (c), or 4554(b) or (c) of