

Financial service advocates play an integral role in the success of a small business, particularly in their assistance with access to credit. The Belknap County Economic Development Group is no exception. They have been assisting small businesses in surrounding communities with great success since 1992.

Initially formed to address economic issues plaguing the area at the time, it later expanded to assisting small businesses struggling to get off the ground. It currently operates a revolving loan fund and two micro-lending programs, as well as provides technical assistance and counseling.

As a former small business owner in the state, I commend the Belknap County Economic Development Group for their hard work and dedication. It is truly an honor to represent them in the United States Senate.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, 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 and a treaty which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:14 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 275. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress with regard to Iraq's failure to release prisoners of war from Kuwait and nine other nations in violation of international agreements.

At 4:36 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 1309. An act to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to provide for the preemption of State law in certain cases relating to certain church plans.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H. Con. Res. 275. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress with regard to Iraq's failure to release prisoners of war from Kuwait and nine other nations in violation of international agreements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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-9405. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Importation or Shipment of Injurious Wildlife: Zebra Mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*)" (RIN 1018-AF88) received on June 6, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9406. A communication from the Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "10 CFR Part 50: Appendix K, "ECCS Evaluation Models" (RIN3150-AG26) received on June 1, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9407. A communication from the Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision of Fee Schedules; 100% Fee Recovery, FY 2000" (RIN3150-AG50) received on June 7, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9408. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency transmitting, twenty-two items relative to chemical safety; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9409. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Ohio (FRL6600-8) received on May 24, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9410. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of five rules entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Nitrogen Oxides Allowance Requirements (FRL6702-3), "Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants: Alabama; Correction (FRL6708-6), "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Indiana" (FRL6708-5), "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans: Indiana (FRL6708-2), "Revocation of the Selenium Criterion Maximum Concentration for the Final Water Quality Guidance for Great Lake System (FRL6707-7) received on May 30, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9411. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of two rules entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Maintenance Plan and Designation of Area for Air Quality Planning Purposes for Carbon Monoxide; State of Arizona" (FRL6601-7), "Oil Pollution Prevention and Response: Non-Transportation-Related Facilities" (FRL6707-6 received May 31, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9412. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the

report of five rules entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Arizona State Implementation Plan Revision, Maricopa County Environmental Services Department" (FRL6710-5), "Clean Air Act Final Approval of Operating Permit Program Revisions; Metropolitan Government of Nashville-Davidson County Tennessee" (FRL6710-9), "Clean Air Act full Approval of Operating Permit Program; Georgia" (FRL6711-2), "Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District" (FRL6709-1), "State of West Virginia: Final Program Determination of Adequacy of State Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Permit Program" (FRL6710-3) received on June 1, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9413. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Organobromines Production Waste; Petroleum Refining Wastes; Identification and Listing of Hazardous Waste; Land Disposal Restriction; Final Rule and Correcting Amendments" (FRL6711-4) received on June 5, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9414. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Acquisition Regulation" (FRL6712-2) received on June 6, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9415. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, one item relative to guidance for implementation of the general duty clause Clean Air Act section 112(r)(1); to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9416. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of two rules entitled "Approval and Promulgation of State Air Quality for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; West Virginia; Control of Emissions from Existing Hospital/Medical/Infectious Waste Incinerators" (FRL6716-2), "Clean Air Act Full Approval of Operating Permit Program; State of Montana (FRL6714-4) received on June 6, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9417. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plan for Utah: Transportation Control Measures" (FRL6711-9) received on June 9, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9418. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of five rules entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; Ohio and Kentucky (FRL6717-1), Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; Arizona; Control of Emissions from Existing Hospital/Medical/Infectious Waste Incinerators" (FRL6717-7a), "Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; Colorado, Montana, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming, Control of Emissions from Existing Hospital/

Medical/Infectious Waste Incinerators" (FRL6717-3), "Clean Air Act Full Approval of Operating Permit Program: Forsyth County (North Carolina)" FRL6712-5) "Reopening of Comment Period and Delaying of Effective Date of Revisions to the Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (IESWTR), The State 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (State 1 DBPR) and Revisions to State Primacy Requirements to Implement the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Amendments" FRL6715-4) received on June 14, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9419. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, the report of four items relative to asbestos; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9420. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, the report of four items; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9421. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of three rules entitled "Effluent Guidelines, Pretreatment Standards, and New Source Performance Standards for the Transportation Equipment Cleaning Point Source Category" (FRL6720-6), "NESHAP: Final Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Hazardous Waste Combustors" (FRL6720-9), "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Kansas" (FRL6720-8), received on June 19, 2000; to the Committees on Environment and Public Works.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CAMPBELL, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. 2508: A bill to amend the Colorado Ute Indian Water Rights Settlement Act of 1988 to provide for a final settlement of the claims of the Colorado Ute Indian Tribes, and for other purposes.

S. 2719: A bill to provide for business development and trade promotion for Native Americans, and for other purposes.

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. LEAHY (by request):

S. 2783. A bill entitled the "21st Century Law Enforcement and Public Safety Act"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 2784. A bill entitled "Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Act of 2000"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BREAUX:

S. 2785. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on glyoxylic acid; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 2786. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a plan to rehabilitate Going-to-the-Sun Road located in Glacier National Park, Montana, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. KOHL, Mr. ROTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. TORRICELLI, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DEWINE, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. ASHCROFT, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. REID, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. REED, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. DODD, Mr. L. CHAFEE, Mr. KERRY, Mr. AL-LARD, Mr. ROBB, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. BRYAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BYRD, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. KERREY, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. BAYH, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 2787. A bill to reauthorize the Federal programs to prevent violence against women, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COCHRAN:

S. 2788. A bill to establish a strategic planning team to develop a plan for the dissemination of research on reading; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. COCHRAN:

S. 2789. A bill to amend the Congressional Award Act to establish a Congressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts Education Board; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. FITZGERALD:

S. 2790. A bill instituting a Federal fuels tax holiday; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON:

S. 2791. A bill instituting a Federal fuels tax suspension; to the Committee on Finance.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LEAHY:

S. 2783. A bill entitled the "21st Century Law Enforcement and Public Safety Act"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

THE 21ST CENTURY LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY ACT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, I am pleased to introduce at the request of the Administration "The 21st Century Law Enforcement and Public Safety Act." This bill reflects the continuing aggressive approach of this Administration and this Department of Justice, under the leadership of Attorney General Janet Reno, to keep the both the violent and property crime rates in this country going down.

Under the Attorney General's leadership and the programs established by the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, the nation's serious crime rate has declined for eight straight years. We are seeing the lowest recorded rates in many years. Murder rates have fallen to their lowest levels in three decades. Even juvenile crime rates have also been falling. According to the FBI's latest crime statistics release, on May 7, 2000, in just the last year, there has been a seven percent decline in reported serious violent and property crime from 1998 to-

tals. Both murder and robbery registered eight percent drops, while forcible rape and aggravated assault figures each declined by seven percent from 1998. This is cause for commendation for the Attorney General and our Federal, State and local law enforcement officers, to whom all Americans owe an enormous thanks for a job well done.

This Administration has not rested on its laurels, however. Instead, the Administration has crafted the bill I introduce on their behalf today. It contains a number of good ideas to which the Judiciary Committee and the Congress should pay attention. Unfortunately, the Committee and the Congress has spent more time on symbolic issues, such as a proposed amendments to the Constitution to protect the flag and crime victims than to other concrete steps we could take to combat crime and school violence. Indeed, the majority in Congress has stalled any conference action on the Hatch-Leahy juvenile justice legislation, S. 254, which passed the Senate by a substantial majority in May, 1999.

The Administration's bill contains five titles focusing on various aspects of crime. Title I contains proposals for supporting local law enforcement and promoting crime-fighting technologies, including expanding the purpose of COPS grants by funding an increase in the number of prosecutors as well as police; authorizing grants to improve the technology used for investigations in underserved rural areas—less than 25,000 people; and extending the Leahy-Campbell Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act.

Title II contains many proposals for breaking the cycle of drugs and violence. Title III would promote investigative and prosecutorial tools for fighting terrorism and international crime. Title IV would reauthorize certain VAWA programs and provide other assistance to victims of crime and consumer fraud. In addition, this title contains important proposals to prevent and punish abuse and neglect of the elderly and other residents in nursing homes and health care facilities and environmental crimes. The last title would strengthen federal criminal laws to combat white collar crime, including in correction facilities and involving the theft of government property.

While I have concerns with certain parts of the bill, such as proposals for increases in mandatory minimum penalties, a new death penalty provision and broad administrative subpoena authority, I support many other parts, such as the Extension of Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act to assist law enforcement in Vermont and across the nation obtain bulletproof vests and stay safe on the job.

Again, I commend the Attorney General and the Administration for this important legislation and their efforts to keep Americans safe from crime.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN: