

place honors, more than 100 national titles, and seven sweepstakes championships as the finest team in the country. They have also won national titles in all four divisions, something no other school in the country has ever achieved.

The Ecole Classique team undergoes an intense year of preparation and hard work to prepare for the Academic Games. At the tournament they divide into four divisions and use creative problem solving skills and strategies to compete against other students from across America in the areas of Social Studies, Language Skills, Mathematics and Logic.

Once again, their hard work has paid off. At this year's competition, the Ecole Classique students won more than 100 trophies, 16 national championships and two sweepstakes titles—far outpacing their nearest competitors.

Making Ecole Classique's accomplishment even more remarkable is the fact that while other teams are comprised of all-star students pooled from multiple schools, Ecole Classique's team only consists of students who attend this small school in Metairie, Louisiana.

I must also salute the team's coach, Don Shannon. An extraordinary leader and mentor, Mr. Shannon has distinguished himself by becoming the only Academic Games coach in the nation to lead multiple sweepstakes champions in all four divisions.

I congratulate the remarkable students of Ecole Classique's Academic Games team who continue to make their family, school and community proud, and extend my very best wishes for their continued success.●

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM WENTWORTH—2000 ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor William Wentworth upon his recognition as the 2000 Entrepreneur of the Year by the New Hampshire High Technology Council.

Bill is the President and CEO of Source Electronics, a software programming company that he has increased in size from three employees in 1988 to its current number of 220. Bill's strong commitment to customer service and the highest levels of quality are the primary reason why Source Electronic was able to grow into such a successful business.

Source Electronics illustrates true dedication to its clients by tailoring programs to meet their needs, such as an interactive website allowing customers the ability to submit and track their orders. It is competitive advantages like these that set Source Electronics apart from other companies and allows them to do business with large firms such as Lucent Technologies, Cabletron and Motorola, to name a few. The enthusiastic dedica-

tion to serve and support the customer is also demonstrated by the entire staff at Source Electronics, undoubtedly a result of the examples Bill has set for others. Under Bill's strong leadership, Source Electronics was voted one of the top ten companies in New Hampshire in 1997 and 1999.

The hard work Bill has invested into his company proves his keen business skill. The dedication he has exhibited in placing customer concerns first is truly commendable. It is companies like Bill's that prove New Hampshire's competitiveness in the technological field. Bill, it is an honor to represent you 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 which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

REPORT ON THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE TALIBAN IN AFGHANISTAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 120

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the Taliban (Afghanistan) that was declared in Executive Order 13129 of July 4, 1999.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.
THE WHITE HOUSE, July 17, 2000.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:22 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 728. An act to amend the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide cost share assistance for the rehabilitation of structural measures constructed as part of water resource projects previously funded by the Secretary under such Act or related laws.

H.R. 3985. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14900 Southwest 30th Street in Miramar City, Florida, as the "Vicki Coceano Post Office Building."

H.R. 4437. An act to grant to the United States Postal Service the authority to issue semipostals, and for other purposes.

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

H. Con. Res. 319. Concurrent resolution congratulating the Republic of Latvia on the 10th anniversary of the reestablishment of its independence from the rule of the former Soviet Union.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3985. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14900 Southwest 30th Street in Miramar City, Florida, as the "Vicki Coceano Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

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-566. A resolution adopted by the House of the General Assembly of the State of Illinois relative to the financial structure of the Coal Act; to the Committee on Finance.

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 564

Whereas, Illinois is a coal-producing and coal-consuming State that has benefitted tremendously from the hard, dangerous work of retired coal miners; and

Whereas, The United States government entered into a contract with the coal miners in 1946 that created the United Mine Workers of America Health and Retirement Funds; and

Whereas, This contract was signed in the White House in a ceremony with President Harry Truman; and

Whereas, A federal commission established by U.S. Secretary of Labor Elizabeth Dole concluded in 1990: "Retired coal miners have legitimate expectations of health care benefits for life; that was the promise they received during their working lives and that is now they planned their retirement years. That commitment should be honored."; and

Whereas, This promise became law in 1992 when Congress passed, and President George Bush signed, the Coal Industry Retiree Health Benefit Act (the Coal Act); and

Whereas, The Coal Act reiterated the promise of lifetime health benefits for retired coal miners and their dependents; and

Whereas, Congress intended the Coal Act to:

"(1) remedy problems with the provision and funding of health care benefits with respect to the beneficiaries of multiemployer benefit plans that provide health care benefits to retirees in the coal industry;

(2) allow for sufficient operating assets for such plans; and

(3) provide for the continuation of a privately financed self-sufficient program for the delivery of health care benefits to the beneficiaries of such plans"; and

Whereas, Certain court decisions have eroded the financial structure that Congress put in place under the Coal Act; and

Whereas, These court decisions have placed the continued provision of health benefits to retired coal miners in jeopardy; therefore, be it

Resolved, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-First General Assembly of the State of Illinois, That we urge the Congress and the Executive Branch of the United States to work together to reform the financial structure of the Coal Act and to ensure that retired coal miners continue to receive the health care benefits they were promised and so rightly deserve; and be it further

Resolved, That suitable copies of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States and to each member of the Illinois congressional delegation.

POM-567. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico relative to market access concerning China; to the Committee on Finance.

RESOLUTION

In agriculture, tariffs on U.S. priority products, such as beef, dairy and citrus fruits, will drop from an average of 31% to 14% in January 2004. China will also expand access for bulk agricultural products such as wheat, corn, cotton, soybeans and others; allow for the first time private trade in said products; and eliminate export subsidies. In manufactures, Chinese industrial tariffs will fall from an average of 25% in 1997 to 9.4% in 2005. In information technology, tariffs on products such as computers, semiconductors, and all Internet-related equipment will fall to zero by 2005. In services, China will open markets for distribution, telecommunications, insurance, express delivery, banking, law, accounting, audiovisual, engineering, construction, environmental services, and other industries.

At present, China severely restricts trading rights, i.e., the right to import and export, as well as the ability to own and operate distribution networks, which are essential in order to move goods and compete effectively in any market. Under the proposed agreement, China will phase in such trading rights and distribution services over three (3) years, and also open up sectors related to distribution services, such as repair and maintenance, warehousing, trucking and air courier services. This will allow American businesses to export directly to China and to have their own distribution network in China, rather than being forced to set up factories in China to sell products through Chinese partners, as has been frequently the case until now.

At the same time, the proposed agreement offers China no increased access to American markets. The United States agrees only to maintain the market access policies that already apply to China, and have for over twenty (20) years, by making China's current Normal Trade Relations status permanent. WTO rules require that members accord each other such status on an unconditional basis.

If Congress does not grant China "Permanent Normal Trade Relations" status, our European, Asian, Canadian and Latin American competitors will reap the benefits of China's WTO accession, but China would not be required to accord these benefits to the United States.

In addition to purely economic considerations, China's accession to the WTO will promote reform, greater individual freedom, and strengthen the rule of law in China, which is why the commitments already made represent a remarkable victory for Chinese economic reformers. Furthermore, WTO accession will give the Chinese people greater access to information, and weaken the ability of hardliners in the Chinese government to isolate China's public from outside ideas

and influences. In view of these facts, it is not surprising that many of China's and Hong Kong's activists for democracy and human rights—including Martin Lee, the leader of Hong Kong's Democratic Party, and Ren Wanding, a prominent dissident who has spent many years of his life in prison—see China's WTO accession as the most important step toward reform in the past two decades.

Finally, WTO accession will increase the chance that in the new century, China will be an integral part of the international system, abiding by accepted rules of international behavior, rather than remain outside the system, denying or ignoring such rules. From the U.S. perspective, PNTR advances the American people's larger interest to bring China into international agreements and institutions that can make it a more constructive player in the current world, with a significant stake in preserving peace and stability.

For all of the above considerations, the Senate of Puerto Rico joins in urging the President and the Congress of the United States to pass a Permanent Normal Trade Relations ("PNTR") agreement with China at the earliest possible moment, which will provide American farmers, workers and industries with substantially greater access to the Chinese market, to the ultimate benefit of the U.S. economy in general and the American people in particular. Be it

Resolved by the Senate of Puerto Rico:

SECTION 1.—To urge the President and the Congress of the United States to approve a Permanent Normal Trade Relations ("PNTR") agreement with China at the earliest possible date in order to promote security and prosperity for American farmers, workers and industries by providing substantially greater access to the Chinese market.

SECTION 2.—This Resolution will be officially notified to the Honorable William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States, to the Honorable Albert Gore, Jr., Vice-President of the United States, to the Honorable Trent Lott, United States Senate Majority Leader, and to the Honorable J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, as well as selected Members of the United States Congress.

SECTION 3.—This Resolution will be publicized by making copies thereof available to the local, state and national media.

SECTION 4.—This Resolution will become effective immediately upon its approval by the Senate of Puerto Rico.

POM-568. A resolution adopted by the House of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia relative to the financial structure of the "Coal Act"; to the Committee on Finance.

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Virginia is a coal-producing and coal-consuming state that has benefited tremendously from the hard, dangerous work of retired coal miners; and

Whereas, the United States government entered into a contract with coal miners in 1946 that created the United Mine Workers of America Health and Retirement Funds; and

Whereas, this contract was signed in the White House in a ceremony with President Harry Truman; and

Whereas, a federal commission established by United States Secretary of Labor Elizabeth Dole concluded in 1990 that "retired coal miners have legitimate expectations of health care benefits for life; that was the promise they received during their working lives and that is how they planned their retirement years. That commitment should be honored"; and

Whereas, this promise became law in 1992 when Congress passed, and President George Bush signed, the Coal Industry Retiree Health Benefit Act (the Coal Act); and

Whereas, the Coal Act reiterated the promise of lifetime health benefits for retired coal miners and their dependents; and

Whereas, Congress intended the Coal Act "(1) to remedy problems with the provision and funding of health care benefits with respect to the beneficiaries of multiemployer benefit plans that provide health care benefits to retirees in the coal industry; (2) to allow for sufficient operating assets for such plans; and (3) to provide for the continuation of a privately financed self-sufficient program for the delivery of health care benefits to the beneficiaries of such plans"; and

Whereas, certain court decisions have eroded the financial structure that Congress put in place under the Coal Act; and

Whereas, these court decisions have placed the continued provision of health benefits to retired coal miners in jeopardy; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates, That the President and the Congress of the United States be urged to work together to reform the financial structure of the Coal Act to ensure that retired coal miners continue to receive the health care benefits they were promised and so rightly deserve; and, be it

Resolved further, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

POM-569. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia relative to the Trade Act of 1974; to the Committee on Finance.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 284

Whereas, the Trade Act of 1974 established a statutory framework for providing transitional adjustment assistance to employees displaced due to increased importation of competitive products; and

Whereas, the adoption by Congress of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) included the establishment of a transitional adjustment assistance program in the event that imports of competitive goods from Canada or Mexico are an important contribution to workers' separation; and

Whereas, since the adoption of NAFTA, the number of imports from Canada and Mexico of products directly competitive with products manufactured in the United States has increased; and

Whereas, many manufacturing plants in the United States have displaced workers or closed entirely due to increased competition from imported products; and

Whereas, American workers have had difficulty finding similar employment and need retraining services to be qualified for other types of employment; and

Whereas, the current length of time for retraining benefits under the Trade Act is inadequate for most Americans to complete retraining programs; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Congress of the United States be urged to amend that portion of the Trade Act of 1974 establishing the North American Free Trade Agreement Transitional Adjustment Assistance Program to extend the maximum time period for receipt of benefits from 52 weeks to 78 weeks; and, be it

Resolved further, That the General Assembly of Virginia most fervently urge and encourage each state legislative body of the United States of America to enact this resolution, or one similar in context and form, as a show of solidarity in petitioning the federal government for greater benefits to workers displaced due to the adoption of NAFTA; and be it

Resolved finally, That the Clerk of the House of Delegation transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the United States Department of Labor, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, each member of the Virginia Congressional Delegation, and to the presiding officer of each house of each state legislative body in the United States of America.

POM-570. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia relative to the North American Free Trade Agreement transitional adjustment assistance; to the Committee on Finance.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 283

Whereas, ratification of the NAFTA treaty was a congressional policy decision which could benefit the continent as a whole; and

Whereas, one of the effects of NAFTA has been to set the United States and other countries on the road to economic globalization; and

Whereas, professional economists continue to analyze and to debate the efficacy of economic globalization; and

Whereas, however, professional economists and most policy makers are not directly or dramatically affected by economic globalization; and

Whereas, although the United States continues to experience economic prosperity, pockets of the United States and Virginia have not benefited from the financial boom; and

Whereas, when plants close because of outsourcing of labor costs to other countries, the people who lose their jobs are not likely to feel sympathy for the benefits of a global economy to the rest of the country or the Commonwealth; and

Whereas, these displaced workers are frequently entitled to elect such benefits as the 18-month COBRA extension of health care insurance coverage; and

Whereas, the costs of the COBRA extension are often beyond the means of unemployed individuals with families; and

Whereas, those individuals who lose their jobs because of the effects of NAFTA and globalization are tax-paying and responsible citizens who, through no fault of their own, must face an uncertain future in the new millennium that may include retraining, the search for new employment, and inadequate access to health care; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Congress of the United States be urged to enhance the benefits for individuals eligible for North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) transitional adjustment assistance by providing expanded and short-term eligibility for medical assistance services to such individuals and their families; and, be it

Resolved further, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

POM-571. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of Louisiana rel-

ative to a multiyear reauthorization of the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protections, and Restoration Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 6

Whereas, the Coastal Wetlands Planning Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) has been the keystone of state and federal efforts to restore Louisiana's disappearing coastal lands; and

Whereas, it is essential to successfully build on and improve the coastal stewardship campaign that holds and secures the resources, communities, and economies dependent upon the barrier shorelines, wetlands, fisheries, and estuaries of our coastal zone; and

Whereas, it is vital to the interests of Louisiana and this nation that CWPPRA and the efforts it has authorized and funded be continued; and

Whereas, the United States Senate has already passed a multiyear reauthorization of CWPPRA. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize congress that it is in the urgent best interests of the state of Louisiana and of the United States of America to pass a multiyear reauthorization of the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act. Be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-572. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Michigan relative to Michigan's Remedial Action Plans; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 133

Whereas, the United States-Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement of 1972, as amended, provided for the designation of Areas of Concern in need of remedial actions to address documented pollution problems; and

Whereas, Fourteen Areas of Concern have been designated in Michigan, each with a Remedial Action Plan process that coordinates and focuses the efforts of multiple levels of government and other stakeholders; and

Whereas, Many of Michigan's Remedial Action Plans are entering the implementation phase, when funding for technical guidance and coordination by state agency staff is critically important; and

Whereas, The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has traditionally supported state Area of Concern efforts. This is consistent with the EPA's responsibilities under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement; and

Whereas, Funding through the EPA is vital to leveraging funding through the Clean Michigan Initiative environmental bond program to implement measurable environmental improvements in Michigan's fourteen Areas of Concern; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to reaffirm its support for and federal role in the Areas of Concern program by allocating a minimum of \$7.5 million for the Great Lakes Areas of Concern in Fiscal Year 2001; and be it further

Resolved, That we urge that no less than \$1.0 million of this total be allocated by the EPA for efforts within the state of Michigan to develop and implement Remedial Action Plans and associated activities under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement; and be it further

Resolved, That we urge that these funds be allocated to provide no less than \$700,000 for Michigan Department of Environmental Quality staff; \$125,000 for Statewide Public Advisory Council activities; and \$175,000 for support to individual Public Advisory Councils within the Areas of Concern; and be it further

Resolved, That we urge that funding support for the EPA be used to leverage substantial resources from the Clean Michigan Initiative environmental bond program for contaminated sediment remediation, nonpoint source pollution control, brownfields redevelopment, and other critical efforts; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Administrator of the EPA, the EPA's Region 5 office, the EPA's Great Lakes National Program Office, the International Joint Commission, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-573. A resolution adopted by the County of Ocean, New Jersey relative to halt the dumping of dredge materials; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-574. A resolution adopted by the Council of Stafford Township, New Jersey relative to the prohibiting of ocean dumping of dredged material; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-575. A resolution adopted by the Township of Eagleswood, New Jersey relative to the halting of dumping of dredged material; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-576. A resolution adopted by the Council of the Borough of Barnegat Light, New Jersey relative to ocean dumping; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-577. A resolution adopted by the Township of Stafford, New Jersey relative to the dumping of dredge spoils at the Historic Area Remediation Site; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-578. A resolution adopted by the Township Committee of Dover, New Jersey relative to the halting of dumping at the Historic Area Remediation Site; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-579. A resolution adopted by the Council of Borough of Barnegat Light, New Jersey relative to the dumping of contaminated dredged material; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-580. A resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Beach Haven, New Jersey relative to the "Mud Dump site"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-581. A resolution adopted by the Council of the Borough of Ship Bottom, New Jersey relative to the Historic Area Remediation Site; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-582. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of New York relative to the Boundary Waters Treaty Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, Water is a critical resource that is essential for all forms of life and for a broad range of economic and social activities; and

Whereas, The Great Lakes support 33 million people as well as a diversity of the plant and animal populations; and

Whereas, The Great Lakes contain roughly 20% of the world's freshwater and 95% of the freshwater of the United States; and

Whereas, The Great Lakes are predominantly non-renewable resources with approximately only 1% of their water renewed

annually by precipitation, surface water runoff and inflow from groundwater sources; and

Whereas, The Great Lakes Basin is an integrated and fragile ecosystem with its surface and groundwater resources a part of a single hydrologic system, which should be dealt with as a whole in ways that take into account water quantity, water quality and ecosystem integrity; and

Whereas, Sound science must be the basis for water resource management policies and strategies; and

Whereas, Scientific information supports the conclusion that a relatively small volume of water permanently removed from sensitive habitats may have grave ecological consequences; and

Whereas, Single and cumulative bulk removals of water from drainage basins such as interbasin transfers, reduce the resiliency of a system and its capacity to cope with future, unpredictable stresses, including potential introduction of non-native species and diseases to receiving waters; and

Whereas, There is uncertainty about the availability of Great Lakes water in the future—in light of previous variations in climatic conditions, climate change, demands on water—cautions should be used in managing water to protect the resource for the future; and

Whereas, A report from The International Joint Commission, released March 15, 2000, recommends that Canadian and U.S. federal, provincial and state governments should not permit the removal of water from the Great Lakes Basin unless the proponent can demonstrate that the removal will not endanger the integrity of the Great Lakes Ecosystem; and

Whereas, Canada has already introduced legislation to amend the Boundary Waters Treaty Act to prohibit bulk water withdrawals from the Great Lakes; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to urge the New York State Congressional Delegation to effectuate an amendment to the Boundary Waters Treaty Act to prohibit bulk water withdrawals from the Great Lakes to preserve the integrity and environmental stability of the Great Lakes; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to each member of the United States Congressional Delegation of the State of New York; to the Vice President of the United States in his capacity as President of the United States Senate; to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; to the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives; to the Secretary of the United States Senate; and to the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

POM-583. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia relative to the proposed "Solid Waste Interstate Transportation and Local Authority Act"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 385

Whereas, recent reports issued by the Department on Environmental Quality reveal that Virginia is currently the second largest importer of municipal solid waste from other states in the nation, second only to Pennsylvania, and is currently importing approximately four million tons of municipal solid waste from other states; and

Whereas, the amount of municipal solid waste being imported into Virginia from other states is expected to increase in coming years due to the impending closure of the Fresh Kills Landfill in New York; and

Whereas, the importation of significant amounts of municipal solid waste from other

states is prematurely exhausting Virginia's limited landfill capacity; and

Whereas, the importation of significant amounts of municipal solid waste from other states has created many short-term environmental problems for Virginia as a result of an increase in the number of garbage trucks on its roads and an increase in the number of garbage barges on its rivers; and

Whereas, the importation of significant amounts of municipal solid waste from other states creates serious long-term environmental problems for Virginia; and

Whereas, the importation of significant amounts of municipal solid waste from other states is inconsistent with Virginia's efforts to promote the Commonwealth as a national and international destination of tourism and high-tech economic development; and

Whereas, the Commerce Clause of the United States Constitution and the interpretation and application of the Commerce Clause by the United States Supreme Court and other federal courts with respect to interstate solid waste transportation have left Virginia and other states with limited alternatives in regulating, limiting or prohibiting the importation of municipal solid waste from other states; and

Whereas, it is the belief of the General Assembly of Virginia that state and local governments should be given more authority to control the importation of municipal solid waste into their jurisdictions; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Congress of the United States be urged to enact the Solid Waste Interstate Transportation and Local Authority Act of 1999 (HR 1190) that gives state and local governments additional authority to regulate the importation of municipal solid waste into their jurisdictions; and be it

Resolved Further, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

POM-584. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California relative to homelessness; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 39

Whereas, Homelessness has been steadily increasing for several years and constitutes, especially for the mentally ill, an archaic form of human misery that can no longer be tolerated in this, the world's greatest and most responsive democracy; and

Whereas, Homelessness creates a sizable drain on social and economic resources and is a frustration to legitimate commerce and an obstacle to community development; and

Whereas, Prevention of future homelessness will pay great dividends to American society that will more than justify the effort and costs of instituting a national plan for the homeless; and

Whereas, Health and social services, as well as welfare institutions, are now faced with the urgent necessity of creating new avenues of cooperation, coordination, and mutual support, and there is a nationwide need for new concentrations of community outreach, and active, aggressive provision of services, for the treatment and prevention of homelessness and of mental illness among the homeless; and

Whereas, A number of recent studies, all reliable, broadly-based, and conducted independently of one another, reveal that Amer-

ican homeless persons number over two and one-half million at any given time, and fall into one or more of the following general categories:

- (a) Women and their children;
- (b) The mentally ill;
- (c) Military veterans;
- (d) Drug and/or alcohol addicts;
- (e) Parolees or probationers;
- (f) HIV/Aids victims;
- (g) Functionally illiterate persons or others with incomplete educations;
- (h) Newly-evicted working poor; and
- (i) Welfare recipients for whom aid has been reduced or curtailed; and

Whereas, The causes of homelessness are numerous and complex and therefore the cure cannot be simplistic and cannot exclusively address any single issue or causative factor; and

Whereas, Due to a lack of resources, many local governments, particularly cities and counties throughout the State of California and nationwide, have increasingly relied upon law enforcement or the enactment or enforcement of municipal codes and ordinances to address the behavioral aspects of homelessness. This approach has resulted in public policy that focuses on a person's status as homeless, instead of focusing on the obstacles that need to be overcome to solve the problem of homelessness; and

Whereas, It is absolutely necessary that any meaningful, comprehensive plan for the eradication or significant reduction of homelessness be instituted at the federal level because successful local model projects will not achieve permanence and uniform consistency unless they are integrated into a national strategy; and

Whereas, The number of homeless men, women, and children throughout the United States is increasing at an alarming rate; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature calls for, endorses, and supports a comprehensive national plan to end homelessness, and urges the President of the United States, Congress, and other relevant federal agencies to develop and implement a comprehensive plan to end homelessness; and be it further

Resolved, That the President of the United States is requested to convene a National Commission on Homelessness, nonpartisan and broadly representative in composition, with the specific mission of developing a comprehensive strategic plan for addressing homelessness, its causes, and its prevention nationwide; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.

POM-585. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California relative to Ryan White CARE Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 47

Whereas, In California, as of January 1, 1999, more than 110,000 individuals have been infected with the expanding pandemic known as acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS); and

Whereas, The State of California created an Office of AIDS within the State Department of Health Services to proactively address issues relating to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and AIDS; and

Whereas, This office directly administers the expenditure of federal and state funds to combat the disease; and

Whereas, Due to advancements in pharmaceutical therapies and an increasing focus on early intervention and treatment, the number of individuals living with HIV has grown significantly; and

Whereas, For many, the progression from HIV to an AIDS diagnosis has slowed considerably as a result of these therapies; and

Whereas, It is estimated that more than 44,000 California residents are currently living with AIDS, 15 percent of the nationwide total of 288,000; and

Whereas, It is estimated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that there are 40,000 new HIV infections annually in the United States and that California accounts for one-fifth, or 8,000, of these infections; and

Whereas, Approximately one-third of Californians with HIV disease are unaware of their diagnosis and tens of thousands of individuals know they are HIV-positive but are not receiving care regularly; and

Whereas, The number of annual AIDS deaths in California dropped 51 percent between 1996 and 1997; however, between 1997 and 1998, deaths dropped by only 27 percent; and

Whereas, HIV/AIDS in California has a significant impact on communities of color, gay and bisexual men, and women, as well as low-income and other underserved communities; and

Whereas, As many as one-half of new HIV infections occur in people under the age of 25 years; one in four are in young people under age 22 years; and

Whereas, Increasingly, some individuals with HIV disease have also been diagnosed with substance abuse or mental illness; and

Whereas, Substance abuse is a factor in well over 50 percent of new HIV infections in some cities; and

Whereas, California looks to the federal government to assist the state in meeting the expanding health care and social service needs of people living with HIV disease; and

Whereas, The Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 300ff et seq.) was first adopted by the Congress in 1990; and

Whereas, The Ryan White CARE Act expires on September 30, 2000; and

Whereas, Since its inception, the Ryan White CARE Act has ensured the delivery of medical care and treatment as well as essential support services to tens of thousands of Californians including medical examinations, laboratory procedures and evaluations, drug therapy, dental care, case management, home health and hospice care, transportation, housing, legal assistance, benefits education and assistance, treatment education and adherence, nutrition therapy, and mental health and substance abuse counseling; and

Whereas, Under federal law, the Ryan White CARE Act is designated as the provider of last resort; therefore, it is recognized as a critical safety net program for low-income, uninsured, or underinsured individuals; and

Whereas, The federal budget for the 2000 fiscal year contains increased funding for the Ryan White CARE Act, a significant portion of which is dedicated to California; and

Whereas, Title I of the Ryan White CARE Act currently provides emergency assistance to the 51 United States metropolitan areas most heavily impacted by the AIDS epidemic, of which nine are in California, the most in the United States; and

Whereas, The Ryan White CARE Act has enabled local communities receiving Title I funding to tailor the delivery of services that best meet the needs of their residents who are affected by HIV/AIDS; and

Whereas, California receives funding under Title II of the Ryan White CARE Act for care

and treatment and social services, a significant portion of which pays for life-extending and life-saving pharmaceuticals under California's AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP); and

Whereas, Title III of the Ryan White CARE Act provides funding to public and private nonprofit entities for outpatient early intervention and primary care services; and

Whereas, Title IV of the Ryan White CARE Act has focused on women, children, youth, and families, and has increased access to medical care and support services for persons under 25 years of age living with HIV or AIDS; and

Whereas, The Ryan White CARE Act Dental Reimbursement Program (Title VI) reimburses eligible dental schools and postdoctoral dental education programs for the reported, uncompensated costs of oral health care to people living with HIV; and

Whereas, The goal of the Ryan White CARE Act Special Projects of National Significance (SPNS) Program (Title VI) is to advance knowledge about the care and treatment of persons living with HIV/AIDS by providing time-limited grants to assess models for delivering health and support services, and SPNS projects have supported the development of innovative service models for HIV care to provide health and social services to communities of color and hard-to-reach populations in California; and

Whereas, A network of 14 regional AIDS Education and Training Centers (AETCs), along with local performance sites, were funded under Title VI of the Ryan White CARE Act; and

Whereas, These AETCs train clinical health care providers, provide consultation and technical assistance, and disseminate ever-changing information to health care professionals on the effective management of HIV infection; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature affirms its support of the Ryan White CARE Act, and urges the Congress and the President of the United States to expeditiously reauthorize the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act in order to ensure that the expanding medical care and support service needs of individuals living with HIV disease are met; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, the Senate Majority and Minority Leaders, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the House Minority Leader, the Chairpersons and ranking minority members of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, Appropriations, and Budget Committees, to the Chairpersons and ranking minority members of the House Commerce, Appropriations, and Budget Committees, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.

POM-586. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to an autism working group; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 74

Whereas, autism results in severe problems in communication, social interaction, and impulse control disorders, including repetitive and sometimes bizarre actions and interests; and

Whereas, according to estimates from the National Institute of Mental Health, autism affects as many as two in every one thousand Americans; and

Whereas, families are often devastated by the effects of dealing with children with autism; and

Whereas, according to information from the National Institute of Mental Health, lack of a common diagnostic scheme from autism, which is critical for comparing research data, has posed a major challenge to science; and

Whereas, current research on autism is inconclusive as to its causes and treatment, and there is no biological test to confirm its diagnosis; and

Whereas, at the present time, there is no specific biological marker for autism and no cure; and

Whereas, the cost of health and educational services to those affected by autism exceeds three billion dollars per year, according to estimates from the National Institute of Mental Health; and

Whereas, the National Institutes of Health has as its mission health research to promote the general welfare of the citizens of the United States. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the Congress of the United States to take such actions as are necessary to commission the National Institutes of Health to assemble an autism working group to update its 1997 research report on the causes, diagnosis, and treatment of autism. Be it further

Resolved, That such working group shall be composed of distinguished scientists for the purpose of assessing the state of science in autism and related areas by assembling the disciplines, expertise, and subject populations needed to address scientific questions beyond the resources of a single investigator or research team. Be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America, each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation, the directors of the National Institutes of health, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the National Institute on Deafness and other Communication Disorders, the National Institute of Mental Health, and the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.

POM-587. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to high quality health care; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 81

Whereas, an immediate health care crisis exists in the United States and in the state of Louisiana; and

Whereas, citizens of our state and nation are sometimes denied access to necessary health care services due to the financial practices of health maintenance organizations and other managed care entities, the utilization of managed care by health insurers, and the lack of adequate medical facilities in many communities nationwide; and

Whereas, the guiding principles of United States health care policy, as provided in the Hill-Burton Act, 42 U.S.C. 291 et seq., have been steadily undermined by the concept of managed health care; and

Whereas, a primary purpose of the Hill-Burton Act is to assist states in "furnishing adequate hospital, clinic, or similar services to all their people" by tying certain federal funding to commitments by health care facilities "to make available a reasonable volume of services to persons unable to pay therefor"; and

Whereas, the state of Louisiana, as a result of its climate and geographical location, is not only a crossroads for international trade and commerce but also subject to a range of threats to the public health, as indicated by

Louisiana being placed on the "watch list" for dengue fever, which potentially compound the already existing public health crisis; and

Whereas, the current health care delivery system in Louisiana, including the Department of Health and Hospitals and the state's charity hospital system, is currently unable to fulfill the full health care needs of all of this state's residents; and

Whereas, under the preamble to the Constitution of the United States, the federal government is required to "promote the general welfare", which thus necessitates action by the federal government to address the current health care crisis; and

Whereas, the United States is rightfully a signatory to international declarations and covenants, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations, which establish the universal right to adequate health care and require governments to take steps to assure access to quality medical health care. Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to establish and affirm that every citizen of this nation has the right to high quality health care. Be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the house of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-588. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of New Hampshire relative to integration of people with disabilities; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 24

Whereas, thousands of people with disabilities live in New Hampshire; and

Whereas, the overwhelming majority of people with disabilities want the right to choose where they live and to receive support services; and

Whereas, the overwhelming majority of people with disabilities want to live and receive support services in home and community settings; and

Whereas, many people with disabilities are on waiting lists for home and community services; and

Whereas, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was passed as a civil rights act to protect the rights of people with disabilities; and

Whereas, the ADA's "integration" mandate requires that a public entity shall administer services, programs, and activities in the most integrated setting appropriate to the needs of qualified individuals with disabilities; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring, That the State of New Hampshire supports the integration requirement of the Americans with Disabilities Act; and

That the governor and mayors remove themselves from any filing of any future lawsuit by the National Governors' Association or National League of Cities that opposes the integration requirement in the Americans with Disabilities Act; and

That copies of this resolution signed by the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate be forwarded by the house clerk to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, to the President of the United States Senate, and to the members of the New Hampshire congressional delegation.

POM-589. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey rel-

ative to private long-term care insurance programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION NO. 72

Whereas, A private long-term care insurance market has begun to develop in New Jersey, although it is still very limited, as it is nationwide, because of the high cost of purchasing such coverage; and

Whereas, The issue of private long-term care insurance has begun to receive increasing attention among both federal and state policymakers, as reflected by the federal "Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996," Pub.L. 104-191, which extended the federal income tax deduction allowed for the payment of standard health insurance plan premiums and medical expenses to the payment of premiums for federally qualified long-term care insurance plans, and also required these plans to satisfy certain consumer protection provisions endorsed by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners with respect to disclosure, nonforfeiture, guaranteed renewal and noncancellability; and

Whereas, Widespread interest has been reported in the asset protection feature of the New York State Partnership for Long-Term Care, which is designed to assist residents of that state in planning for the cost of long-term care and is funded in part by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; and

Whereas, The unique features of the New York State Partnership program are that, if a person exhausts his benefits under an approved long-term care insurance policy, the person can apply for Medicaid without regard to the type or amount of assets the person may have; and, unlike the regular Medicaid program which imposes limits on the amount of assets an eligible person may have in order to qualify for benefits and seeks recovery from a person's estate for the cost of benefits received, the Partnership program sets no such limits and does not require the person's estate to repay the Medicaid program benefits received for and;

Whereas, The New York State Partnership program and similar partnerships in California and Connecticut were established prior to the federal "Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993," Pub.L. 103-66, known as OBRA '93 which requires that all states pursue liens and recoveries from the estates of Medicaid recipients who received long-term care services; and

Whereas, The effect of OBRA '93 was to nullify the asset protection feature of the partnership program for other states such as New Jersey that might wish to replicate these programs, since the programs established prior to OBRA '93 were permitted to continue as developed but additional states could not offer the asset protection incentive; and

Whereas; The establishment by additional states of private long-term care insurance programs with asset protection features similar to the New York State Partnership for Long-Term Care could stimulate the development of an expanded private long-term care insurance market which would relieve the financial pressures on the Medicaid program associated with funding long-term care, while also assisting many of those elderly and disabled persons who deplete their life savings paying for long-term care in order to qualify for Medicaid coverage of their long-term care costs; and, therefore, be it

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. This House respectfully memorialized the Congress and President of the United States to enact statutory provisions which

would permit additional states to establish private long-term care insurance programs with asset protection features similar to the New York State Partnership for Long-Term Care, in order to stimulate the development of an expanded private long-term care insurance market nationwide.

2. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the Speaker of the General Assembly and attested by the Clerk of the General Assembly, shall be transmitted to the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services, the presiding officers of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, and each of the members of the United States Congress elected from the State of New Jersey.

POM-590. A joint resolution adopted by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee relative to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's proposed ergonomic standards; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 610

Whereas, Tennessee has enacted a comprehensive workers' compensation system with incentives to employers to maintain a safe workplace, to work with employees to prevent workplace injuries, and to compensate employees for injuries that occur; and

Whereas, Section 4(b)(4) of the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act, 29 U.S.C. §653(b)(4), provides that "Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to supersede or in any manner affect any workmen's compensation law or to enlarge or diminish or affect in any other manner the common law or statutory rights, duties or liabilities of employers and employees under any law with respect to injuries, diseases, or death of employees arising out of, or in the course of, employment."; and

Whereas, The Occupational Safety and Health Administration ("OSHA"), notwithstanding this statutory restriction and the constitutional, traditional and historical role of the states in providing compensation for injuries in the workplace, has nevertheless published a proposed rule that, if adopted, would substantially displace the role of the states in compensating workers for musculoskeletal injuries in the workplace and would impose far-reaching requirements for implementation of ergonomics programs; and

Whereas, The proposed rule creates in effect a special class of workers' compensation benefits for ergonomic injuries, requiring payment of up to six months of wages at ninety percent (90%) of take-home pay and one hundred percent (100%) of benefits for absence from work; and

Whereas, The proposed rule would allow employees to bypass the system of medical treatment provided by Tennessee law for workers' compensation injuries and to seek diagnosis and treatment from any licensed health care provider paid by the employer; and

Whereas, The proposed rule would require employees to treat ergonomic cases as both workers' compensation cases and OSHA cases and to pay for medical treatment under both; and

Whereas, The proposed rule could force all manufacturers to alter workstations, redesign facilities or change tools and equipment, all triggered by the report of a single injury; and

Whereas, The proposed rule would require all American businesses to become full-time experts in ergonomics, a field for which there is little if any credible evidence and as to which there is an ongoing scientific debate; and

Whereas, The proposed rule would cause hardship on businesses and manufacturers with costs of compliance as high as eighteen billion dollars (\$18,000,000,000) annually, without guaranteeing the prevention of a single injury; and

Whereas, The proposed rule may force businesses to make changes that would impair efficiency in distribution centers; and

Whereas, This proposed rule is premature until the science exists to understand the root cause of musculoskeletal disorders, OSHA should not rush to make rules that are likely to result in a loss of jobs without consensus in the scientific and medical communities as to what causes repetitive-stress injuries, and medical researchers must answer fundamental questions surrounding ergonomics before government regulators impose a one-size-fits-all solution; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the One Hundred First General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, the House of Representatives Concurring, That this General Assembly hereby memorializes the United States Congress to take all necessary measures to prevent the proposed ergonomics rule from taking effect. Be it further

Resolved, That an enrolled copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives; the President and the Secretary of the United States Senate; and to each member of the Tennessee Congressional delegation.

POM-591. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Virginia relative to federal medical and long-term care benefits; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 168

Whereas, throughout our nation's history, older generations of Americans have contributed greatly to the prosperity of the United States; and

Whereas, older Americans have always recognized the value of the economic freedoms that our forefathers fought to ensure; and

Whereas, older Americans have always been leaders in the realms of business and industry, serving as mentors and teachers to ensure that younger generations would have the knowledge and skills to carry on; and

Whereas, throughout their toil and enduring commitment to the principles of freedom, older Americans have laid the foundation for the economic prosperity and financial security of all Americans; and

Whereas, during the early years of the twentieth century, the current generation of older Americans worked hard to ensure that their families and communities could continue to enjoy this financial security for generations to come; and

Whereas, they endured the struggle of the Great Depression, undergoing countless hardships as they rebuilt this nation by the sweat of their brows both economically and spiritually; and

Whereas, they fought in wars to preserve the liberties that have enabled our nation to earn its place as the economic leader in the world; and

Whereas, throughout those hardships, the current generation of older Americans learned to appreciate the importance of preserving assets, including homes, land, durable goods, and "nest eggs," they had managed to hold onto despite the economic challenges they had faced; and

Whereas, today these personal assets help them maintain the dignity, independence, and health they so cherish as Americans; and

Whereas, with nursing home care now costing an average of \$40,000 to \$50,000 per year,

long-term care expenses can have a catastrophic effect on families, wiping out a lifetime of savings; and

Whereas, steps need to be taken into inform the public about the financial risks posed by rapidly increasing long-term care costs and about the need of families to plan for their long-term care; and

Whereas, the federal laws governing the rules of qualification for federal medical and long-term care benefits force many older Americans to liquidate their assets, including their homes and life savings; and

Whereas, these confiscatory policies impose unjust and inequitable burdens on older Americans, who have contributed so much to our economic security; and

Whereas, widespread use of private long-term care insurance has the potential to protect families from the catastrophic costs of long-term care services while, at the same time, easing the burden on the federal government to provide medical and long-term care benefits; now, there, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Congress of the United States be urged to protect senior assets from liquidation to meet the eligibility requirements for federal medical and long-term care benefits; and, be it

Resolved further, That the Congress of the United States be urged to ensure that persons who purchase long-term insurance policies will be able to protect their assets equal in value to the policy purchased; and, be it

Resolved finally, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

POM-592. A resolution adopted by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, Ohio relative to gasoline prices; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-593. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado relative to the Old Spanish Trail; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 00-002

Whereas, The Old Spanish Trail, which ran between Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Los Angeles, California, was the first trail into Utah and is still the least known; and

Whereas, Frontiersmen and traders en route from Santa Fe to Los Angeles blazed a circuitous route to the north through Utah; and

Whereas, Between 1839 and 1848, a major trade route was established between Santa Fe and Los Angeles which stretched approximately 1,121 miles; and

Whereas, The Old Spanish Trail and the northern branch of the Old Spanish Trail proceeded through much of western Colorado and followed part of the route traveled by the Dominguez-Escalante Expedition of 1776; and

Whereas, In 1853, Captain John Williams Gunnison of the U.S. Corps of Topographic Engineers was commissioned by the war department to find a route for a railroad through the Colorado Rockies along the 38th parallel; and

Whereas, During his expedition, Captain Gunnison came upon the northern branch of the Old Spanish Trail in the San Luis Valley, which he followed into eastern Utah; and

Whereas, The federal government's Salt Lake Wagon Road followed portions of the Old Spanish Trail at the northern branch to bring supplies to the Los Pinos Indian Agency in the Uncompahgre Valley and the bud-

ding mining camp of Ouray, Colorado, in the late 1870's; and

Whereas, The Old Spanish Trail and its northern branch was instrumental in the creation and establishment of many of western Colorado's towns and communities, including Alamosa, Monte Vista, Saguache, Gunnison, Montrose, Olathe, Delta, White-water, Grand Junction, Fruita, Loma, Pagosa Springs, Durango, Mancos, Dolores, and Dove Creek; and

Whereas, Very little information is recorded about the northern branch and much more can be learned about the Old Spanish Trail; and

Whereas, Beginning with the northern branch of the Old Spanish Trail in the 1830's and 1840's, followed by the Gunnison Expedition of 1853 and the Salt Lake Wagon Road of the late 1870's, the Grand Valley of western Colorado has been the site of an historic route for travelers; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-second General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:

That the Congress of the United States is hereby memorialized to adopt legislation that dedicates the Old Spanish Trail and the northern branch of the Old Spanish Trail as an historic trail. Be it further

Resolved, That copies of this Joint Memorial be sent to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of the Colorado congressional delegation.

POM-594. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Guam relative to Guam Memorial Hospital; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

RESOLUTION NO. 308

Whereas, Guam's economy has been in a prolonged recession for several years as a result of the Asian economic crisis and a reduction of military spending on Guam, resulting in drastically reduced government revenues; and

Whereas, large numbers of medically indigent individuals have been receiving free health care at the Guam Memorial Hospital, which the Hospital cannot afford to provide; and

Whereas, for humanitarian reasons the Guam Memorial Hospital is in need of assistance from the United States Federal Government in providing health care services to those medically indigent individuals who are on Guam as a result of Federal legislation; now therefore, be it

Resolved, That I MináBente Singko Na Liheslaturan Guahan ("the Twenty-Fifth Guam Legislature") does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, respectfully request assistance from President William Jefferson Clinton, the United States Congress, and the United States Surgeon General in taking one (1) of the following actions:

(1) establishing a small National Public Health Service Hospital on Guam for the purpose of providing health care to medically indigent patients who receive free health care and are on Guam because of Federal law;

(2) providing to the Guam Memorial Hospital additional doctors and nurses through the National Public Health Service for the purpose of providing health care to medically indigent patients who receive free health care and are on Guam because of Federal law; or

(3) appropriating Four Million Dollars (\$4,000,000) annually to the Guam Memorial Hospital to defray the costs of providing health care to medically indigent patients who receive free health care and are on Guam because of Federal law; and be it further

Resolved, That the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Honorable William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States; to the Honorable Albert Gore, Jr., President of the U.S. Senate; to the Honorable J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; to the Honorable Donna E. Shalala, U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services; to the Honorable David Satcher, U.S. Surgeon General; to the Honorable Robert A. Underwood, Member of Congress, U.S. House of Representatives; and to the Honorable Carl T. C. Gutierrez, I Magáláhen Guáhan ("the Governor of Guam").

POM-595. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to the Outer Continental Shelf; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 13

Whereas, the government of the United States receives revenues from rent, royalties, net profit share payments, and related late payment penalties from natural gas and oil leases issued pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act; and

Whereas, these leases are for tracts or portions of tracts lying seaward of the zone defined and governed by Section 8(g) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1337(g)), or lying within such zone but to which Section 8(g) does not apply, the geographic center of which lies within a distance of two hundred miles from any part of the coastline of Louisiana as defined by Section 304(4) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (U.S.C. 1453(4)); and

Whereas, there are over four thousand five hundred offshore oil and gas rigs and platforms off the coast of Louisiana and on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), with such structures representing over ninety-five percent of all offshore structures in the world; and

Whereas, these offshore structures support and impact an abundant commercial and recreational fishery along an intricate coastline which is in excess of seven thousand miles long; and

Whereas, the enforcement division of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is charged with the responsibility for the enforcement and regulation of Louisiana's marine fishing industry which, with recreational fishing and commercial fishing activities combined, constitutes an industry with a total economic impact on the state of \$3.6 billion annually through landings of over one billion pounds and direct employment of over forty thousand people; and

Whereas, a well-regulated, well-managed, and well-monitored Outer Continental Shelf region and a well-regulated, well-managed, and well-monitored coastline of Louisiana are of benefit to the uninterrupted operation and maintenance of the oil and gas industry in the Gulf of Mexico; and

Whereas, a continuing dependable source of funds for the operation of the enforcement division of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries would ensure the continuation of efforts to secure the Outer Continental Shelf region of the Gulf of Mexico and the coastline of Louisiana for both the oil and gas industry and the fishing industry; therefore be it

Resolved, That the U.S. Congress and the Louisiana congressional delegation are hereby memorialized to provide funding from revenues received from oil and gas activity on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries for state enforcement of the wildlife and fisheries laws; be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the presiding officers of the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives and each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-596. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Michigan relative to the increase in gasoline prices; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 189

Whereas, the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Department of Energy report that there are adequate gasoline supplies to keep prices in check. Further, 87 percent of the service stations in Michigan recently surveyed by the American Automobile Association report that they expect to have adequate gasoline supplies this summer; and

Whereas, Profits of the world's largest oil-producing companies tripled in the first three months of the year. Financial analysts predict that the companies will earn more revenue this year than ever before; and

Whereas, In the biggest weekly jump since 1973, when such statistics were first recorded, gasoline prices have soared in June. As of June 13, 2000, the statewide average cost per gallon was \$2.01, a 27-cent per gallon increase since the previous week. That was 87-cents per gallon higher than the same time last year. In Metro Detroit, as of the same date, the average cost per gallon was \$2.04, which was 40-cents higher than the previous week and 92-cents per gallon more than the same time last year; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to investigate the rapid increase in gasoline prices and to take immediate action; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-597. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Michigan relative to investigating the factors responsible for reduced gasoline supplies; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 191

Whereas, The recent surge in gasoline prices nationwide has shocked consumers. The federal government has struggled to find remedies for this new and unexpected burden. Matters relating to the federal role in regulating commerce, new foreign demand for oil as overseas economies recover from economic crises, and the decision by oil producing nations to reduce output have contributed to this situation. Even the federal government will face limits on what it can do to influence global circumstances; and

Whereas, Although the rise in gasoline prices is a national problem, gasoline prices in Michigan are amongst the highest in the nation. As families here and around the country plan their vacations, the cost of gasoline may well harm Michigan's tourism industry as people seek locales closer to home. The state's automobile industry is bound to suffer if unreasonably high gasoline prices persist as will the agricultural sector. Michigan consumers have been economically overwhelmed by the near-doubling of the retail price of a gallon of gasoline within the last year. For those living paycheck to paycheck, purchasing fuel just to make it to work is difficult; and

Whereas, Despite the global factors that have contributed to the tremendous increase

in gasoline prices, a number of measures at the national level may provide some relief until global circumstances become more favorable. Identifying why gasoline stockpiles were allowed to fall so low, examining the impact of new regulations requiring cleaner-burning fuel, and exploring ways of using the Strategic Petroleum Reserve are issues that Congress should explore; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to investigate the factors responsible for reduced gasoline supplies and the recent increases in retail gasoline prices; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-598. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Michigan relative to initiating a study to determine the cause of the recent gasoline price surge; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 192

Whereas, Gasoline prices have doubled in recent months from their levels of 1999. The prices in Michigan and other areas of the Midwest surpass the national increases by wide margins. Consumers have been shocked and their lives disrupted by this tremendous increase. Motor vehicles are part of the fabric of our culture and economy and any disruptions in our ability to keep the wheels rolling are cause for deep concern; and

Whereas, No single event has prompted our present situation. Instead, separate events and decisions occurring in our own backyard and around the globe have combined to drive prices to levels that are unacceptable if we are to maintain a strong and vibrant economy. The causes are murky, and the measures needed to reduce prices and prevent rapid price surges are not clear. We have repaired a pipeline and restored the flow of gasoline in Michigan, but how do we address the cause of a shortage of fuel for Michigan gas stations?; and

Whereas, It is reported that major oil companies have an abundant supply of gasoline while independent dealers are being cut off from adequate supplies. Only when all dealers have normal access to gasoline supplies will competition be reintroduced and will no single wholesaler monopolize supply and pricing. The United States Congress, as the chosen representatives of the American people, must step forward to investigate this issue in order to prevent another price surge. Without a complete grasp of the complex factors involved, we will be unable to cope with similar problems in the future and will instead simply place our trust in fate and the good will of others; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we memorialize the United States Congress to initiate a study to determine the causes of the recent gasoline price surge; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. THOMPSON, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, without amendment: