

Control Act to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions under those Acts, to authorize the transfer of naval vessels to certain foreign countries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 4924. An act to establish a 3-year pilot project for the General Accounting Office to report to Congress an economically significant rules of Federal agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

The following concurrent resolutions were read and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 232. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress concerning the safety and well-being of United States citizens injured while traveling in Mexico; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H. Con. Res. 351. A concurrent resolution recognizing Heroes Plaza in the City of Pueblo, Colorado, as honoring recipients of the Medal of Honor; to the Committee on Armed Services.

H. Con. Res. 371. A concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideas of National Alcohol and Drug Recovery Month; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 2773. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate the Wekiva River and its tributaries of Wekiwa Springs Run, Rock Springs Run, and Black Water Creek in the State of Florida as components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.

H.R. 2833. An act to establish the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area.

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-607. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Guam relative to the Visa Waiver Pilot Program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

RESOLUTION No. 357

Whereas, the Visa Waiver Pilot Program was initially enacted into law by the United States Congress in 1986; and

Whereas, as the Visa Waiver Pilot Program is considered only a "Pilot Program," Congress regularly extends the expiration date and has done so throughout the Pilot Programs existence; and

Whereas, the current Visa Waiver Pilot Program expired on the 30th day of April, 2000; and

Whereas, the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the United States Department of Justice on the 25th day of May, 2000, issued a circular notifying all carriers, who are participating in the Visa Waiver Pilot Program, of an interim plan to provide entry privileges to travelers who would have applied for admission under the Visa Waiver Pilot Program; and

Whereas, under the interim plan, the Immigration and Naturalization Service will parole for a period of ninety (90) days all eligible Visa Waiver Pilot Program country nationals who arrive for legitimate business or travel purposes, and who would have been admitted under the Visa Waiver Pilot Program prior to its expiration; and

Whereas, the circular further provides, that Nationals of the Visa Waiver Pilot Program countries will still be required to complete "Form I-94W"; however, neither an additional application nor an additional fee will be required when arriving at an airport; and

Whereas, the Immigration and Naturalization Service also noted that this interim plan would change if Congress either extends the Visa Waiver Pilot Program, or makes it permanent before the 30th day of June, 2000; and

Whereas, on the 1st day of March, 2000, Representative Lamar Smith introduced H.R. 3767 in the United States House of Representatives, that would amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to make improvements to and permanently authorize, the Visa Waiver Pilot Program under §217 of the Act; and

Whereas, H.R. 3767 was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary wherein, H.R. 3767 was placed before the Committee for consideration and Mark-Up and was subsequently reported out by the Committee and placed on the Union Calendar, as Calendar Number 308; and

Whereas, on the 11th day of April, 2000, H.R. 3767 was presented to the House for adoption, wherein H.R. 3767 passed as amended and agreed by a voice vote of the House; and

Whereas, H.R. 3767 was transmitted by the House and received by the Senate on the 12th day of April, 2000; and

Whereas, H.R. 3767 was read twice in the Senate and placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders, designated, Calendar Number 524; and

Whereas, as a result of the expiration of the Visa Waiver Pilot Program, tourists arriving on Guam now endure long lines and added transit time in order for the INS Office to process their travel documents; and

Whereas, this delay has caused an economic impact on tour companies that have had to absorb additional costs because of the delay in Immigration processing; and

Whereas, tourism is our number one industry and has only recently reflected positive signs of growth; however, with the inordinate amount of time it now takes to go through the immigration procedures, this could discourage potential visitors to our Island; and

Whereas, H.R. 3767 has received bipartisan support in the House; unanimously passed by the Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims and the Committee on the Judiciary; and has received strong support from the tourism and travel industry; and

Whereas, the implementation of the Visa Waiver Pilot Program has enabled Guam to promote its number one industry—Tourism; now therefore, be it

Resolved, That I MináBente Singko Na Liheslaturan Guáhan does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, respectfully request that the United States Senate expeditiously act upon H.R. 3767; and be it further

Resolved, That the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attests to, the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the Honorable Albert Gore, Jr., President of the United States Senate; to the Honorable Trent Lott, Majority Leader of the United States Senate; to the Honorable Thomas Daschle, Minority Leader of the United States Senate; to the Honorable Lamar Smith, Member of Congress, U.S. House of Representatives; 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.

POM-608. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana

relative to a single statewide reimbursement rate; to the Committee on Finance.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 60

Whereas, the Health Care Financing Administration provides health insurance for over 74 million senior Americans through Medicare; and

Whereas, providers of the Medicare managed care plans are decreasing in Louisiana and other states; and

Whereas, some providers of managed care plans have withdrawn from certain parishes and withdrawn from the state of Louisiana because of low reimbursement rates; and

Whereas, Medicare reimbursement rates drastically vary between urban and rural parishes; and

Whereas, the reimbursement rates for rural parishes are drastically lower than those rates for urban parishes; and

Whereas, the cost to treat these enrollees does not significantly differ from parish to parish. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana hereby memorializes the Congress of the United States to mandate that the Health Care Financing Administration revise the Medicare managed care plan rates so that the reimbursement rates do not vary significantly. Be it further

Resolved, That the Health Care Financing Administration institute a single statewide rate throughout the state to promote equal access for all citizens of the state of Louisiana. Be it further

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

POM-609. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to providing funds under the River and Harbor Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 40

Whereas, for well over twenty years the Congress of the United States has funded monies for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Aquatic Plant Control Program; and

Whereas, the monies for this program have been used to assist the various states in the control and eradication of such evasive plant species as water hyacinth, hydrilla and salvinia; and

Whereas, beginning in 1997 the Clinton administration terminated funding for the spraying aspect of the Aquatic Plant Control Program, providing money only for research purposes; and

Whereas, the cessation of this funding has resulted in the elimination of the spraying program so necessary to control the spread of evasive plants such as water hyacinth, hydrilla and salvinia; and

Whereas, it has been estimated that salvinia alone will infest over forty-five thousand acres in Louisiana in the year 2000; and

Whereas, it has been further estimated that two and one-half million dollars will be necessary to control the further spread of salvinia alone; and

Whereas, control and the eventual removal of these evasive plants is absolutely necessary if Louisiana is to control and maintain its waterways; and

Whereas, without the assistance of federal funding it will become extremely difficult, if not impossible, to continue the spraying program so necessary for the control of these plants. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the Congress of the United States to provide the necessary funding under the River and Harbor Act for the

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Aquatic Plant Control Program. Be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of Representatives and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress,

POM-610. A petition from a citizen of the State of Texas relative to border communities; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GRAMM, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, with amendments:

S. 2107: A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to reduce securities fees in excess of those required to fund the operations of the Securities and Exchange Commission, to adjust compensation provisions for employees of the Commission, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-360).

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. SCHUMER:

S. 2911. A bill to strengthen the system for notifying parents of violent sexual offenders in their communities; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 2912. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to remove certain limitations on the eligibility of aliens residing in the United States to obtain lawful permanent residency status; read the first time.

By Mr. CONRAD:

S. 2913. A bill to amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to require the Secretary of Agriculture to use the export enhancement program to encourage the commercial sale of United States wheat in world markets at competitive prices whenever the importation of Canadian wheat into the United States reaches certain triggers; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. ALLARD (for himself and Mr. GRAMM):

S. 2914. A bill to amend the National Housing Act to require partial rebates of FHA mortgage insurance premiums to certain mortgagors upon payment of their FHA-insured mortgages; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. TORRICELLI):

S. 2915. A bill to make improvements in the operation and administration of the Federal courts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DODD:

S. 2916. A bill to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to provide separate subheadings for hair clippers used for animals; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 2917. A bill to settle the land claims of the Pueblo of Santo Domingo; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HAR-

KIN, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. 2918. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to improve access to health insurance and Medicare benefits for individuals ages 55 to 65 to be fully funded through premiums and anti-fraud provisions, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for payment of such premiums and of premiums for certain COBRA continuation coverage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. 2919. A bill to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to extend the legislative authority for the Black Patriots Foundation to establish a commemorative work; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. 2920. A bill to amend the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

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

S. 2921. A bill to provide for management and leadership training, the provision of assistance and resources for policy analysis, and other appropriate activities in the training of Native American and Alaska Native professionals in health care and public policy; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. THURMOND:

S. Res. 342. A resolution designating the week beginning September 17, 2000, as "National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CONRAD:

S. 2913. A bill to amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to require the Secretary of Agriculture to use the export enhancement program to encourage the commercial sale of United States wheat in world markets at competitive prices whenever the importation of Canadian wheat into the United States reaches certain triggers; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

THE EXPORT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM TRIGGER ACT OF 2000

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, today I am introducing legislation to help our farmers fight back against the unfair trade practices of state trading enterprises. As many of my colleagues know, state trading enterprises are government sanctioned monopolies that control commodity exports. Their unfair practices allow them to undercut prices of U.S. commodities, both in our market and in overseas markets where we compete for exports. My legislation, the Export Enhancement Program Trigger Act of 2000, would direct our government to fight back against these unfair practices.

I am introducing this legislation in response to the experience of farmers in North Dakota, who have been forced to compete not just with foreign farmers, but with foreign state trading enterprises. Ever since the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) took effect, North Dakota farmers have been flooded with a rising tide of imports of Canadian grains.

These imports are coming into our country not because Canadian farmers are more competitive, but because of flaws in the CFTA and the unfair actions of the Canadian Wheat Board (CWB). As negotiated by then-USTR Clayton Yeutter, the CFTA allows the Canadian Wheat Board to sell into our market at less than the total cost of acquiring and selling its grain.

The fact is that the Canadian Wheat Board is a government created and government supported monopoly. Because Canadian farmers are required to sell their grain to the Wheat Board, the Wheat Board gets its wheat at below market prices and can then tell its customers in this country or overseas that it will undercut U.S. prices. These practices amount to de facto subsidies, but because the Wheat Board operates in secret, these unfair practices are not subjected to the normal rules of international trade.

This unfair competition caused imports of wheat from Canada to increase steadily until, in 1993-94, they reached a record 2.4 million tons of total wheat and 575,000 tons of durum. These levels of imports caused unacceptable damage to North Dakota farmers, so I convinced the Clinton Administration to impose limits on Canadian imports. Under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) negotiated with Canada, durum imports were limited to 300,000 tons and total wheat imports were limited to 1.5 million tons in 1994-95.

These limits worked. Imports of Canadian grain fell dramatically for several years. Unfortunately, however, the authority to impose these limits disappeared as a result of the Uruguay Round Agreements. As a result, our friends to the north are once again on the move, attacking our markets, using the monopoly power of the Canadian Wheat Board to undercut prices for our farmers.

Last year, imports from Canada again approached their 1993-94 peaks (2.2 million tons of total wheat and 560,000 tons of durum), and this year they are on track to stay far above the MOU level (2 million tons of total wheat and 480,000 tons of durum). This is unacceptable. It is far past time to send a clear and unmistakable message to our friends in Canada that the U.S. will not tolerate these practices any longer—that we will fight back.

The legislation I am introducing today will do exactly that. My legislation would require USDA to use the Export Enhancement Program—EEP—in either of two circumstances.

First, if imports of durum or wheat into the U.S. from Canada exceed the