

habitat restoration projects in coastal waters and upland drainages.

H.R. 2799. An act to amend the Clear Creek County, Colorado, Public Lands Transfer Act of 1993 to provide additional time for Clear Creek County to dispose of certain lands transferred to the county under the Act.

H.R. 2984. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Reclamation, to convey to the Loup Basin Reclamation District, the Sargent River Irrigation District, and the Farwell Irrigation District, Nebraska, property comprising the assets of the Middle Loup Division of the Missouri River Basin Project, Nebraska.

H.R. 4096. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to produce currency, postage stamps, and other security documents at the request of foreign governments, and security documents at the request of the individual States or any political subdivision thereof, on a reimbursable basis, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4226. An act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange all or part of certain administrative sites and other land in the Black Hills National Forest and to use funds derived from the sale or exchange to acquire replacement sites and to acquire or construct administrative improvements in connection with the Black Hills National Forest.

H.R. 4643. An act to provide for the settlement of issues and claims related to the trust lands of the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4931. An act to provide for the training or orientation of individuals, during a Presidential transition, who the President intends to appoint to certain key positions, to provide for a study and report on improving the financial disclosure process for certain Presidential nominees, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5010. An act to provide for a circulating quarter dollar coin program to commemorate the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5193. An act to amend the National Housing Act to temporarily extend the applicability of the down payment simplification provisions for the FHA single family housing mortgage insurance program.

The message also announced that the House disagree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4919) entitled "An act to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the Arms Export 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," and agree to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses and appoint the following Mr. GILMAN, Mr. GOODLING, and Mr. GEJDENSON, to be the managers of the conference on the part of the House.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the Senate amendment to the following bill, with an amendment:

H.R. 1651. An act to amend the Fisherman's Protective Act of 1967 to extend the period during which reimbursement may be provided to owners of United States fishing vessels for costs incurred when such a vessel is seized and detained by a foreign country, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the Senate amend-

ment to the following bill, with an amendment:

H.R. 2909. An act to provide for implementation by the United States of the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 1849. An act to designate segments and tributaries of White Clay Creek, Delaware and Pennsylvania, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, with an amendment.

### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1113. An act to assist in the development and implementation of projects to provide for the control of drainage, storm, flood and other waters as part of water-related integrated resource management, environmental infrastructure, and resource protection and development projects in the Colusa Basin Watershed, California; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2798. An act to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to provide financial assistance to the States of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and California for salmon habitat restoration projects in coastal waters and upland drainages; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 2799. An act to amend the Clear Creek County, Colorado, Public Lands Transfer Act of 1993 to provide additional time for Clear Creek County to dispose of certain lands transferred to the county under the Act; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2984. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Reclamation, to convey to the Loup Basin Reclamation District, the Sargent River Irrigation District, and the Farwell Irrigation District, Nebraska, property comprising the assets of the Middle Loup Division of the Missouri River Basin Project, Nebraska; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 4096. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to produce currency, postage stamps, and other security documents at the request of foreign governments, and security documents at the request of the individual States or any political subdivision thereof, on a reimbursable basis, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 4643. An act to provide for the settlement of issues and claims related to the trust lands of the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 5010. An act to provide for a circulating quarter dollar coin program to commemorate the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

### 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. 2271. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro as a National Historic Trail.

H.R. 4226. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange all or part of certain administrative sites and other land in the Black Hills National Forest and to use funds derived from the sale or exchange to acquire replacement sites and to acquire or construct administrative improvements in connection with the Black Hills National Forest.

H.R. 4931. A bill to provide for the training or orientation of individuals, during a Presidential transition, who the President intends to appoint to certain key positions, to provide for a study and report on improving the financial disclosure process for certain Presidential nominees, and for other purposes.

### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

On September 12, 2000, the following communication was laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which was referred as indicated:

EC-10678. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries; Closure of Fishery for Loligo Squid" received on September 8, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

On September 19, 2000, the following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-10795. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the OMB Sequestration Update Report for fiscal year 2000, referred jointly, pursuant to the order of January 30, 1975 as modified by the order of April 11, 1986, to the Committees on Appropriations; the Budget; Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Armed Services; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Environment and Public Works; Energy and Natural Resources; Finance; Foreign Relations; Governmental Affairs; Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; the Judiciary; Rules and Administration; Small Business; Veterans' Affairs; Indian Affairs; and Intelligence.

EC-10796. A communication from the Deputy Chief Counsel of the Financial Management Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Depositories and Financial Agents of the Federal Government (31 CFR Part 202)" (RIN1510-AA75) received on September 8, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-10797. A communication from the Deputy Chief Counsel of the Financial Management Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Acceptance of Bonds Secured by Government Obligations in Lieu of Bonds with Sureties (31 CFR Part 225)" (RIN1510-AA77) received on September 8, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-10798. A communication from the Deputy Chief Counsel of the Financial Management Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Payment of Federal Taxes

and the Treasury Tax and Loan Program (31 CFR Part 203)" (RIN1510-AA76) received on September 8, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-10799. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Weighted Average Interest Rate Update" (Notice 2000-46) received on September 11, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-10800. A communication from the Commissioner of Social Security, Social Security Administration, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "Social Security Amendments of 2000"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-10801. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revenue Procedure 2000-38 Distributor Commissions" (RP-105492-00) received on September 14, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-10802. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Bureau of the Public Debt, Fiscal Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Collateral Acceptability and Valuation" (RIN1535-AA00) received on September 12, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-10803. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rev. Proc. 2000-37 Like-kind exchanges ("parking" arrangements)" (Rev. Proc. 2000-37) received on September 15, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-10804. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Toll-Free Number For The Appeals Customer Service Program" (Announcement 2000-80, 2000-40 I.R.B.) received on September 15, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-10805. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Branch, U.S. Customs Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Vessel Equipment Temporarily Landed for Repair" (RIN1515-AC35) received on September 15, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-10806. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Branch, U.S. Customs Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endorsement of Checks Deposited by Customs" (RIN1515-AC48) received on September 15, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-10807. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting jointly, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "Marine Mammal Protection Act Amendments of 2000"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10808. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Bureau Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations, Las Vegas and Pecos, NM" (MM Docket No. 00-5, RM-9752) received on September 5, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10809. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Bureau Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments; FM Broadcast Stations Arcadia, Gibsland, and

Hodge, Louisiana and Wake Village, Texas" (MM Docket No. 99-144, RM-9538, RM-9747, RM-9748) received on September 12, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10810. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Bureau Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Kaycee, Basin, Wyoming)" (MM Docket No. 98-87 RM-9278 RM-9608) received on September 12, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10811. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Bureau Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Stamps and Fouke, Arkansas)" (MM Docket No. 99-241; RM-9480) received on September 12, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10812. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Bureau Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Canton and Saranac Lake, NY)" (MM Docket No. 99-293, RM-9720, RM-9721) received on September 12, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10813. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Bureau Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Canton and Morristown, New York)" (MM Docket No. 99-362, RM-9730) received on September 12, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10814. A communication from the Associate Bureau Chief, Wireless Telecommunications, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Geographical channel block layout" (RINDA 00-1654) received on September 11, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10815. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Announcement of fixed gear sablefish mop-up fishery; fishing restrictions" received on September 14, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10816. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Implementation of Conditional Closures" received on September 14, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10817. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pacific Tuna Fisheries; Closure of the Purse Seine Fishery for Bigeye Tuna" received on September 14, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10818. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries Off West Coast States and in the western Pacific; West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Adjustments From Cape Falcon to Humbug Mountain, Oregon" received on September 12, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10819. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Atka Mackerel in the Eastern Aleutian District and Bering Sea Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands" received on September 12, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10820. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels using Trawl Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands" received on September 12, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10821. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska—Closes Gulf of Alaska for Hook-and-Line Gear Groundfish" received on September 12, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10822. A communication from the Associate Bureau Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Commission, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "WT Docket 99-327, 24 GHz Report and Order, Amendment of rules governing 24 GHz Service, 47 C.F.R. 1, 2, 87 and 101" (WT Docket 99-327, FCC 00-272) received on September 12, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-10823. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision of Reporting Forms Implementing FEC Rules Transmitted on June 16, 2000 and July 6, 2000" received on September 15, 2000; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-10824. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Flood Elevation Determinations 67 FR 53917 09/06/2000" received on September 15, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-10825. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Disaster Assistance: Cerro Grande Fire Assistance 65 FR 52260 08/28/2000" (RIN-3067-AD12) received on September 5, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-10826. A communication from the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Rule to List the Santa Barbara County Distinct Population of the California Tiger Salamander as Endangered" (RIN1018-AF81) received on September 18, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-10827. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the transmittal of the certification of the proposed issuance of an export license relative to Japan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-10828. A communication from the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Prevailing Rate Systems; Abolishment of the St. Louis, MO, Special Wage Schedule for Printing Positions" (RIN3206-AJ24) received on September 15, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-10829. A communication from the Director of the National Science Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the inventory of commercial activities; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-10830. A communication from the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the Patent and Trademark Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Simplification of Certain Requirements in Patent Interface Practice" (RIN0651-AB15) received on September 15, 2000; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-10831. A communication from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, transmitting, a report relative to the October 2000 Term of the Court; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Appropriations: Special Report entitled "Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2001" (Rept. No. 106-414).

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

H.R. 2647: A bill to amend the Act entitled "An Act relating to the water rights of the Ak-Chin Indian Community" to clarify certain provisions concerning the leasing of such water rights, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-415).

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 3064. A bill to provide for the reliquidation of certain entries of vacuum cleaners; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MILLER:

S. 3065. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the Hope Scholarship Credit for expenses of individuals receiving certain State scholarships; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ASHCROFT:

S. 3066. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to require criminal background checks for nursing facility workers; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 3067. A bill to require changes in the bloodborne pathogens standard in effect under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. REID, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. WELLSTONE, and Mr. KERRY):

S. 3068. 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 resident status; read the first time.

By Mr. BROWNBACK:

S. 3069. A bill to amend the Television Program Improvement Act of 1990 to restore the applicability of that Act to agreements relating to voluntary guidelines governing telecast material and to revise the agreements on guidelines covered by that Act; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. KOHL):

S. 3070. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish criminal penalties for distribution of defective products, to amend chapter 111 of title 28, United States Code, relating to protective orders, sealing of cases, and discovery information in civil actions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. EDWARDS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. INOUE, Mr. KERREY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REID, Mr. ROBB, and Mr. SCHUMER) (by request):

S. 3071. A bill to provide for the appointment of additional Federal circuit and district judges, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRAMS (for himself and Mr. HAGEL):

S. 3072. A bill to assist in the enhancement of the development of expansion of international economic assistance programs that utilize cooperatives and credit unions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. BROWNBACK):

S. 3073. A bill to amend titles V, XVIII, and XIX of the Social Security Act to promote smoking cessation under the medicare program, the medicaid program, and the maternal and child health program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GREGG (for himself and Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire):

S.J. Res. 52. A joint resolution granting the consent of Congress to the International Emergency Management Assistance Memorandum of Understanding; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself and Mr. ENZI):

S. Con. Res. 136. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the importance of bringing transparency, accountability, and effectiveness to the World Bank and its programs and projects; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. Con. Res. 137. Concurrent Resolution recognizing, appreciating, and remembering with dignity and respect the Native American men and women who have served the United States in military service; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. ASHCROFT:

S. 3066. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to require criminal background checks for nursing facility workers; to the Committee on Finance.

##### THE SENIOR CARE SAFETY ACT OF 2000

Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Senior Care Safety Act of 2000. This bill prohibits nursing homes and other long-term care facilities operating under the Social Security and Medicaid systems from employing individuals with a demonstrated history of violent, criminal behavior or drug dealing. To that end, it requires these nursing facilities to conduct criminal background checks on all of their prospective employees as part of the hiring process. Nursing facilities that fail to conduct a background check prior to hiring an employee are subject to a civil fine of up to \$5,000. The reason for these requirements is simple: we must ensure that our most defenseless senior Americans—those in need of long-term nursing care—are attended not by people with a demonstrated history of violent, criminal behavior, but by the most qualified and trustworthy individuals available.

The Senior Care Safety Act provides nursing facilities with the tools necessary to accomplish this objective. It requires the Department of Justice to open federal databases of criminal background information to nursing homes so that they can promptly determine if prospective employees have a criminal record. The act provides that the Department of Justice provide this information without charge to the facility or the applicant. Furthermore, it ensures that those who comply with the background check requirement are insulated from liability for refusing to hire someone prohibited from working in a nursing facility by this provision. Finally, it guarantees the privacy of those individuals who are denied such employment due to a criminal record by prohibiting the use by a nursing facility of an individual's background information for any purpose other than complying with this act.

It is tragic that a bill like this is necessary. But, while the overwhelming majority of those who care for the more than 40,000 senior citizens receiving 24-hour care in my home state of Missouri, and the more than 1.5 million of such seniors nationwide are dedicated and caring individuals, there are unfortunately too many examples of those who take advantage of this position of trust. There are far too many stories of convicted violent felons who have slipped through the cracks in the hiring process and have physically or mentally abused our frailest citizens in the very institutions that their families have entrusted them for care. This bill will play an important role in ensuring that when a family entrusts