

EC-3129. 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; Shortraker and Rougheye Rockfish in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska" received on July 26, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3130. 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 Northern Rockfish Fishery in the Western Regulatory Area, Gulf of Alaska" received on July 26, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3131. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of the 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 Ocean Perch in the Central Aleutian District of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands" received on July 26, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3132. 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; Black Sea Bass Fishery; Commercial Quota Harvested for Quarter 3 Period" received on July 26, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3133. 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; Sablefish by Vessels Using Trawl Gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska" received on July 26, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3134. A communication from the Acting Assistant Administrator for 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—Extension of the Emergency Interim Rule That Implements 2001 Steller Sea Lion Protection Measures and the 2001 Harvest Specifications (implements Steller sea lion protection measures for the remainder of 2001)"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicates:

POM-157. A concurrent resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to the federal Weatherization Assistance Program for Low-Income Persons and the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance program; to the Committee on Appropriations.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 140

Whereas, the areas served by electric and gas utilities in Louisiana and throughout the South have poverty levels that are higher than the national average, with many cus-

tomers being unable to afford utility service without sacrificing other necessities such as medicine and food; and

Whereas, disconnection of electric and gas service presents health and safety risks, particularly for the elderly, disabled, and small children residing in the substandard, poorly insulated, energy-inefficient housing that is prevalent in this region; and

Whereas, the federally funded WAP and LIHEAP are the nation's largest, most comprehensive effective residential energy efficiency and bill payment assistance programs, serving as a vital safety net during periods of escalating and volatile energy prices; and

Whereas, the state agencies and community-based organizations that administer WAP and LIHEAP and distribute the funds on behalf of those eligible and in need have demonstrated their capability to accomplish both energy efficiency services and bill payment assistance when these programs are adequately funded and assured of continued existence for a reasonable number of years; and

Whereas, the Fiscal Year 2002 Bush Administration proposed budget call for continuing LIHEAP funding at the same, inadequate levels as was provided during the past year, \$1.4 billion nationally, an amount that was recently recognized as vastly insufficient by the United States Senate; and

Whereas, it is a matter of utmost importance and urgency to persuade both houses of the Congress of the United States to take swift and bold action to increase and release to the states the funding for WAP and LIHEAP; Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to act at once to provide for advanced and increased funding of the Weatherization Assistance program for Low-Income Persons and the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, so as to enable the programs to engage in planning their work more efficiently and engaging and retaining qualified employees. Be it further

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

POM-158. A concurrent resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to the sale of crawfish and catfish imported from Asia and Spain; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 143

Whereas, Louisiana's crawfish and catfish industries are vital to the well-being of this state and its citizens; and

Whereas, these industries are facing a serious economic crisis due to the availability of inexpensive crawfish and catfish imported from Asia and Spain; and

Whereas, crawfish from China began appearing in the United States market in the early 1990s; however, they had no significant impact at the time because the amount of available Chinese crawfish was not enough to seriously affect the supply and demand associated with Louisiana's crawfish industry; and

Whereas, in 1993 and 1994 there was a substantial increase in the amount of Chinese crawfish, which harmed Louisiana industry, and crawfish are produced in China at a lower cost than is possible in Louisiana which allows their sale at prices with which Louisiana producers cannot compete; and

Whereas, Louisiana is also experiencing a similar problem with crawfish arriving from

Spain being offered for sale at a low price; and

Whereas, since Louisiana crawfish farmers cannot compete with those in China and Spain, the crawfish plants are in danger of closing, which is devastating to Louisiana because it is difficult to re-open the plants because the crawfish peelers have sought other employment, and it is virtually impossible to replace that labor component of the Louisiana crawfish industry; and

Whereas, in response to the problem, the Federal Trade Commission recently imposed a duty on Chinese crawfish, which has allowed Louisiana fishermen and suppliers to compete with Chinese fishermen and suppliers; and

Whereas, nevertheless, crawfish suppliers are presently circumventing the duty and are still providing crawfish at a much lower price, so the threat to the Louisiana industry continues; and

Whereas, the Catfish industry in Louisiana is experiencing similar problems caused by imported Catfish from Vietnam and Spain; and

Whereas, between 1993 and 1999, the amount of Catfish exported from Vietnam increased from sixteen thousand five hundred tons to twenty-four thousand tons, and capital investments in Catfish production in the Mekong Delta have continued to grow dramatically; Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to assist the Federal Trade Commission in preventing the sale of crawfish and catfish imported from Asia and Spain at prices with which Louisiana producers cannot compete. 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-159. A concurrent resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to the federal-aid highway program; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 152

Whereas, legislation is pending introduction in congress to allow states to opt out of the federal-aid highway program; and

Whereas, those states opting out would be required to replace the federal gasoline tax with a state gasoline tax; and

Whereas, five states have laws in effect which would automatically increase the state gasoline tax should the federal gasoline tax be reduced; and

Whereas, if Louisiana were authorized to levy the gasoline tax, it could control more of the revenues and would be less subject to certain efforts by the federal government to control state policy; Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Louisiana Legislature does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to adopt legislation authorizing states to opt out of the federal-aid highway program. 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-160. A concurrent resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to Section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code; to the Committee on Finance.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 188

Whereas, Congress passed the Full and Fair Political Disclosure Act and the President

signed it into law (Public Law 106-230) to require public disclosure of political activities of organizations that usually do not disclose their expenditures or contributions; and

Whereas, Rep. David Vitter has introduced H.R. 527 (also known as the Vitter Bill) to correct and clarify P.L. 106-230 by reducing duplicative and burdensome federal reporting and disclosure requirements placed on state and local political candidates, their campaign committees, and state political parties; and

Whereas, H.R. 527 relieves individuals and groups from filing pursuant to Section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code if their sole intention is to influence the election of state and local public officers or officers in a state or local political organization and if the state and local contribution and expenditure reporting requirements relating to selections, nominations, elections, and appointments to such offices provide that the reports are publicly available; and

Whereas, H.R. 527 would not exempt any political committee from the requirements if it spent even one dollar on a federal election, including congressional races, or failed to abide by state and local contribution and expenditure reporting requirements; and

Whereas, H.R. 527 exempts state and local political committees because the law is geared toward the federal election cycle which usually does not conform to state and local reporting requirements; and

Whereas, H.R. 527 establishes an exemption for state and local political committees similar to the exemption for federal political organizations that report to the Federal Elections Commission; and

Whereas, H.R. 527 intends to leave intact the intent of P.L. 160-230 as a response to stealth political action committees that were able to raise and spend unlimited amounts of money for political advocacy without having to disclose the sources and amounts of donations, all while enjoying tax-exempt status; Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Louisiana Legislature does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to support House Resolution 527 making changes to Section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code to exempt certain state and local political committees which are required to report contributions and expenditures pursuant to local or state law. 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-161. A concurrent resolution adopted by the House of the State of Louisiana relative to the Bayou Lafourche restoration and diversion project from the Mississippi River; to the Committee on Appropriations.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 198

Whereas, until 1904, Bayou Lafourche carried about fifteen percent of the flow of the Mississippi River and provided vital nourishment for thousands of acres of coastal swamps and marshes throughout the Barataria and Terrebonne Basins; and

Whereas, after the bayou was sealed off from the Mississippi River in 1904 to prevent flooding, these marshes began to deteriorate and salt water began to encroach inland; and

Whereas, diverting river water into our coastal basins is the best tool we have to create a sustainable coast; and

Whereas, Bayou Lafourche provides the sole source of drinking water for about two hundred thousand citizens of Louisiana; and

Whereas, during the drought year of 2000, Bayou Lafourche became contaminated by

salt water as far north as the Lockport water treatment plant, making the water hazardous to drink; and

Whereas, since 1996, the Breaux Act program has been investigating the feasibility of a project that would restore Bayou Lafourche by removing sediment that currently clogs the channel and by introducing about one thousand cubic feet per second of river water into Bayou Lafourche at Donaldsonville on a continuous basis, without flood risk to local residents; and

Whereas, the project has been proposed as a means of nourishing eight-six thousand acres of coastal marshes by reintroducing river water into a vast area that has been cut off from the river by levees; and

Whereas, the final design of the project should accommodate the reasonable concerns of landowners regarding erosion and property damage; and

Whereas, this one thousand cubic feet per second diversion project would also prevent the future saltwater contamination of municipal and industrial freshwater intakes; and

Whereas, this project would provide critical benefits to a large area of coastal marshes, it would restore the current sluggish, choked bayou to a flowing, healthy ecosystem, and it would provide a continuous supply of high quality fresh water for municipal and industrial needs into the future; Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Louisiana Legislature does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to support, with funding, the expeditious implementation of the proposed Bayou Lafourche restoration and diversion project from the Mississippi River. Be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution shall 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-162. A concurrent resolution adopted by the House of Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to the pending charter boat moratorium in the Gulf of Mexico; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 114

Whereas, the charter fishing industry in Louisiana is in its infancy but has begun a period of healthy growth which can only be beneficial to the state's overall economic development and the capture of tourist dollars; and

Whereas, the Gulf States Fishery Management Council voted this spring to send to the National Marine Fisheries Service a recommendation for a three-year moratorium on the issuance of new charter vessel permits for reef and coastal migratory pelagic fishing; and

Whereas, the genesis of the recommended moratorium was concerned about the area of the Gulf of Mexico near Florida where the charter industry is much more mature, much more widespread, and has created a situation where there are too many boats with too many fishermen competing for too few fish; and

Whereas, the charter industry in Louisiana exists in a significantly different environment, one where there is not an overabundance of permitted charter boat captains and where there is an abundance of habitat and fish which should result in a productive charter industry; and

Whereas, a productive and expanding charter industry would be of great benefit to the economic health of the state, a benefit that would be denied the state of Louisiana if the

moratorium were adopted and new charter captains would not be eligible for permitting; Therefore, be it,

Resolved, That the Louisiana House of Representatives does hereby memorialize the Louisiana congressional delegation and the United States Congress to express its desire to the National Marine Fisheries Service that the pending charter boat moratorium in the Gulf of Mexico not be implemented. Be it further,

Resolved, That if a moratorium is considered by the National Marine Fisheries Service, that the moratorium be limited to the eastern Gulf of Mexico with an authorization for continued expansion of the industry in the western Gulf of Mexico where there are no issues of overcrowding. Be it further,

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

POM-163. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to international child slavery; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 128

Whereas, it is with great moral indignation and deepest concern that the Legislature of Louisiana learns of the continued use internationally of such an unspeakable practice as child slavery; and

Whereas, despite current efforts to end the practice of trafficking in child slaves, the trade remains a serious problem, particularly in West and Central Africa where this most disturbing practice has been on the rise; and

Whereas, currently thousands of children as young as six years of age are trafficked across borders into slavery to work long hours in harsh conditions as domestic servants, as farm and plantation laborers, and as sellers in markets; and

Whereas, while parents living in some of the poorest countries on the planet are on occasion willing to sell their children for as little as fourteen dollars, often in the belief that their children will receive education and prosperous employment, the vast majority of these children become slaves usually laboring on coffee and cocoa plantations; and

Whereas, during long-distance transportation over land and sea, these children face arduous and sometimes fatal journeys riddled with hardships such as ships that lack sufficient supplies of food and fresh drinking water; and

Whereas, through a 1998-1999 research and interview project funded by the United Kingdom National Lottery Charities Board, Enfants Solidaires d'Afrique et du Monde, a nongovernmental organization in Benin, found that child slaves transported across the border between Benin and Gabon were subjected to fourteen- to eighteen-hour work days, heavy work, and oftentimes sexual abuse including rape and forced prostitution; and

Whereas, interviews by American media reporters in Sudan have revealed a similar pattern of torments, including forced marches, sexual abuse and mutilation, and violent beatings among slaves; and

Whereas, many destination countries of child slave trafficking have failed to take the necessary steps to end the exploitation of children in slavery or other abusive labor; and

Whereas, diplomatic collaboration between nongovernmental organizations and all national governments is important for developing long-term strategies for eliminating trafficking of child slaves and rehabilitating children who have suffered from this practice; and

Whereas, national governments, and particularly the United States government, should ratify and encourage implementation of key measures protecting children, such as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, to ensure that children are protected against slavery, should work to ensure that the United Nations International Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime includes a protocol to prevent, suppress, and punish the practice of trafficking in slaves, and should urge the United Nations to adopt a specific year as the International Year Against Trafficking in Human Beings to focus attention on the issue; and

Whereas, governments may curb the practice of child slavery internationally via economic tactics, such as embargoes on products and countries that use child slavery and urging action on the part of industries to purchase directly from plantations where they can ensure that growers implement core international labor standards, particularly those banning forced labor and illegal child labor, and by collaborating with other countries to ensure that international labor standards regarding slavery are enforced throughout such countries; and

Whereas, having repealed the terrible and horrific practice of slavery within our own borders with the Emancipation Proclamation and the thirteenth amendment to our constitution, the United States unequivocally opposes slavery in all forms and universally endorses the freedom and dignity of every human being; and

Whereas, in the true and compassionate knowledge that every child deserves the opportunity to live the life of a child without subjection to the burdens of injustice, child slavery can only be deemed insufferable and repugnant: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the United States Congress and the President of the United States to institute and enforce legislation and diplomatic action toward the eradication of child slavery internationally. Be it further

Resolved, That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of both houses of the United States Congress, to the members of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress, and to President George W. Bush.

POM-164. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to the OCS oil and gas lease sales in the Gulf of Mexico; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 149

Whereas, it has been almost four years since the environmental impact statement was prepared for the Oil and Gas Lease Sales 169, 172, 175, 178, and 182 in the Gulf of Mexico; and

Whereas, as a result of public testimony in response to that EIS, there was recognition of the significant impact which will be felt relative to the infrastructure in offshore activity focal points such as Port Fourchon and LA Highway 1 through Lafourche Parish; and

Whereas, at the present time, forty of the forty-five deep water rigs working in the Gulf of Mexico are being serviced through Port Fourchon as are many of the rigs located on the OCS, with the accompanying increase in land traffic and inland waterway traffic, all primarily through Lafourche Parish; and

Whereas, efforts have so far failed to develop plans to mitigate these present and well-documented impacts while efforts to increase the number of leases in the gulf con-

tinue with no apparent effort to provide mitigation for current or increased impacts: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the Louisiana Legislature does hereby memorialize the U.S. Congress to direct the Mineral Management Service to develop a plan for impact mitigation relative to the OCS oil and gas lease sales in the Gulf of Mexico. Be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the presiding officer of each house of the U.S. Congress, to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation, and to the director of the Minerals Management Service.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. HOLLINGS, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 127: A bill to give American companies, American workers, and American ports the opportunity to compete in the United States cruise market (Rept. No. 107-47).

H.R. 1098: A bill to improve the recording and discharging of maritime liens and expand the American Merchant Marine Memorial Wall of Honor, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 107-48).

By Mr. BAUCUS, from the Committee on Finance, without amendment:

S.J. Res. 16: A joint resolution approving the extension of nondiscriminatory treatment to the products of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. (Rept. No. 107-49).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BIDEN for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

*Sue McCort Cobb, of Florida, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Jamaica. Nominee: Sue McCourt Cobb. Post: Ambassador to Jamaica.

The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.

Contributions, date and no., name, and amount:

1. Self:

Federal—Political

5/14/1996, 168—Senator Bob Dole for President (Compliance Fund)	\$1,000.00
10/31/1996—Friends of Bob Graham	1,000.00
02/03/1997, 223—Friends of Connie Mack	500.00
03/26/1997, CEC—Campaign for New American Century	1,250.00
09/23/1997, 230—Friends of Bob Graham	500.00
11/24/1997, 231—Friends of Bob Graham	500.00
03/04/1998, 234—Friends of Connie Mack	500.00
03/11/1999, CEC4012—Gov. George W. Bush Expl. Comm	1,000.00
04/12/1999, 4570—Friends of Connie Mack (Contribution refund)	-1,000.00
03/22/2000, 522—Tom Gallagher Campaign (Contribution)	1,000.00
04/25/2000, 523—Presidential Trust (Contribution)	10,000.00

Federal—Political

04/28/2000, AMEX—Republican National State Elections Committee	40,000.00
06/27/2000, 4030—Tom Gallagher Campaign (Contribution refund)	-500.00
07/17/2000, Allocation—Republican National State Elections Committee	-875.00
07/17/2000, Allocation—Republican National State Elections Committee	875.00
08/10/2000, 530—McColum for US Senate (Contribution)	500.00
09/08/2000, 532—McColum for US Senate (Contribution)	1,000.00
12/26/2000—Bush-Cheney 2000 Presidential Transition Foundation	5,000.00

Total Political (Contribution) .. 62,250.00

2. Spouse, Charles E. Cobb, Jr.:

FEDERAL—5081001—IN KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

08/24/2000, 0972—Mac Parking, Inc. (Valet Parking Service 8/24—Bush Event)	\$1,100.00
08/28/2000, 4832—Bill's Catering (Catering Services Bush Event)	31,406.00

Total 5081001 in Kind Contributions

32,506.00

FEDERAL—5081001—POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION—CASH PAID

04/02/1996—Republican Ntl Committee (1996 Team 100)	55,000.00
05/03/1996—Republican Party of Kentucky	500.00
05/03/1996—Sutton for Congress	500.00
05/06/1996—Helms Campaign Committee	1,000.00
05/14/1996—Senator Bob Dole for (Compliance Fund)	1,000.00
06/14/1996—Weld for Senate	1,000.00
07/01/1996—Republican National State Elections Committee	3,100.00
08/05/1996—David Funderburk (8/5 reception)	250.00
08/06/1996—People for Lightfoot, Inc. (reception 8/8/96)	500.00
08/27/1996—Jack Kemp for	1,000.00
09/19/1996—Ilena Ros-Lehtinen (Buffet 9/20/96)	200.00
09/30/1996—Bill McCollum for Congress	1,000.00
10/10/1996—Republican Party (Senator McConnell) (Item not reflected in FEC Receipts and Expenditures)	500.00
11/01/1996—Republican Fund	1,000.00
03/14/1997—Republican Ntl Committee (Team 100)	10,000.00
03/14/1997—Republican Fund (\$1,250 of \$2,500 SMC)	1,250.00
03/26/1997—Campaign for a New American Century	1,250.00
04/02/1997—Ilena Ros-Lehtinen (Item not reflected in FEC Receipts and Expenditures)	400.00
06/11/1997—Clay Shaw, Campaign Fund (Contribution)	500.00
11/20/1997—Friends of Don Nickles of Senate	500.00
01/05/1998—Bush-Quayle '92 (92 Compliance debt)	1,000.00
12/29/1997—Bill McCollum for Congress	1,000.00
04/14/1998, 3474—Republican National State Elections Committee (98 Team 100 Contribution)	10,000.00
05/19/1998, 20071—Campaign for a New American Century (1998 Contribution)	2,000.00
05/19/1998, Re-election—Friends of Mark Foley (Re-Election Campaign)	1,000.00
09/16/1998, 3716—Campbell for Senate Victory Fund (Campaign Contribution)	250.00
10/13/1998, Donation—SNOWPAC (Snowpac Contribution)	500.00