

Parks, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Hunting: Early Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds in the Contiguous United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands" (RIN1018-AI30) received on September 3, 2002; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8825. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Hunting: Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2002-03 Early Season" (RIN1018-AI30) received on September 3, 2002; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8826. A communication from the Director, Endangered Species Program, Fish and Wildlife Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Rule to Remove *Potentilla robbinsiana* (Robbin's cinquefoil) from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants" (RIN1018-AH56) received on August 27, 2002; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8827. A communication from the Regulations Officer, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices; Accessible Pedestrian Signs" (RIN2125-AE83) received on August 27, 2002; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8828. A communication from the Regulations Officer, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Traffic Control Devices on Federal-Aid and Other Streets and Highways; Color Specifications for Retroreflective Sign and Pavement Marking Materials" (RIN2125-AE67) received on August 27, 2002; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8829. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Civil Works, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Howard A. Hanson Dam, Green River, Washington; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8830. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Designation of Critical Habitat for the Northern Great Plains Breeding Population of the Piping Plover" (RIN1018-AH96); to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8831. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army, Civil Works, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report regarding the Missouri River Mitigation Project; Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, and Nebraska; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8832. A communication from the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the monthly status report on the Commission's licensing activities and regulatory duties for April 2002; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8833. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Civil Works, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on navigation improvements for the Arthur Kill Channel-Howland Hook Marine Terminal, New York and New Jersey; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BINGAMAN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1028: A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain parcels of land acquired for the Blunt Reservoir and Pierre Canal Features of the initial stage of the Oahe Unit, James Division, South Dakota, to the Commission of Schools and Public Lands and the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks of the State of South Dakota for the purpose of mitigating lost wildlife habitat, on the condition that the current preferential leaseholders shall have an option to purchase the parcels from the Commission, and for other purposes. (Rept. No. 107-253).

S. 1638: A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the French Colonial Heritage Area in the State of Missouri as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes. (Rept. No. 107-254).

By Mr. BINGAMAN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 1944: A bill to revise the boundary of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park and Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes. (Rept. No. 107-255).

By Mr. BINGAMAN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment:

S. 2519: A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of Coltsville in the State of Connecticut for potential inclusion in the National Park System. (Rept. No. 107-256).

By Mr. BINGAMAN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 2571: A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resources study to evaluate the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Rim of the Valley Corridor as a unit of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. (Rept. No. 107-257).

By Mr. BINGAMAN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2598: A bill to enhance the criminal penalties for illegal trafficking of archaeological resources, and for other purposes. (Rept. No. 107-258).

H.R. 37: A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to update the feasibility and suitability studies of 4 national historic trails and provide for possible additions to such trails. (Rept. No. 107-259).

By Mr. BINGAMAN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

H.R. 38: A bill to provide for additional lands to be included within the boundaries of the Homestead National Monument of America in the State of Nebraska, and for other purposes. (Rept. No. 107-260).

By Mr. BINGAMAN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

H.R. 107: A bill to require that the Secretary of the Interior conduct a study to identify sites and resources, to recommend alternatives for commemorating and interpreting the Cold War, and for other purposes. (Rept. No. 107-261).

By Mr. BINGAMAN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

H.R. 1776: A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Buffalo Bayou National Heritage Area in west Houston, Texas. (Rept. No. 107-262).

H.R. 1814: To amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Metacomb-Monadnock-Mattabesett Trail extending through western Massachusetts and central Connecticut for study for potential addition to the National Trails System. (Rept. No. 107-263).

H.R. 1925: A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Waco Mammoth Site Area in Waco, Texas, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes. (Rept. No. 107-264).

By Mr. BAUCUS, from the Committee on Finance, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 321: A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide families of disabled children with the opportunity to purchase coverage under the medicaid program for such children, and for other purposes. (Rept. No. 107-265).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted on September 5, 2002:

By Mr. LEAHY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Reena Raggi, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit.

James Knoll Gardner, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Denny Wade King, of Tennessee, to be United States Marshal for the Middle District of Tennessee for the term of four years.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of committee was submitted on September 6, 2002 under the authority of an order of the Senate of September 5, 2002:

By Mr. BIDEN, from the Committee on Foreign Relations:

Treaty Doc. 96-53 CONVENTION OF THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (Exec. Rept. No. 107-9)

(TEXT OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION OF RATIFICATION)

Resolved (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein),

Section 1. Advice and Consent to Ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women, subject to Reservations, Understandings and Declarations.

The Senate advises and consents to the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 18, 1979, and signed on behalf of the United States of America on July 17, 1980 (Treaty Doc. 96-53), subject to the reservations in Section 2, the understandings in Section 3, and the declarations in Section 4.

Section 2. Reservations.

The advice and consent of the Senate is subject to the following reservations, which shall be included in the instrument of ratification:

(1) The Constitution and laws of the United States establish extensive protections against discrimination reaching all forms of

governmental activity as well as significant area of non-governmental activity. However, individual privacy and freedom from governmental interference in private conduct are also recognized as among the fundamental values of our free and democratic society. The United States understands that by its terms the Convention requires broad regulation of private conduct, in particular under Articles 2, 3 and 5. The United States does not accept any obligation under the Convention to enact legislation or to take any other action with respect to private conduct except as mandated by the Constitution and laws of the United States.

(2) Under current U.S. law and practice, women are permitted to volunteer for military service without restriction, and women in fact serve in all U.S. armed services, including in combat positions. However, the United States does not accept an obligation under the Convention to assign women to all military units and positions which may require engagement in direct combat.

(3) U.S. law provides strong protections against gender discrimination in the area of remuneration, including the right to equal pay for equal work in jobs that are substantially similar. However, the United States does not accept any obligation under this Convention to enact legislation establishing the doctrine of comparable worth as that term is understood in U.S. practice.

(4) Current U.S. law contains substantial provisions for maternity leave in many employment situations but does not require paid maternity leave. Therefore, the United States does not accept an obligation under Article 11(2)(b) to introduce maternity leave with pay or with comparable social benefits without loss of former employment, seniority or social allowances.

Section 3. Understandings.

The advice and consent of the Senate is subject to the following understandings, which shall be included in the instrument of ratification:

(1) The United States understands that this convention shall be implemented by the Federal Government to the extent that it exercises jurisdiction over the matters covered therein, and otherwise by the State and local governments. To the extent that State and local governments exercise jurisdiction over such matters, the Federal Government shall, as necessary, take appropriate measures to ensure the fulfillment of this Convention.

(2) The Constitution and laws of the United States contain extensive protections of individual freedom of speech, expression, and association. Accordingly, the United States does not accept any obligation under this Convention, in particular under Articles 5, 7, 8 and 13, to restrict those rights, through the adoption of legislation or any other measures, to the extent that they are protected by the Constitution and laws of the United States.

(3) The United States understands that Article 12 permits States Parties to determine which health care services are appropriate in connection with family planning, pregnancy, confinement and the post-natal period, as well as when the provision of free services is necessary, and does not mandate the provision of particular services on a cost-free basis.

(4) Noting in this Convention shall be construed to reflect or create any right to abortion and in no case should abortion be promoted as a method of family planning.

(5) The United States understands that the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women was established under Article 17 "for the purpose of considering the progress made in the implementation" of the Convention. The United States understands that the Committee on the Elimination of

Discrimination Against Women, as set forth in Article 21, reports annually to the General Assembly on its activities, and "may make suggestions and general recommendations based on the examination of reports and information received from the States Parties." Accordingly, the United States understands that the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women has no authority to compel actions by States Parties.

Section 4. Declarations.

The advice and consent of the Senate is subject to the following declarations:

(1) The United States declares that, for purposes of its domestic law, the provisions of the Convention are non-self-executing.

With reference to Article 29(2), the United States declares that it does not consider itself bound by the provisions of Article 29(1). The specific consent of the United States to the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice concerning disputes over the interpretation or application of this Convention is required on a case-by-case basis.

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. DEWINE (for himself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2913. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide health insurance protections for individuals who are living organ donors; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER:

S. 2914. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for appropriate incentive payments under the medicare program for physicians' services furnished in underserved areas; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. TORRICELLI, and Mr. CORZINE):

S. 2915. A bill to provide for cancellation of student loan indebtedness for spouses, surviving joint debtors, and parents of individuals who died or became permanently and totally disabled due to injuries suffered in the terrorist attack on September 11, 2001; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BIDEN:

S. 2916. A bill to put a college education within reach, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. BAYH, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. CARNAHAN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. DEWINE, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. BREAU):

S. Res. 324. A resolution congratulating the National Farmers Union for 100 years of service to family farmers, ranchers, and rural communities; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. REID (for himself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. Con. Res. 138. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Health And Human Services should conduct or support research on certain tests to screen for ovarian cancer, and Federal health care programs and group and individual health plans should cover the tests if demonstrated to be effective, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 155

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 155, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to eliminate an inequity in the applicability of early retirement eligibility requirements to military reserve technicians.

S. 561

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 561, a bill to provide that the same health insurance premium conversion arrangements afforded to Federal employees be made available to Federal annuitants and members and retired members of the uniformed services.

S. 572

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 572, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to extend modifications to DSH allotments provided under the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of 2000.

S. 611

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 611, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide that the reduction in social security benefits which are required in the case of spouses and surviving spouses who are also receiving certain Government pensions shall be equal to the amount by which two-thirds of the total amount of the combined monthly benefit (before reduction) and monthly pension exceeds \$1,200, adjusted for inflation.

S. 677

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 677, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the required use of certain principal repayments on mortgage subsidy bond financing to redeem bonds, to modify the purchase price limitation under mortgage subsidy bond rules based on median family income, and for other purposes.

S. 874

At the request of Mr. TORRICELLI, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 874, a bill to require health plans to include infertility benefits, and for other purposes.