

for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.

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-295. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of the State of Michigan relative to low-interest loans for military personnel called to active duty; to the Committee on Armed Services.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 283

Whereas, The recent events in our country have served to remind us of the degree to which our nation relies upon the sacrifices of our men and women in the military. With the call to active duty of thousands of members of National Guard and reserve units for overseas deployment and an increasing range of domestic security assignments, it is clear that our military strength is rooted in both the professional ranks and those working in civilian life while serving as ready reserves; and

Whereas, The men and women called to active duty to help the country respond to a crisis such as we have faced since September 11, 2001, do so at great cost to their families and, often, their careers. The uncertain length of the activation in the current situation can make the return to active duty a devastating blow to the finances of a family or a small business. When the person called to duty is the primary breadwinner in a family, for example, as is often the case, the family can face many difficulties. The mortgage payments, food and utility bills, and costs of raising children do not go away when the regular paycheck is replaced by a military paycheck that is usually far less; and

Whereas, While it would be impossible to cover the entire burden facing many families, it would be helpful for the federal government to do all it can to address this issue. A low-interest loan program for those whose active duty pay is less than civilian levels can provide short-term help with the monthly bills. For families who have sent someone to fight terrorism, whether overseas or on assignments at airports or border crossings, this would be an appropriate step to take: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the house of representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to provide a program of low-interest loans for military personnel called to active duty; and be it further

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

POM-296. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Vermont relative to the Vermont National Guard; to the Committee on Armed Services.

SENATE RESOLUTION 19

Whereas, within days of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington, DC, the nation's governors activated National Guard soldiers and airmen to augment security at 422 of the nation's international airports; and

Whereas, in true state-federal partnership, National Guard forces are providing aerial port security under the command and control of the sovereign states, territories, and the District of Columbia and the federal gov-

ernment is funding such duties "in the service of the United States" under title 32 of the United States Code, section 502(f), hereinafter referred to as "title 32 duty"; and

Whereas, title 32 duty has been used, inter alia, for more than twenty years for National Guard full-time staffing; for National Guard support for local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies under governors' counter-drug plans for more than twelve years; for National Guard civil support team technical assistance for local first responders for more than two years; and for aerial port security following the attacks of September 11; and of particular note, the National Guard counter-drug program has long included title 32 support for United States Customs, Border Patrol, and Immigration and Naturalization Service activities at United States ports of entry; and

Whereas, in the aftermath of the September 11 attacks, increased security and inadequate federal staffing have limited the flow of persons, goods, and services across our nation's borders, and these factors have contributed to a serious weakening of the American and Canadian economies, especially in states such as Vermont; and

Whereas, the governors of northern tier border states wrote President Bush in November 2001 offering to provide title 32 National Guard augmentation for United States Customs, Border Patrol, and Immigration and Naturalization Service operations at United States ports of entry, and such relief could have been, and still can be, effected within days of acceptance by the federal government; and

Whereas, there is still no relief at our borders due to inaction on the governors' offer of title 32 National Guard assistance and conflicting Department of Defense proposals to federalize the National Guard or otherwise enhance border security with active duty military personnel instead of title 32 National Guard members; and

Whereas, federalizing the National Guard under title 10 U.S.C. would degrade the combat readiness of units from which guardsmen would be mobilized, interfere with effective state force management, and prevent personal accommodations for soldiers and their civilian employers; and

Whereas, stationing federal military forces at the United States-Canada border would be an unprecedented unilateral action by the United States; and

Whereas, the nation's border states need prompt relief which can best be provided by title 32 National Guard forces being deployed to assist lead federal agencies at the borders "in the service of the United States", but under continued state command and control; and

Whereas, the Vermont State Senate opposes federalization of the National Guard or assignment of federal military forces for United States border security: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the Senate of the State of Vermont respectfully requests that Congress assure prompt augmentation of lead federal agencies at the borders by accepting the governors' offer of National Guard forces under state command and control pursuant to 32 U.S.C. sec. 502(f), and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to send copies of this resolution to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of Vermont.

POM-297. A resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Friendswood of the State of Texas relative to the Corps of Engi-

neers General Reevaluation Report on Clear Creek; to the Committee on Armed Services.

POM-298. A resolution adopted by the California State Lands Commission opposing inclusion in any energy bill of a requirement that the Department of the Interior prepare a comprehensive inventory of oil and gas resources in the outer continental shelf and use harmful seismic testing; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-299. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Washington relative to cleanup of the Hanford Reservation; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

ENGROSSED SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8023

Whereas, The Hanford Reservation in Southeast Washington state presents an unprecedented environmental cleanup challenge resulting from decades of defense production that served to bring an early end to World War II and to keep our nation safe during the Cold War years; and

Whereas, The Hanford Reservation is located near the Columbia River, which irrigates our farmland and is the lifeblood of Washington state; and

Whereas, It is imperative that cleanup of the Hanford Reservation be sustained and completed as expeditiously as possible to preserve the integrity of the environment and the safety of generations to come; and

Whereas, Significant cleanup progress is being made at Hanford, including decommissioning and deactivating more than 35 buildings; resolving safety issues associated with Hanford's 177 underground waste storage tanks; stabilizing plutonium in the Plutonium Finishing Plant; moving spent nuclear fuel out of the K-Basins and away from the river to safer storage in the central plateau; shipping transuranic waste to New Mexico for permanent storage; and moving 600,000 tons of contaminated soil away from the river; and

Whereas, The President's proposed fiscal year 2003 budget threatens the cleanup effort and jeopardizes the Department of Energy's ability to comply with federal and state laws and meet the compliance commitments set forth in the Tri-Party Agreement between the State of Washington, The United States Environmental Protection Agency, and the United States Department of Energy; and

Whereas, Budget-driven delays in Hanford cleanup activities will compromise the success of the project resulting in greater costs to taxpayers, another in a string of broken promises, and public outrage at this continuing, unaddressed threat to public health and the environment; Now, therefore

Your Memorialists respectfully pray that you fully fund the needs of a sustained environmental cleanup in keeping with federal and state laws and the Tri-Party Agreement, and providing for the protection of the great Columbia River and the citizens of the state of Washington, be it

Resolved, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States, the Secretary of the United States Department of Energy, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of Washington.

POM-300. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Washington relative to support for an oil spill prevention tugboat in the Strait of Juan de Fuca; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8004

Whereas, The marine waters located in the Strait of Juan de Fuca between the State of Washington and Canada are some of the

most pristine and diverse marine waters in the United States and include irreplaceable natural resources; and

Whereas, The area includes such national treasures as the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary and the Olympic National Park, for which the Federal government acts as the trustee thereof; and

Whereas, The area is home to five federally recognized Indian reservations for which the Federal government has the responsibility of protecting treaty rights over tribal fishing; and

Whereas, The area is the habitat for several threatened and endangered species as designated by the Federal government; and

Whereas, The marine waters are used by a large portion of the Federal government's strategic naval fleet, which poses a risk of oil spills; and

Whereas, The marine waters are used for transportation of petroleum products that are used to meet the energy needs in the Western United States; and

Whereas, These marine waters are of great environmental and economic importance to not only the State of Washington, but also to the people of Canada and the United States; and

Whereas, The marine vessel traffic on these waters presents risks of accidents and oil spills that would be devastating to the environment and to the economy; and

Whereas, The safety of these waters is currently substantially improved on a temporary basis by an oil spill prevention tugboat stationed at the westward end of the Strait, the cost of which is currently borne solely by the State of Washington: Now, therefore

Your memorialists respectfully pray that Congress appropriate sufficient budgetary support to permanently station an oil spill prevention tugboat, of adequate size, and with rescue, fire fighting, spill response, and lifesaving capabilities, at the westward end of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, be it

Resolved, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of Washington.

POM-301. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of the State of Michigan relative to the Great Lakes, Great Lakes States; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 265

Whereas, The Great Lakes states have taken many steps to protect the lakes. Most recently, Annex 2001 to the Great Lakes Charter has demonstrated the concern of the people of this region that the stewardship for this fresh water resource must remain where it belongs—with the people of the Great Lakes; and

Whereas, The Great Lakes governors work closely with one another and their Canadian provincial counterparts on protecting the Great Lakes on a wide range of issues related to water management and a host of economic matters that strongly influence the lakes. This cooperation mirrors the shared stake in the quality of the lakes and reflects the appropriateness of policies that clearly affirm the authority of the Great Lakes Governors pursuant to the Great Lakes Charter; and

Whereas, Federal law states: It is hereby determined and declared to be in the public interest that (1) title to and ownership of the lands beneath navigable waters within the boundaries of their respective states and the

natural resources with such lands and water and (2) the right and power to manage, administer, lease, develop, and use the said lands and natural resources all in accordance with applicable state law be, and they are hereby, subject to the provisions hereof, recognized, confirmed, established, and vested in and assigned to the respective states or the persons who were on June 5, 1950, entitled thereto under the law of the respective states in which the land is located, and the respective granters, lessees, or successors in interest thereof; and

Whereas, The Great Lakes states have demonstrated that we are an effective and efficient manager of Great Lakes water resources. We implore the federal government to continue to allow the Great Lakes states the ability to control the Great Lakes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the house of representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to increase protections for the Great Lakes and to affirm the authority of the Great Lakes governors on matters or the usage of Great Lakes waters; and be it further

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

Adopted by the House of Representatives, January 24, 2002

POM-302. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of the State of Michigan relative to restoration and protection of the Great Lakes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 187

Whereas, The waters of the Great Lakes constitute a resource of the utmost importance of the future of our nation, as they interact with the international community. The quality and quantity of this fresh water treasure are vital to the health and commercial well-being of millions of Americans; and

Whereas, Congress over the years has provided support for numerous projects and conserve our natural resources, with the most recent being legislation to fund the restoration of the Everglades and the South Florida ecosystem. This legislation includes several billion dollars in funding to the state of Florida. While the Everglades and the South Florida ecosystem are clearly a unique resource, the Great Lakes ecosystem has a prevailing international and national economic significance due to the shipping of raw materials, industrial products, and food, not to mention being the home of 20 percent of the world's fresh surface water, and 95 percent of the United States' fresh surface water; and

Whereas, With the Great Lakes at the heart of American industrial and agricultural production, and the source of recreation for millions, the United States of America must do all it can to assure the viability of the health of the lakes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the house of representatives, That we call upon the Congress of the United States to fund the Great Lakes Basin with similar appropriations that have been afforded the Florida Everglades and the South Florida ecosystem; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representative, the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, and the United States Secretary of the Interior.

POM-303. A notification from the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Alaska of the State's gratitude and support for the war on terrorism and for efforts to support democracies and promote peace worldwide; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 12978 WITH RESPECT TO SIGNIFICANT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS CENTERED IN COLOMBIA—PM 52

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

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1622(d) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the Federal Register and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. Consistent with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the emergency declared with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia is to continue in effect beyond October 21, 2003, to the Federal Register for publication. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the Federal Register on October 18, 2002.

The circumstances that led to the declaration on October 21, 1995, of a national emergency have not been resolved. The actions of significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States and to cause unparalleled violence, corruption, and harm in the United States and abroad. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to maintain economic pressure on significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia by blocking their property or interests in property that are in the United States or within the possession or control of United States persons and by depriving them of access to the United States market and financial system.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, October 16, 2003.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. SHELBY, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, without amendment:

S. 1753. An original bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act in order to prevent identity theft, to improve the use of and consumer access to consumer reports, to enhance the accuracy of consumer reports, to