

General Accounting Office reports listed or released in the month of March 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GREGG, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, without amendment:

S. 314. A bill to make improvements in the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (Rept. No. 108-45).

### 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. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 1039. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to enhance the security of wastewater treatment works; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SHELBY (for himself, Mr. MILLER, and Mr. SMITH):

S. 1040. A bill to promote freedom, fairness, and economic opportunity for families by reducing the power and reach of the Federal establishment; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 1041. A bill to prohibit oil and gas drilling in Finger Lakes National Forest in the State of New York; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. COLEMAN:

S. 1042. A bill for the relief of Tchisou Tho; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. INHOFE:

S. 1043. A bill to provide for the security of commercial nuclear power plants and facilities designated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself and Mr. DEWINE):

S. Res. 141. A resolution recognizing "Inventing Flight: The Centennial Celebration", a celebration in Dayton, Ohio of the centennial of Wilbur and Orville Wright's first flight; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 53

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 53, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow small business employers a credit against income tax for employee health insurance expenses paid or incurred by the employer.

S. 253

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Missouri

(Mr. TALENT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 253, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to exempt qualified current and former law enforcement officers from State laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed handguns.

S. 470

At the request of Mr. SARBANES, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) and the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 470, a bill to extend the authority for the construction of a memorial to Martin Luther King, Jr.

S. 518

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) were added as cosponsors of S. 518, a bill to increase the supply of pancreatic islet cells for research, to provide better coordination of Federal efforts and information on islet cell transplantation, and to collect the data necessary to move islet cell transplantation from an experimental procedure to a standard therapy.

S. 569

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 569, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the Medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 575

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 575, a bill to amend the Native American Languages Act to provide for the support of Native American language survival schools, and for other purposes.

S. 596

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 596, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage the investment of foreign earnings within the United States for productive business investments and job creation.

S. 601

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 601, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire the McLoughlin House National Historic Site in Oregon City, Oregon, for inclusion in the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, and for other purposes.

S. 623

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 623, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal civilian and military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pretax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums.

S. 632

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 632, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand coverage of medical nutrition therapy services under the Medicare program for beneficiaries with cardiovascular disease.

S. 664

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 664, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the research credit, to increase the rates of the alternative incremental credit, and to provide an alternative simplified credit for qualified research expenses.

S. 724

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 724, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to exempt certain rocket propellants from prohibitions under that title on explosive materials.

S. 736

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 736, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to strengthen enforcement of provisions relating to animal fighting, and for other purposes.

S. 752

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 752, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat distributions from publicly traded partnerships as qualifying income of regulated investment companies, and for other purposes.

S. 796

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 796, a bill to provide for the appointment of a Director of State and Local Government Coordination within the Department of Homeland Security and to transfer the Office for Domestic Preparedness to the Office of the Secretary of Homeland Security.

S. 818

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 818, a bill to ensure the independence and nonpartisan operation of the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration.

S. 884

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. TALENT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 884, a bill to amend the Consumer Credit Protection Act to assure meaningful disclosures of the terms of rental-purchase agreements, including disclosures of all costs to consumers under such agreements, to provide certain substantive rights to consumers

under such agreements, and for other purposes.

S. 893

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 893, a bill to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to establish provisions with respect to religious accommodation in employment, and for other purposes.

S. 895

At the request of Mr. NICKLES, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 895, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to include wireless telecommunications equipment in the definition of qualified technological equipment for purposes of determining the depreciation treatment of such equipment.

S. 950

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 950, a bill to allow travel between the United States and Cuba.

S. 979

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 979, a bill to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to require enhanced disclosures of employee stock options, to require a study on the economic impact of broad-based employee stock option plans, and for other purposes.

S. 990

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 990, a bill to amend title 32, United States Code, to increase the maximum Federal share of the costs of State programs under the National Guard Challenge Program, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 7

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 7, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the sharp escalation of anti-Semitic violence within many participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) is of profound concern and efforts should be undertaken to prevent future occurrences.

S. RES. 136

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 136, a resolution recognizing the 140th anniversary of the founding of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, and congratulating members and officers of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers for the union's many achievements.

S. RES. 140

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr.

GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 140, a resolution designating the week of August 10, 2003, as "National Health Center Week".

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SHELBY (for himself, Mr. MILLER, and Mr. SMITH):

S. 1040. A bill to promote freedom, fairness, and economic opportunity for families by reducing the power and reach of the Federal establishment; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise today to once again introduce my flat tax bill, S. 1040. Although I fully support the President's plan for economic growth, I believe that we can do even better. Like the President's plan, my bill eliminates the double taxation of dividends. However, instead of retaining the current progressive tax rates that impede economic growth, S. 1040 creates a single rate for all taxpayers—seventeen percent when the tax is fully implemented—and gives tax-free treatment to all savings and investment, not just dividends.

A major reason why I support the flat tax is because it will place more money into the hands of hardworking Americans and will allow individuals—not the government—to decide how to spend their money. Lowering taxes gives Americans more money for a large number of things such as monthly bills, insurance coverage, educational costs, prescription drugs, and family getaways. Lowering taxes also makes it easier for Americans to plan for their future through private savings. Although I strongly believe in the importance of private savings, my bill leaves the Social Security system intact and, in fact, provides seniors with more money by repealing the current tax on Social Security benefits.

I have said many times before that our current progressive tax system is unfair in that it punishes success. The only way to ensure true fairness is to adopt a single tax rate for all taxpayers. Transitioning to such a tax will not only increase the fairness of the tax code, but it will also increase the incentives to work and thus boost economic growth.

The flat tax is not only fairer than the current income tax, but it's also undeniably less complex. Under a flat tax, taxpayers would be able to fit their return on a form the size of a post card. Rather than spending hours pouring over convoluted IRS forms, or resorting to professional tax assistance, the flat tax allows taxpayers to determine their taxes quickly and easily. Paying taxes may never be a pleasant experience, but at least under a flat tax it wouldn't be mind-boggling.

I fully realize that the bill I am introducing today is a monumental shift from the current tax code. However, we must not allow the enormity of the task to deter us from enacting better, more efficient tax laws. I therefore

urge my colleagues to join me in support of this legislation.

By Mr. COLEMAN:

S. 1042. A bill for the relief of Tchisou Tho; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill for the relief of Tchisou Tho be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1042

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS FOR TCHISOU THO.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b) of section 201 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, Tchisou Tho shall be eligible for the issuance of an immigrant visa or for adjustment of status to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence upon filing an application for issuance of an immigrant visa under section 204 of that Act or for adjustment of status to lawful permanent resident.

(b) ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS.—If Tchisou Tho enters the United States before the filing deadline specified in subsection (c), Tchisou Tho shall be considered to have entered and remained lawfully and shall be eligible for adjustment of status under section 245 of the Immigration and Nationality Act as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION AND PAYMENT OF FEES.—Subsections (a) and (b) shall apply only if the application for issuance of an immigrant visa or the application for adjustment of status are filed with appropriate fees within 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(d) REDUCTION OF IMMIGRANT VISA NUMBERS.—Upon the granting of an immigrant visa or permanent residence to Tchisou Tho, the Secretary of State shall instruct the proper officer to reduce by 1, during the current or next following fiscal year, the total number of immigrant visas that are made available to natives of the country of the aliens' birth under section 203(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act or, if applicable, the total number of immigrant visas that are made available to natives of the country of the aliens' birth under section 202(e) of that Act.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 141—RECOGNIZING "INVENTING FLIGHT: THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION", A CELEBRATION IN DAYTON, OHIO OF THE CENTENNIAL OF WILBUR AND ORVILLE WRIGHT'S FIRST FLIGHT

Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself and Mr. DEWINE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 141

Whereas 2003 marks the centennial of Wilbur and Orville Wright's achievement of the first controlled, powered flight in history;

Whereas Wilbur and Orville Wright grew up and worked at a bicycle shop in Dayton, Ohio, where they developed, built, and refined the first successful, heavier-than-air, manned, powered aircraft;