

Harvest Specifications for the Skate Fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska" received on October 14, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-9743. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries; Closure of the Directed Fishery for *Illex Squid*" received on October 14, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-9744. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, Coast Guard, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety/Security Zone Regulations: [Including 237 Regulations]" (RIN1625-AA00 & AA87) received on November 9, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of October 11, 2004, the following reports of committees were submitted on November 10, 2004:

By Mr. CAMPBELL, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 297. A bill to provide reforms and resources to the Bureau of Indian Affairs to improve the Federal acknowledgement process, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-403).

By Mr. CAMPBELL, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 519. A bill to establish a Native American-owned financial entity to provide financial services to Indian tribes, Native American organizations, and Native Americans, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-404).

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

S. 702. A bill to amend the Native Hawaiian Health Care Improvement Act to revise and extend that Act (Rept. No. 108-405).

By Mr. CAMPBELL, from the Committee on Indian Affairs:

Report to accompany S. 2843, A bill to make technical corrections to laws relating to Native Americans, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-406).

By Mr. MCCAIN, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2647. A bill to establish a national ocean policy, to set forth the missions of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to ensure effective interagency coordination, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-407).

By Ms. COLLINS, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, with amendments:

S. 2275. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) to provide for homeland security assistance for high-risk nonprofit organizations, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-408).

By Mr. MCCAIN, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1798. A bill to provide for comprehensive fire safety standards for upholstered furniture, mattresses, bedclothing, and candles.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. COLLINS, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 593. A bill to ensure that a Federal employee who takes leave without pay in order to perform service as a member of the uniformed services or member of the National Guard shall continue to receive pay in an amount which, when taken together with the pay and allowances such individual is receiving for such service, will be no less than the basic pay such individual would then be receiving if no interruption in employment had occurred (Rept. No. 108-409).

By Ms. COLLINS, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, with an amendment:

S. 2409. A bill to provide for continued health benefits coverage for certain Federal employees, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-410).

By Mr. CAMPBELL, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 556. A bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to revise and extend that Act (Rept. No. 108-411).

S. 1696. A bill to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to provide further self-governance by Indian tribes (Rept. No. 108-412).

By Mr. CAMPBELL, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with amendments:

S. 1715. A bill to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to provide further self-governance by Indian tribes (Rept. No. 108-413).

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. LUGAR:

S. 2980. A bill to improve authorities to address urgent nonproliferation crises and United States nonproliferation operations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. LUGAR:

S. 2981. A bill to provide for the elimination and safeguarding of conventional arms; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SANTORUM:

S. 2982. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make a stillborn child an insurable dependent for purposes of the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance program; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 2983. A bill to establish hospice demonstration projects and a hospice grant program for beneficiaries under the Medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 2984. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care medicine at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools and to promote the development of faculty careers as academic palliative specialists who emphasize teaching; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER:

S. 2985. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income the gain from the sale of a principal residence by certain employees of the intelligence community; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. FRIST:

S. 2986. A bill to amend title 31 of the United States Code to increase the public debt limit; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. BURNS (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. DORGAN):

S. 2987. A bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to expand the country of origin labeling for certain covered commodities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. SANTORUM):

S. Res. 469. A resolution supporting the goals and ideas of National Time Out Day to promote the adoption of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations' universal protocol for preventing errors in the operating room; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. LEAHY):

S. Con. Res. 145. A concurrent resolution to correct the enrollment of H.R. 1417; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 171

At the request of Mr. DAYTON, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 171, a bill to amend the title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide payment to medicare ambulance suppliers of the full costs of providing such services, and for other purposes.

S. 198

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 198, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an income tax credit for the provision of homeownership and community development, and for other purposes.

S. 453

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 453, a bill to authorize the Health Resources and Services Administration and the National Cancer Institute to make grants for model programs to provide to individuals of health disparity populations prevention, early detection, treatment, and appropriate follow-up care services for cancer and chronic diseases, and to make grants regarding patient navigators to assist individuals of health disparity populations in receiving such services.

S. 514

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 514, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the 1993 income tax increase on Social Security benefits.

S. 556

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

(Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 556, a bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to revise and extend that Act.

S. 884

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) 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. 983

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 983, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to make grants for the development and operation of research centers regarding environmental factors that may be related to the etiology of breast cancer.

S. 1408

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1408, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the deduction for the travel expenses of a taxpayer's spouse who accompanies the taxpayer on business travel.

S. 1557

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1557, a bill to authorize the extension of nondiscriminatory treatment (normal trade relations treatment) to the products of Armenia.

S. 1840

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1840, a bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to encourage owners and operations of privately-held farm and ranch land to voluntarily make their land available for access by the public under programs administered by States.

S. 1925

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1925, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to establish an efficient system to enable employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, to provide for mandatory injunctions for unfair labor practices during organizing efforts, and for other purposes.

S. 2038

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) were

added as cosponsors of S. 2038, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for influenza vaccine awareness campaign, ensure a sufficient influenza vaccine supply, and prepare for an influenza pandemic or epidemic, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage vaccine production capacity, and for other purposes.

S. 2298

At the request of Mr. BREAUX, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2298, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the operation of employee stock ownership plans, and for other purposes.

S. 2352

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2352, a bill to prevent the slaughter of horses in and from the United States for human consumption by prohibiting the slaughter of horses for human consumption and by prohibiting the trade and transport of horseflesh and live horses intended for human consumption, and for other purposes.

S. 2395

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH), the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX), the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE), the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 2395, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centenary of the bestowal of the Nobel Peace Prize on President Theodore Roosevelt, and for other purposes.

S. 2468

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2468, a bill to reform the postal laws of the United States.

S. 2542

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2542, a bill to provide for review of determinations on whether schools and local educational agencies made adequate yearly progress for the 2002-2003 school year taking into consideration subsequent regulations and guidance applicable to those determinations, and for other purposes.

S. 2553

At the request of Mr. DODD, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr.

DEWINE) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. DOLE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2553, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of screening ultrasound for abdominal aortic aneurysms under part B of the medicare program.

S. 2568

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH), the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID), the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 2568, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the tercentenary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin, and for other purposes.

S. 2602

At the request of Mr. DODD, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2602, a bill to provide for a circulating quarter dollar coin program to honor 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.

S. 2614

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2614, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the benefits under the medicare program for beneficiaries with kidney disease, and for other purposes.

S. 2635

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of S. 2635, a bill to establish an intergovernmental grant program to identify and develop homeland security information, equipment, capabilities, technologies, and services to further the homeland security needs of the United States and to address the

homeland security needs of Federal, State, and local governments.

S. 2647

At the request of Mr. HOLLINGS, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2647, a bill to establish a national ocean policy, to set forth the missions of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to ensure effective interagency coordination, and for other purposes.

S. 2648

At the request of Mr. HOLLINGS, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2648, a bill to strengthen programs relating to ocean science and training by providing improved advice and coordination of efforts, greater interagency cooperation, and the strengthening and expansion of related programs administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

S. 2722

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2722, a bill to maintain and expand the steel import licensing and monitoring program.

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2722, *supra*.

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2722, *supra*.

S. 2731

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2731, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit certain interstate conduct relating to exotic animals.

S. 2744

At the request of Mr. SUNUNU, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 2744, a bill to authorize the minting and issuance of a Presidential \$1 coin series.

S. 2759

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2759, a bill to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to modify the rules relating to the availability and method of redistribution of unexpended SCHIP allotments, and for other purposes.

S. 2789

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2789, a bill to reauthorize the grant program of the Department of Justice for reentry of offenders into the community, to establish a task force on Federal programs and activities relating to the reentry of offenders into the community, and for other purposes.

S. 2794

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) were added as cosponsors of S. 2794, a bill to improve elementary and secondary education.

S. 2817

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2817, a bill to provide for the redesign of the reverse of the Lincoln 1-cent coin in 2009 in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of President Abraham Lincoln.

S. 2828

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2828, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to define political committee and clarify when organizations described in section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1968 must register as political committees, and for other purposes.

S. 2849

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2849, a bill to provide certain enhancements to the Montgomery GI Bill Program for certain individuals who serve as members of the Armed Forces after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, and for other purposes.

S. 2869

At the request of Mr. TALENT, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2869, a bill to respond to the illegal production, distribution, and use of methamphetamines in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2886

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2886, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income certain hazard mitigation assistance.

At the request of Mr. BOND, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM) and the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) were added as cosponsors of S. 2886, *supra*.

S. 2889

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. NICKLES), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL), the Senator from

Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN), the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2889, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins celebrating the recovery and restoration of the American bald eagle, the national symbol of the United States, to America's lands, waterways, and skies and the great importance of the designation of the American bald eagle as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and for other purposes.

S. 2902

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of S. 2902, a bill to ensure an abundant and affordable supply of highly nutritious fruits, vegetables, and other specialty crops for American consumers and international markets by enhancing the competitiveness of United States-grown specialty crops.

S. 2908

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2908, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to strengthen prohibitions against animal fighting, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 136

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 136, a concurrent resolution honoring and memorializing the passengers and crew of United Airlines Flight 93.

S. CON. RES. 143

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 143, a concurrent resolution recognizing community organizations of public access defibrillation programs.

S. RES. 164

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 164, a resolution reaffirming support of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and anticipating the commemoration of the 15th anniversary of the enactment of the Genocide Convention Implementation Act of 1987 (the Proxmire Act) on November 4, 2003.

S. RES. 365

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S.

Res. 365, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the detention of Tibetan political prisoners by the Government of the People's Republic of China.

S. RES. 392

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 392, a resolution conveying the sympathy of the Senate to the families of the young women murdered in the State of Chihuahua, Mexico, and encouraging increased United States involvement in bringing an end to these crimes.

S. RES. 456

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) and the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 456, a resolution designating October 14, 2004, as "Lights On Afterschool! Day".

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LUGAR:

S. 2980. A bill to improve authorities to address urgent nonproliferation crises and United States nonproliferation operations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. LUGAR:

S. 2981. A bill to provide for the elimination and safeguarding of conventional arms; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I rise to introduce two new bills to strengthen U.S. nonproliferation efforts. One of these is a new Conventional Arms Threat Reduction Act. The other is the fourth installment of the Nunn-Lugar legislation, the nonproliferation program that Sam Nunn and I sponsored in 1991.

In that year, Sam Nunn and I authored the Soviet Nuclear Threat Reduction or Nunn-Lugar Act, which established the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program. That program has provided U.S. funding and expertise to help the former Soviet Union safeguard and dismantle their enormous stockpiles of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, means of delivery and related materials. In 1997, Senator Nunn and I were joined by Senator DOMENICI in introducing the Defense Against Weapons of Mass Destruction Act, which expanded Nunn-Lugar authorities in the former Soviet Union and provided WMD expertise to first responders in American cities. In 2003, Congress adopted the Nunn-Lugar Expansion Act, which authorized the Nunn-Lugar program to operate outside the former Soviet Union to address proliferation threats. The bill that I am introducing today would strengthen the Nunn-Lugar program and other nonproliferation efforts and provide them with greater flexibility to address emerging threats.

To date, the Nunn-Lugar program has deactivated or destroyed: 6,462 nuclear warheads; 550 ICBMs; 469 ICBM silos; 13 ICBM mobile missile launchers; 135 bombers; 733 nuclear air-to-surface missiles; 408 submarine missile launchers; 530 submarine launched missiles; 27 nuclear submarines; and 194 nuclear test tunnels.

The Nunn-Lugar program also facilitated the removal of all nuclear weapons from Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan. After the fall of the Soviet Union, these three nations emerged as the third, fourth, and eighth largest nuclear powers in the world. Today, all three are nuclear-weapons-free as a result of cooperative efforts under the Nunn-Lugar program. In addition, Nunn-Lugar is the primary tool through which the United States is working with Russian authorities to identify, safeguard, and destroy Russia's massive chemical and biological warfare capacity.

These successes were never a foregone conclusion. Today, even after more than 12 years, creativity and constant vigilance are required to ensure that the Nunn-Lugar program is not encumbered by bureaucratic obstacles or undercut by political disagreements.

I have devoted much time and effort to overseeing and accelerating the Nunn-Lugar program. Uncounted individuals of great dedication serving on the ground in the former Soviet Union and in our Government have made this program work. Nevertheless, from the beginning, we have encountered resistance to the Nunn-Lugar concept in both the United States and Russia. In our own country, opposition often has been motivated by false perceptions that Nunn-Lugar money is foreign assistance or by beliefs that Defense Department funds should only be spent on troops, weapons, or other war-fighting capabilities. Until recently, we also faced a general disinterest in nonproliferation that made gaining support for Nunn-Lugar funding and activities an annual struggle.

The attacks of September 11 changed the political discourse on this subject. We have turned a corner—the public, the media, and political candidates are paying more attention now. In a remarkable moment in the first Presidential debate, both President Bush and Senator KERRY agree that the number one national security threat facing the United States was the prospect that weapons of mass destruction could fall into the hands of terrorists.

The 9/11 Commission weighed in with another important endorsement of the Nunn-Lugar program, saying that "Preventing the proliferation of [weapons of mass destruction] warrants a maximum effort—by strengthening counterproliferation efforts, expanding the Proliferation Security Initiative, and supporting the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program." the report went on to say that "Nunn-Lugar . . . is now in need of expansion, improvement, and resources."

The first bill that I am introducing today is "The Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Act of 2004." It would underscore the bipartisan consensus on Nunn-Lugar by streamlining and accelerating Nunn-Lugar implementation. It would grant more flexibility to the President and the Secretary of Defense to undertake non-proliferation projects outside the former Soviet Union. It also would eliminate Congressionally imposed conditions on Nunn-Lugar assistance that in the past have forced the suspension of time-sensitive nonproliferation projects. The purpose of the bill is to reduce bureaucratic red tape and friction within our Government that hinder effective responses to nonproliferation opportunities and emergencies.

For example, recently Albania appealed for help in destroying 16 tons of chemical agent left over from the cold war. In August, I visited this remote storage facility, the location of which still remains classified. Nunn-Lugar officials are working closely with Albanian leaders to destroy this dangerous stockpile. But the experience also is illustrative of the need to reduce bureaucratic delays. The package of documents to be reviewed by the President took some 11 weeks to be finalized and readied for President Bush. From beginning to end, the bureaucratic process to authorize dismantlement of chemical weapons in Albania took more than 3 months. Fortunately, the situation in Albania was not a crisis, but we may not be able to afford these timelines in future nonproliferation emergencies.

The second piece of legislation that I am introducing is the "Conventional Arms Threat Reduction Act of 2004" or "CATRA." This legislation is modeled on the original Nunn-Lugar Act. Its purpose is to provide the Department of State with a focused response to the threat posed by vulnerable stockpiles of conventional weapons around the world, including tactical missiles and man portable air defense systems, or MANPADS. Such missiles and other weapons systems could be used by terrorists to attack commercial and military targets, and U.S. facilities here at home and abroad. Reports suggest that Al Qaeda has attempted to acquire these kinds of weapons. In addition, unsecured conventional weapons stockpiles are a major obstacle to peace, reconstruction, and economic development in regions suffering from instability.

My bill declares it to be the policy of the United States to seek out surplus and unguarded stocks of conventional armaments, including small arms, light weapons, MANPADS, and tactical missile systems for elimination. It authorizes the Department of State to carry out an accelerated global effort to destroy such weapons and to cooperate with allies and international organizations when possible. The Secretary of State is charged with devising a strategy for prioritizing, on a country-