

working with the Medicare program. She remained with Medicare when the Health Care Financing Administration was formed in 1977, and continued with work in Medicare, Medicaid and other Federal health programs.

Elaine graduated from Rutgers University and received her Master of Arts Degree from the University of Virginia and an Executive Master of Business Administration from Loyola College.

For the past several years, she provided invaluable service as liaison to the Appropriations Committee in the Senate and the House of Representatives. She has met each and every challenge given her with the utmost ability and professionalism. Elaine has been an asset in every position in which she has served.

On behalf of the members of the Appropriations Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Elaine for her dedicated service, of her vision which so often guided us in formulating creative solutions to funding issues, and in caring for the people we serve. Best wishes for an enjoyable and well-deserved retirement. ●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:43 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3536. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 210 Main Street in Malden, Illinois, as the "Army Staff Sgt. Lincoln Hollinsaid Malden Post Office".

H.R. 3537. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 185 State Street in Manhattan, Illinois, as the "Army Pvt. Shawn Pahnke Manhattan Post Office".

H.R. 3538. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 South Chicago Avenue in Saint Anne, Illinois, as the "Marine Capt. Ryan Beaupre Saint Anne Post Office".

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 506. An act to provide for the protection of archaeological sites in the Galisteo Basin in New Mexico, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2059. An act to designate Fort Bayard Historic District in the State of New Mexico as a National Historic Landmark, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2536. An act to make the protection of women and children who are affected by a complex humanitarian emergency a priority of the United States Government, and for

other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2537. An act to develop and coordinate a national emergency warning system; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3538. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 South Chicago Avenue in Saint Anne, Illinois, as the "Marine Capt. Ryan Beaupre Saint Anne Post Office"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 1997. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, and the Uniform Code of Military Justice to protect unborn children from assault and murder, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. INHOFE, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, without amendment:

S. 1904. A bill to designate the United States courthouse located at 400 North Miami Avenue in Miami, Florida, as the "Wilkie D. Ferguson, Jr. United States Courthouse".

S. 2022. A bill to designate the Federal building located at 250 West Cherry Street in Carbondale, Illinois the "Senator Paul Simon Federal Building".

S. 2043. A bill to designate a Federal building in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, as the "Ronald Reagan Federal Building".

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of committee was submitted:

By Mr. DOMENICI for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

*Susan Johnson Grant, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Energy.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

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. GRAHAM of Florida:

S. 2187. A bill to amend the Haitian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act of 1998; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. DASCHLE):

S. 2188. A bill to provide for reform of the Corps of Engineers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BIDEN:

S. 2189. A bill to establish grants to improve and study the National Domestic Violence Hotline; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. INHOFE:

S. 2190. A bill to implement equal protection under the 14th article of amendment to

the Constitution for the right to life of each born and preborn human person; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. THOMAS:

S. 2191. A bill to provide the venue for the judicial review of actions by certain Federal agencies; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. FEINGOLD):

S. 2192. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to promote cooperative research involving universities, the public sector, and private enterprises; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. BOND):

S. 2193. A bill to improve small business loan programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. HAGEL:

S. Res. 317. A resolution recognizing the importance of increasing awareness of autism spectrum disorders, supporting programs for increased research and improved treatment of autism, and improving training and support for individuals with autism and those who care for individuals with autism; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 50

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 50, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a guaranteed adequate level of funding for veterans health care, and for other purposes.

S. 595

At the request of Mr. BREAUX, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 595, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the required use of certain principal repayments on mortgage subsidy bond financings to redeem bonds, to modify the purchase price limitation under mortgage subsidy bond rules based on median family income, and for other purposes.

S. 740

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 740, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve patient access to, and utilization of, the colorectal cancer screening benefit under the medicare program.

S. 846

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX) were added as cosponsors of S. 846, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for premiums on mortgage insurance, and for other purposes.

S. 976

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 976, a bill to provide for the issuance of a coin to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown settlement.

S. 1093

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1093, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the transportation fringe benefit to bicycle commuters.

S. 1197

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1197, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to ensure the safety and accuracy of medical imaging examinations and radiation therapy treatments.

S. 1217

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1217, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to expand and intensify programs with respect to research and related activities concerning elder falls.

S. 1380

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1380, a bill to distribute universal service support equitably throughout rural America, and for other purposes.

S. 1630

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1630, a bill to facilitate nationwide availability of 2-1-1 telephone service for information and referral services, and for other purposes.

S. 1645

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1645, a bill to provide for the adjustment of status of certain foreign agricultural workers, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to reform the H-2A worker program under that Act, to provide a stable, legal agricultural workforce, to extend basic legal protections and better working conditions to more workers, and for other purposes.

S. 1703

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1703, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit against income tax for expenditures for the maintenance of railroad tracks of Class II and Class III railroads.

S. 1780

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr.

ALLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1780, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to clarify the definition of anabolic steroids and to provide for research and education activities relating to steroids and steroid precursors.

S. 1793

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1793, a bill to provide for college quality, affordability, and diversity, and for other purposes.

S. 1805

At the request of Mr. SARBANES, his name was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 1805, a bill to prohibit civil liability actions from being brought or continued against manufacturers, distributors, dealers, or importers of firearms or ammunition for damages resulting from the misuse of their products by others.

S. 1855

At the request of Mr. ALLEN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1855, a bill to authorize the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to establish an awards program in honor of Charles "Pete" Conrad, astronaut and space scientist, for recognizing the discoveries made by amateur astronomers of asteroids with near-Earth orbit trajectories.

S. 1900

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1900, a bill to amend the African Growth and Opportunity Act to expand certain trade benefits to eligible sub-Saharan African countries, and for other purposes.

S. 1902

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1902, a bill to establish a National Commission on Digestive Diseases.

S. 1916

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1916, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to increase the minimum Survivor Benefit Plan basic annuity for surviving spouses age 62 and older, to provide for a one-year open season under that plan, and for other purposes.

S. 1999

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1999, a bill to amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act, as added by the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, to provide for negotiation of fair prices for medicare prescription drugs.

S. 2086

At the request of Mr. THOMAS, the name of the Senator from Montana

(Mr. BURNS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2086, a bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to improve the reclamation of abandoned mines.

S. 2161

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2161, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to establish a national health program administered by the Office of Personnel Management to offer Federal employee health benefits plans to individuals who are not Federal employees, and for other purposes.

S. 2175

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2175, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to support the planning, implementation, and evaluation of organized activities involving statewide youth suicide early intervention and prevention strategies, and for other purposes.

S. 2186

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) were added as cosponsors of S. 2186, a bill to temporarily extend the programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, through May 15, 2004, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 81

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 81, a concurrent resolution expressing the deep concern of Congress regarding the failure of the Islamic Republic of Iran to adhere to its obligations under a safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency and the engagement by Iran in activities that appear to be designed to develop nuclear weapons.

S. CON. RES. 97

At the request of Mr. SARBANES, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 97, a concurrent resolution recognizing the 91st annual meeting of The Garden Club of America.

S. RES. 168

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 168, a resolution designating May 2004 as "National Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month".

S. RES. 269

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 269, a resolution urging the Government of Canada to end the commercial seal hunt that opened on November 15, 2003.

S. RES. 299

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 299, a resolution recognizing, and supporting efforts to enhance the public awareness of, the social problem of child abuse and neglect.

S. RES. 307

At the request of Mrs. DOLE, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 307, a resolution honoring the county of Cumberland, North Carolina, its municipalities and community partners as they celebrate the 250th year of the existence of Cumberland County.

S. RES. 309

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 309, a resolution designating the week beginning March 14, 2004 as "National Safe Place Week".

S. RES. 311

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 311, a resolution calling on the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to immediately and unconditionally release Father Thadeus Nguyen Van Ly, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2671

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2671 intended to be proposed to S. 1637, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to comply with the World Trade Organization rulings on the FSC/ETI benefit in a manner that preserves jobs and production activities in the United States, to reform and simplify the international taxation rules of the United States, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2695

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2695 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 95, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009.

AMENDMENT NO. 2697

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2697 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 95, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009.

AMENDMENT NO. 2699

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2699 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 95, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009.

AMENDMENT NO. 2708

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2708 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 95, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009.

AMENDMENT NO. 2710

At the request of Mr. DAYTON, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2710 proposed to S. Con. Res. 95, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS—MARCH 9, 2004

By Mr. DASCHLE (for Mr. KERRY):

S. 2186. A bill to temporarily extend the programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, through May 15, 2004, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

(At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, today I introduce legislation that keeps the Small Business Administration and its financing and counseling assistance available to small businesses. Small businesses need us to act now to keep critical assistance available to our Nation's biggest job creators.

There should not be any objections to this bill. It has broad support in the small business and the lending communities. The lending provisions of the bill have the support of small bor-

rowers that testified before Congress over the past few weeks and the support of a coalition of small business trade associations, including the trade associations of 504 lenders and of 7(a) lenders, the American Bankers Association and the Independent Community Bankers Association, as well as the National Small Business Alliance and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and the women's business center provisions have the support of women's trade associations such as Women Impacting Public Policy and the Association of Women's Business Centers.

This bill authorizes the SBA and most of its programs through the May 15, 2004, which will allow time for the House to complete its work on the SBA's 3-year reauthorization bill, passed by the Senate in September 2003. In addition, this bill addresses several urgent issues that are critical to keep SBA programs operating and helping small businesses across the country.

Let me outline these for you. The first provision authorizes the continued operation of the SBA's 504 loan guarantee program for the rest of fiscal year 2004. Unless we act, the authority to operate this program will expire on March 15, next Monday, and small businesses in need of financing for fixed assets will be turned away. These loans are for growing small businesses that need loans with long repayment terms and fixed interest rates to afford a new building or perhaps land to expand their business and their workforce, or equipment to improve or increase production. The lenders who make these loans serve a unique role in our economy—they develop economic opportunities where conventional lenders are not willing to take a risk. They are not a shy group, and care deeply about the communities where they live. I am sure most, if not all, Senators have received numerous calls and communications from them over the past few weeks. It is my hope that extending authorization will provide some stability to the industry so that they continue to fund our growing businesses, and then in the near future, the House will consider our more comprehensive SBA reauthorization legislation, bill number S. 1375, that we passed in September, to enact other important 504 program improvements that are supported by the small business community. This loan program requires no appropriations because it is funded entirely by fees that borrowers and lenders pay.

The second provision keeps open the doors of our most experienced and successful Women's Business Centers, again without added cost to the Treasury. This bill contains a small adjustment to the Women's Business Center program that updates the current funding formula. The adjustment changes the portion of funding allowed for women's business centers in the sustainability part of the program to keep up with the increasing number of centers that will need funding this fiscal