

EC-6836. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Rolls Royce plc Trent 700 Series Turbofan Engines; Doc. No. 2003-NE-55" (RIN2120-AA64) received on March 23, 2004; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6837. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to authorize appropriations for the motor vehicle safety and information and cost savings programs of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for fiscal years 2005 through 2007, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6838. A communication from the Federal Register Certifying Officer, Financial Management Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Government Participation in the Automated Clearing House" (RIN1510-AA93) received on March 23, 2004; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6839. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Commercial Vehicle Width Exclusive Devices" (RIN2125-AE90) received on March 23, 2004; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-6840. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Loss Limitation Rules" (TD9118) received on March 23, 2004; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6841. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Applicable Federal Rates—April 2004" (Rev. Rul. 2004-39) received on March 23, 2004; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6842. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment to Final Agreement for Withholding Foreign Partnerships and Withholding Foreign Trusts" (Rev. Proc. 2004-21) received on March 23, 2004; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6843. A communication from the Regulations Officer, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Interrelationship of Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance Program With the Railroad Retirement Program" (RIN0960-AF82) received on March 23, 2004; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6844. A communication from the Boards of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance and Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Funds, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Boards' 2004 Annual Report; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6845. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6846. A communication from the Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Public and Legislative Affairs, U.S. Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's Fiscal Year 2003 Performance and Accountability Report.

EC-6847. A communication from the Secretary of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of State's Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year

2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-6848. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Report under the Government in Sunshine Act for calendar year 2005; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-6849. A communication from the Acting Chairman, Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Board's justification for its Fiscal Year 2005 appropriation request; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-6850. A communication from the Acting Chairman, Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Strategic Plan for Fiscal Year 2005; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-6851. A communication from the Office of Independent Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office's 2003 Annual Report; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-6852. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Filing Claims Under the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees Claims Act" received on March 25, 2004; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6853. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Age Discrimination Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6854. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "National Coverage Determinations"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6855. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a proposed plan for the use and distribution of the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation (Tribe) judgment fund; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

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

S. 1307. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, to assist in the implementation of fish passage and screening facilities at non-Federal water projects, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-249).

S. 1355. A bill to authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to participate in the rehabilitation of the Wallowa Lake Dam in Oregon, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-250).

S. 1421. A bill to authorize the subdivision and dedication of restricted land owned by Alaska Natives (Rept. No. 108-251).

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

H.R. 2696. A bill to establish Institutes to demonstrate and promote the use of adaptive ecosystem management to reduce the risk of wildfires, and restore the health of fire-adapted forest and woodland ecosystems of the interior West (Rept. No. 108-252).

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. LAUTENBERG:

S. 2246. A bill to reduce temporarily the duty on certain sorbic acid; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG:

S. 2247. A bill to reduce temporarily the duty on potassium sorbate; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG:

S. 2248. A bill to clarify the Harmonized Tariff Schedule classification of certain leather goods; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 2249. A bill to amend the Stewart. B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act to provide for emergency food and shelter; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 2250. A bill to extend the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 2002, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself and Mr. BURNS):

S. 2251. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to increase the loan rate for safflower; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. JEFFORDS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. SUNUNU, and Mr. ENZI):

S. 2252. A bill to increase the number aliens who may receive certain non-immigrant status during fiscal year 2004 and to require submissions of information by the Secretary of Homeland Security; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. DOMENICI, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. DAYTON):

S. 2253. A bill to permit young adults to perform projects to prevent fire and suppress fires, and provide disaster relief, on public land through a Healthy Forest Youth Conservation Corps; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. CHAFEE)):

S. 2254. A bill to encourage and ensure the use of safe equestrian helmets, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. SANTORUM:

S. Res. 325. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the creation of refugee populations in the Middle East, North Africa, and the Persian Gulf region as a result of human rights violations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 139

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 139, a bill to provide for a program of scientific research on abrupt climate change, to accelerate the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in

the United States by establishing a market-driven system of greenhouse gas tradeable allowances that could be used interchangeably with passenger vehicle fuel economy standard credits, to limit greenhouse gas emissions in the United States and reduce dependence upon foreign oil, and ensure benefits to consumers from the trading in such allowances.

S. 275

At the request of Mr. REID, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 275, a bill to amend the Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996, and to establish the United States Boxing Administration.

S. 622

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 622, 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.

S. 874

At the request of Mr. TALENT, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 874, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to include primary and secondary preventative medical strategies for children and adults with Sickle Cell Disease as medical assistance under the medicaid program, and for other purposes.

S. 976

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) 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. 1068

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1068, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish grant programs to provide for education and outreach on newborn screening and coordinated followup care once newborn screening has been conducted, and for other purposes.

S. 1115

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1115, a bill to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to reduce the health risks posed by asbestos-containing products.

S. 1121

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1121, a bill to extend certain trade benefits to countries of the greater Middle East.

S. 1217

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) 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. 1379

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1379, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of veterans who became disabled for life while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

S. 1515

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1515, a bill to establish and strengthen postsecondary programs and courses in the subjects of traditional American history, free institutions, and Western civilization, available to students preparing to teach these subjects, and to other students.

S. 1645

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) 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. 1700

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1700, a bill to eliminate the substantial backlog of DNA samples collected from crime scenes and convicted offenders, to improve and expand the DNA testing capacity of Federal, State, and local crime laboratories, to increase research and development of new DNA testing technologies, to develop new training programs regarding the collection and use of DNA evidence, to provide post-conviction testing of DNA evidence to exonerate the innocent, to improve the performance of counsel in State capital cases, and for other purposes.

S. 1730

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1730, a bill to require the health plans provide coverage for a minimum hospital stay for mastectomies, lumpectomies, and lymph node dissection for the treatment of breast cancer and coverage for secondary consultations.

S. 1771

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1771, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to permit States to obtain reimbursement under the medicaid program for care or

services required under the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act that are provided in a nonpublicly owned or operated institution for mental diseases.

S. 1934

At the request of Mr. NICKLES, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1934, a bill to establish an Office of Intercountry Adoptions within the Department of State, and to reform United States laws governing intercountry adoptions.

S. 2065

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2065, a bill to restore health care coverage to retired members of the uniformed services, and for other purposes.

S. 2141

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2141, a bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to enhance the ability to produce fruits and vegetables on soybean base acres.

S. 2165

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2165, a bill to specify the end strength for active duty personnel of the Army as of September 30, 2005.

S. 2179

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2179, a bill to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal to the Reverend Oliver L. Brown.

S. 2193

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2193, a bill to improve small business loan programs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2193, supra.

S. 2194

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2194, a bill to amend part D of title IV of the Social Security Act to improve the collection of child support, and for other purposes.

S. 2216

At the request of Mr. HOLLINGS, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2216, a bill to provide increased rail transportation security.

S. 2236

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr.

AKAKA) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of S. 2236, a bill to enhance the reliability of the electric system.

S. CON. RES. 90

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 90, a concurrent resolution expressing the Sense of the Congress regarding negotiating, in the United States-Thailand Free Trade Agreement, access to the United States automobile industry.

S. RES. 317

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 2698

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2698 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. 2890

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2890 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. 2893

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2893 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.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 2249. A bill to amend the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act to provide for emergency food and shelter; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation to reauthorize the Department of Homeland Security's Emergency Food and Shelter Program. This vital program enables communities nationwide to provide services to help individuals who are at risk of becoming homeless or going hungry due to an emergency or economic disaster. As a 1999 General Accounting Office report concluded, "in most areas of the United States, the Emergency Food and Shelter Program is the only source of funding for the prevention of homelessness."

I am pleased to have the support of Senator LIEBERMAN, the ranking member of the Governmental Affairs Committee, which oversees this important program as well as the Department of Homeland Security generally. I commend Senator LIEBERMAN for his work on this important issue, including his efforts in the 107th Congress to pass legislation very similar to the bill that we are introducing together today.

Since its creation 21 years ago, the Emergency Food and Shelter Program has provided a helping hand to local social service organizations that assist thousands of people in need of food and shelter. This program is effective because of the way it is structured. A national board, chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, governs the program. The board itself is composed of representatives from organizations who work every day to look out for those who are less fortunate—representatives of the American Red Cross, Catholic Charities, United Jewish Communities, the National Council of the Churches, the Salvation Army, and the United Way.

This program is a model for an effective public-private partnership. The volunteer participation by these charitable organizations has kept administrative costs to less than 3 percent of the total program, making even more funds directly available for communities.

Funds are distributed by the national board to local boards according to a formula that takes into account unemployment and poverty statistics in each community. Once local boards in counties and municipalities across America receive the funding, they decide how to best address the needs of their residents. These local boards are key to this process. That is because they are composed of individuals and organizations who live and work in the communities they serve. Therefore, they can best decide how to meet the needs of those who are at risk of becoming homeless.

In recent years, communities in Maine have put the funding to good

use. Communities in Cumberland and Franklin Counties, for example, have used most of these funds to supplement the efforts of local soup kitchens, Meals-on Wheels programs, and food pantries. The Wayside Soup Kitchen in Portland, ME, uses this funding to enhance their efforts to provide three separate food assistance programs to those in need.

Demonstrating the flexibility of this program, communities in northern Maine's Aroostook County used more than 30 percent of their 2003 funding to address emergency shelter and housing needs. This diversity in how communities spent these funds highlights the importance of letting local organizations decide how best to spend these resources, tailored to local needs.

The Emergency Food and Shelter Program helps individuals maintain their dignity during difficult times. It also prevents dependency by providing emergency services to individuals and families on a limited basis so they can remain self-sufficient.

Although Congress has continued to provide funding, the program's authorization expired in 1994. My bill, the Emergency Food and Shelter Act of 2004, seeks to again authorize this program and provide modest increases to reflect an increasing need.

I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this legislation to help families across America who are at risk of losing their homes or going hungry because of circumstances beyond their control.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. JEFFORDS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. SUNUNU, and Mr. ENZI):

S. 2252. A bill to increase the number of aliens who may receive certain non-immigrant status during fiscal year 2004 and to require submissions of information by the Secretary of Homeland Security; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. KENNEDY. It is a privilege to join my colleagues in introducing the Save Summer Act of 2004 to provide an immediate stop-gap solution to the H-2B visa cap problem in our immigration laws. Our colleagues, Representatives DELAHUNT and YOUNG, are introducing an identical bill in the House.

The H-2B program was established by Congress in 1990 to deal with labor shortages in non-agricultural seasonal employment. H-2B workers are employed by hotels, restaurants, resorts, the fishing and timber industries, amusement parks, and other sectors.

U.S. employers seeking to bring in foreign nationals on these visas must demonstrate that they have been unable to find enough U.S. workers to fill