

Michigan and across the country; and be it further

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

POM-386. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of the State of Michigan relative to the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 184

Whereas, citizens have a right, protected by the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution, to keep and bear arms; and

Whereas, lawsuits have been commenced against manufacturers, distributors, dealers, and importers of firearms that operate as designed and intended. These lawsuits seek monetary damages and other relief for the harm caused by the misuse of firearms by third parties; including criminals; and

Whereas, the manufacture, importation, possession, sale, and use of firearms and ammunition in the United States are heavily regulated by federal, state and local laws. Such federal laws include the Gun Control Act of 1968, the National Firearms Act, and the Arms Export Control Act; and

Whereas, businesses in the United States that are engaged in interstate and foreign commerce through the lawful design, manufacture, marketing, distribution, importation, or sale to the public of firearms or ammunition that has been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce are not, and should not, be liable for the harm caused by those who criminally or unlawfully misuse firearm products or ammunition products that function as designed and intended; and

Whereas, the possibility of imposing liability on an entire industry for harm that is solely caused by others in an abuse of the legal system, erodes public confidence in our nation's laws, threatens the diminution of a basic constitutional right and civil liberty, invites the disassembly and destabilization of other industries and economic sectors lawfully competing in the free enterprise system of the United States, and constitutes a reasonable burden on interstate and foreign commerce of the United States; and

Whereas, the purpose of S. 659, the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act, is to prohibit causes of action against manufacturers, distributors, dealers, and importers of firearms or ammunition products for the harm caused by the criminal or unlawful misuse of firearm products or ammunition products by others when the product functioned as designed and intended; and

Whereas, S. 659 will also preserve a citizen's access to a supply of firearms and ammunition for all lawful purposes, including hunting, self-defense, collecting, and competitive or recreational shooting. It will also guarantee a citizen's rights, privileges, and immunities, as applied to the states, under the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, pursuant to section 5 of that Amendment. The Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act will prevent the use of such lawsuits to impose unreasonable burdens on interstate and foreign commerce; and

Whereas, this legislation is intended to protect the right, under the First Amendment to the Constitution, of manufacturers, distributors, dealers, and importers of firearms or ammunition products, and trade associations, to speak freely, to assemble peaceably, and to petition the government

for a redress of their grievances; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to enact S. 659, the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act; and be it further

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

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. INHOFE for the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

*Gary Lee Visscher, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years.

*Stephen L. Johnson, of Maryland, to be Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

*Charles Johnson, of Utah, to be Chief Financial Officer, Environmental Protection Agency.

*Ann R. Klee, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

*Benjamin Grumbles, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

*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. HATCH (for himself, Mr. FRIST, Mr. MILLER, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. HAGEL, and Mr. DOMENICI):

S. 2290. A bill to create a fair and efficient system to resolve claims of victims for bodily injury caused by asbestos exposure, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. CORZINE (for himself and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. 2291. A bill to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14-24 Abbott Road in Fair Lawn, New Jersey, as the "Mary Ann Collura Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. VOINOVICH:

S. 2292. A bill to require a report on acts of anti-Semitism around the world; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 2293. A bill to provide for the orderly termination of the United States Court of Federal Claims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DOMENICI:

S. 2294. A bill to authorize the conveyance of certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. KYL, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. CLINTON, and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 2295. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Homeland Security Department's Directorate of Science and Technology, establish a program for the use of advanced technology to meet homeland security needs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BUNNING:

S. 2296. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to give the Commonwealth of Kentucky the first option on the Louisville Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Kentucky, upon its conveyance, lease or other disposal by the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 2297. A bill to improve intermodal shipping container transportation security; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BREAUX:

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; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. AKAKA):

S. 2299. A bill to strengthen the national security by encouraging and assisting in the expansion and improvement of educational programs to meet critical needs at the elementary, secondary, and higher education levels; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. EDWARDS, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 2300. A bill to amend the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 to eliminate privatization of the medicare program and to reduce excessive payments to health maintenance organizations and other private sector insurance plans; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. INOUE:

S. 2301. A bill to improve the management of Indian fish and wildlife and gathering resources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself and Mr. BROWNBACK):

S. 2302. A bill to improve access to physicians in medically underserved areas; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. EDWARDS:

S.J. Res. 31. A joint resolution to provide for Congressional disapproval of certain regulations issued by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, in accordance with section 802 of title 5, United States Code; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. EDWARDS:

S.J. Res. 32. A joint resolution to provide for Congressional disapproval of certain regulations issued by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, in accordance with section 802 of title 5, United States Code; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. Res. 333. A resolution commending the Huskies of the University of Connecticut for

winning the 2004 Division I Men's and Women's NCAA Basketball Championships; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 50

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) 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. 59

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 59, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit former members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated as total to travel on military aircraft in the same manner and to the same extent as retired members of the Armed Forces are entitled to travel on such aircraft.

S. 188

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 188, a bill to impose a moratorium on the implementation of datamining under the Total Information Awareness program of the Department of Defense and any similar program of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

S. 448

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 448, a bill to leave no child behind.

S. 622

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) 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. 859

At the request of Mr. CORZINE, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 859, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to facilitating the development of microbicides for preventing transmission of HIV and other diseases.

S. 976

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) 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. 1091

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1091, a bill to provide funding

for student loan repayment for public attorneys.

S. 1374

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1374, a bill to provide health care professionals with immediate relief from increased medical malpractice insurance costs and to deal with the root causes of the current medical malpractice insurance crisis.

S. 1379

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors 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. 1645

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) 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. 1709

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1709, a bill to amend the USA PATRIOT ACT to place reasonable limitations on the use of surveillance and the issuance of search warrants, and for other purposes.

S. 1793

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

S. 1873

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1873, a bill to require employees at a call center who either initiate or receive telephone calls to disclose the physical location of such employees, and for other purposes.

S. 2106

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2106, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide capital gains treatment for certain self-created musical works.

S. 2130

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2130, a bill to contain the costs of the medicare pre-

scription drug program under part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes.

S. 2158

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2158, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the supply of pancreatic islet cells for research, and to provide for better coordination of Federal efforts and information on islet cell transplantation.

S. 2200

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2200, a bill to extend nondiscriminatory treatment (normal trade relations treatment) to the products of Laos.

S. 2207

At the request of Mr. WARNER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2207, a bill to improve women's access to health care services, and the access of all individuals to emergency and trauma care services, by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the delivery of such services.

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2207, *supra*.

S. 2208

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. TALENT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2208, a bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to reduce the amounts of reclamation fees, to modify requirements relating to transfers from the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 2236

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2236, a bill to enhance the reliability of the electric system.

S. 2238

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2238, a bill to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to reduce losses to properties for which repetitive flood insurance claim payments have been made.

S. 2258

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2258, a bill to revise certain requirements for H-2B employers for fiscal year 2004, and for other purposes.

S. 2267

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2267, a bill to amend section 29(k) of the Small Business Act to establish funding priorities for women's business centers.

S. 2268

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the names of the Senator from Wyoming