

of the Recording Studio. Her poise, civility and shining personality permeate the office and make working with them an absolute pleasure for me. Her institutional knowledge and memory and quiet authority provide me and all the staff and Members who work with the studio reassurance that our messages will be handled with care and expertise.

American historian Barbara Tuchman said:

Although I know we have already grown accustomed to less beauty, less elegance, less excellence, yet perversely I have confidence in the opposite of egalitarianism: in the competence and excellence of the best among us. The urge for the best is an element of humankind as inherent as the heartbeat. It may be crushed temporarily but it cannot be eliminated. We will always have pride in accomplishment, the charm of fine things . . . As long as people exist, some will always strive for the best. And some will attain it.

Barb epitomizes this competence and excellence in her work, and beauty in her kind and graceful spirit. My staff and I will most certainly miss her and I wish her well in retirement.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF ANN S. SIMPSON

• Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Ann Simpson for her selection to receive the prestigious University of Wyoming Art Museum National Advisory Board President's Award on November 5, 2005.

John Paul Richter once said, "Art is not the bread, but the wine of life." In many ways this is true, but art not only enriches our quality of life, it also plays an instrumental role in human development. Art enhances cognitive skills and encourages creative expression. Art helps us understand different worldviews and perspectives. For these reasons and more, art must be fostered in our communities and across the Nation.

In line with this mission, the University of Wyoming Art Museum National Advisory Board established the President's Award in 1995. This special award is to be presented to an individual, group or organization for their lifetime commitment to the arts in Wyoming. Those selected must be an active advocate of the arts, be recognized as a patron of and major contributor to the arts, have played an instrumental role in the creation or development of a specific art program and/or art initiative, and embody a strong commitment to furthering/developing arts in Wyoming. Ann Simpson is an excellent choice to receive this distinguished award.

A Wyoming native, Ann is a long-time supporter of the arts throughout our State. In 1989, Ann received the Wyoming Arts Council Governor's Arts Award for her outstanding service to the arts in Wyoming. Her passion for

the arts is further illustrated by her work on the Ford's Theater Board, the University of Wyoming Art Museum Advisory Board, and significant financial contributions to art programs throughout the State and Nation. In fact, Ann worked with the Wyoming State legislature to secure a National Endowment for the Arts funding match of \$3.5 million in order to initiate construction of the Centennial Complex which currently houses the University of Wyoming Art Museum. She was also responsible for cultivating and stewarding a \$2.5 million donation to the University of Wyoming Art Museum, their largest endowment gift to date.

Ann has always recognized the importance of art and art education to our society. In fact, one of her most notable contributions to our State is an art outreach program called the Artmobile. The Artmobile is a traveling exhibition which visits communities throughout the State of Wyoming in order to provide our residents with exposure to diverse forms of visual art. The program incorporates artwork from the University of Wyoming's permanent collection and by Wyoming artists. Discussions of the exhibition are typically followed by hands-on art activities with the Artmobile curator. The program is provided free of charge and each presentation is tailored to engage its particular audience.

In 1995, the Artmobile was renamed for Ann in recognition of her tremendous efforts on behalf of the program. To this day, Ann works diligently to increase public awareness of the valuable service the "Ann Simpson Artmobile" provides and to enrich the lives of all Wyomingites with art. Ann Simpson is truly deserving of the University of Wyoming Art Museum National Advisory Board President's Award.

Mr. President, Ann's husband, former Senator Alan Simpson, and I grew up a stone's throw from one another, so I have had the pleasure of knowing the Simpsons for most of my life. Al and Ann are a remarkable couple with endless energy and enthusiasm for our great State. My wife Susan and I consider them both dear friends, and we extend our most sincere congratulations for Ann's extraordinary achievement.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 10 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 172. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for the regulation of all contact lenses as medical devices, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3945. Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "A Bill to facilitate recovery from the effects of Hurricane Katrina by providing greater flexibility for, and temporary waivers of certain requirements and fees imposed on, depository institutions, credit unions, and Federal regulatory agencies, and for other purposes"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, October 28, 2005, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 172. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for the regulation of all contact lenses as medical devices, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. WARNER for the Committee on Armed Services.

Navy nomination of James D. Thompson to be Commander.

Navy nominations beginning with James F. Brinkman and ending with William L. Yarde, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on October 6, 2005.

Air Force nomination of Christopher Sartori to be Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Suzanne M. Ceconi and ending with Kirk B. Stetson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on October 17, 2005.

Air Force nomination of Melissa A. Saragosa to be Major.

Army nomination of Deborah Whitmer to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Steven C. Henricks and ending with William J. Nelson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on October 17, 2005.

Army nominations beginning with Gary L. Gross and ending with Adger S. Turner,

which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on October 19, 2005.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

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 Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1938. A bill to redesignate the project for navigation, Saco River, Maine as an anchorage area; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. WARNER:

S. 1939. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on hexanedioic acid, polymer with 1,3-benzenedimethanamine; to the Committee on Finance.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 1120

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1120, a bill to reduce hunger in the United States by half by 2010, and for other purposes.

S. 1699

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1699, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide criminal penalties for trafficking in counterfeit marks.

S. 1735

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1735, a bill to improve the Federal Trade Commission's ability to protect consumers from price-gouging during energy emergencies, and for other purposes.

S. 1756

At the request of Mr. DAYTON, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1756, a bill to establish a Department of Peace and Nonviolence.

S. 1774

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1774, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the expansion, intensification, and coordination of the activities of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute with respect to research on pulmonary hypertension.

S. 1890

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1890, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny a deduction for certain fines, penalties, and other amounts.

S. 1937

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1937, a bill to expand certain preferential trade treatment for Haiti.

S. RES. 292

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 292, a resolution calling on the President to condemn the anti-Israel sentiments expressed by the President of Iran, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, on October 26, 2005.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1938. A bill to redesignate the project for navigation, Saco River, Maine as an anchorage area; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a bill for the City of Saco, ME that concerns the town's ability to allow the mooring of boats on the Saco River. The bill changes the turning basin into an anchorage while managing a 50 foot channel within the anchorage. The town was not aware that it was in violation because of 21 moorings located in the Saco River Federal Navigational Project. In an effort to eliminate this encroachment, city officials have requested a modification or deauthorization of the Federal Navigational Project to resolve the issue.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has suggested language that redesignates the maneuvering basin into an anchorage area that will meet the needs of the community. The language, which I hope will be included in the Water Resources Development Act in this Congress, will allow for the legal moorage of boats, the fairway for which would be maintained by the City of Saco as is customary for towns with Federal anchorages. It is my understanding that the two mayors of the cities involved along with the Saco Yacht Club have agreed to the Corps' language.

By Mr. WARNER:

S. 1939. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on hexanedioic acid, polymer with 1,3-benzenedimethanamine; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a bill to extend the temporary duty suspension for imports of Nylon MXD6, hexanedioic acid, polymer with 1,3-benzenedimethanamine. This product, which is not manufactured in the United States at this time, serves as the favored option for food packaging and other multifunction packaging due to its tough, transparent properties.

It is customary for the Congress every few years to consider relatively minor technical changes to certain trade proposals as one omnibus bill. The most recent of these bills was the

Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Changes Act of 2004. For a proposal to be included in the legislation, the House Ways and Means Committee, Senate Finance Committee, and International Trade Commission all have to conclude that the proposal is noncontroversial. As one of the determining factors for a duty suspension request to be considered noncontroversial, no domestic production of the commodity may exist, or it may not be at a sufficient level to satisfy domestic demand.

As I mentioned before, Nylon MXD6 is not produced in the United States, and as a result, a temporary duty suspension was awarded to imports of Nylon MXD6 under the Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act of 2004. However, this suspension is due to expire on December 31, 2006. While this sunset may sound far from now, no domestic production is expected to exist by then nor is it expected to exist for a few years afterwards, causing uncertainty for future production.

The current duty suspension for this import has been a key element in lowering the costs of domestic production of commodities containing Nylon MXD6. The bill I introduce today would extend the current suspension through December 31, 2008, which will provide manufacturers the certainty they need to plan for their future.

In closing, I hope my colleagues in the Senate will join with me in support of this legislation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the remaining military nominations that were reported by the Armed Services Committee and are at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and that the Senate return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Navy under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be commander

James D. Thompson

The following named officers for regular appointments to the grade indicated in the United States Navy under title 10, U.S.C., section 531:

To be lieutenant commander

James F. Brinkman

Joe D. Haines, Jr.

Lisa Pearse

Jerry M. Rebrey