

The Brady Campaign includes in its analysis such questions as: Is it illegal for a child to possess a gun without supervision? Is it illegal to sell a gun to a child? Are gun owners held responsible for leaving loaded guns easily accessible to children? Are guns required to have child-safety locks, loaded-chamber indicators and other childproof designs? Do cities and counties have authority to enact local gun safety laws? Are background checks required at gun shows? And, is it legal to carry concealed handguns in public?

Children around the country continue to be at great risk from gun violence. This year, the Brady Campaign awarded only six States an A rating in their report. Unfortunately, 31 States received grades of D or F. Only one State improved its grade from last year, while two others took actions that will make communities less safe from the threat of gun violence. However, I was encouraged that the number of "extra credit Sensible Safety Stars" for protecting children from gun violence more than doubled to 21, and that the number of "Time-Out Chair demerits" assigned for weakening State gun laws was cut from ten to six.

While some States have taken positive steps on the issue of gun safety in the last year, more than half are still receiving failing grades from the Brady Campaign. By passing legislation that reduces child firearm deaths, Congress can help to improve the grades of these States. I urge my colleagues to take up and pass common sense gun safety legislation that will close the gun show loophole, reauthorize the 1994 assault weapons ban, and improve child gun access prevention laws. •

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-664. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of State, Department of State, transmitting, a report regarding management and security accomplishments of the U.S. Mission in Iraq; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-665. A communication from the Executive Secretary and Chief of Staff, Agency for

International Development, transmitting pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Administrator, Bureau Management, received on February 7, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-666. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the Agency's Competitive Sourcing Activities for Fiscal Year 2004, received January 25, 2005; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-667. A communication from Chief, Aviation Civil Rights Compliance Branch, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Reports by Carriers on Incidents Involving Animals During Air Transport" (RIN2105-AD48) received on February 2, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-668. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Bombardier Rotax GmbH Type 912F, 912S, and 914F Series Reciprocating Engines" (RIN2120-AA64) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-669. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Boeing Model 767-300 Series Airplanes" (RIN2120-AA64) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-670. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Boeing Model 757-200, 200 PF, and 200CB Series Airplanes" (RIN2120-AA64) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-671. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Garmin International Inc. GTX 33, GTX 33D, GTX 330 and GTX 330D Mode S Transponders" (RIN2120-AA64) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-672. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Gulfstream Aerospace LP Model Gulfstream 100 Airplanes; and Model Astra SPX and 1125 Westwind Astra Series Airplanes" (RIN2120-AA64) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-673. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: The New Piper Aircraft, Inc. Models PA 23 235, PA 23 250, and PA E23-250 Airplanes" (RIN2120-AA64) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-674. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: EXTRA Flugzeugbau GbH Model EA 300 and EA 300/S Airplanes" (RIN2120-AA64) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-675. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Airbus Model A310 Series Airplanes; and Model A300-B4-600, B4-600R, and F4-600R Series Airplanes; and Model C4 605R Variant F Airplanes" (RIN2120-AA64) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-676. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Correction Boeing Model 767-200, -300, and -300F Series Airplanes" (RIN2120-AA64) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-677. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Correction Raytheon Aircraft Company Beech 100, 200, and 300 Series Airplanes" (RIN2120-AA64) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-678. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: The Lancair Company Models LC40-550FG and LC42-550FG Airplanes" (RIN2120-AA64) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-679. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Model 222, 222B, 222U, 230, and 430 Helicopters" (RIN2120-AA64) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-680. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Boeing Model 767-200, 300, and 300F Series Airplanes" (RIN2120-AA64) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-681. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Bombardier Model C1 215 6B11 and CL 215 6B11 Series Airplanes" (RIN2120-AA64) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-682. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Pratt and Whitney Jt8D-200 Series Turbofan Engines; Correction" (RIN2120-AA64) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-683. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: McDonnell Douglas Model MD 10 10F, MD 10 30F, MD 11F, DC 10 10F, and DC 10 30F Airplanes" (RIN2120-AA64) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-684. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule