

High School, Oahu; Julie Tomomitsu, Maemae Elementary School, Oahu; Jenny Wells, Windward District Office, Oahu; Julia Williams, Hawaii District Office, Hawaii.

During the 2001 year the following teachers received the credential: Lisa Houston, Iliaha Elementary, Oahu; Teresa Tugadi, Pohakea Elementary School, Oahu; Lisa Yanase, Waiialua Elementary School, Oahu.

During the 2000 year the following teachers received the credential: Jill Hirota, Waiialua Elementary School, Oahu; Bess Anne Jennings, Hawaii District Office, Hawaii; Charlene Miyashiro, Waiakeawaena Elementary School, Hawaii.

During the 1999 year the following teachers received the credential: Derek Minafami, Kailua High School, Oahu; Tammie Reynolds, Mililani High School, Oahu.

During the 1998 year the following teacher received the credential: Linda Sciaroi, Chiefess Kamakahelie Middle School, Kauai.

I offer my heartfelt congratulations to them all. They have worked very hard to earn the designation, National Board Certified Teacher.

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, the organization that confers this designation, is a teacher-led association, which grants national certification to a teacher only after a long and very comprehensive process. It requires the preparation and submission of a portfolio featuring videotaped classroom presented lessons, including a written analysis of the lesson, lesson plans and student work samples. The teacher must also submit written discussion, analysis, and reflective commentaries concerning other curriculum used in the classroom. A third component of the portfolio includes records of activities benefiting the larger school community, including families and activities that help to improve the teaching profession. The candidate has 3 years to complete these activities, although most complete this portfolio during one school year. Also required for this certification is successful completion of a rigorous set of examinations assessing the content knowledge of the teacher. This is a very arduous process. But in Hawaii help is available. The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board, along with the Hawaii State Teachers Association, provides support groups for teachers undertaking this process. These sessions are held on the islands of Oahu, Maui, Kauai and the Big Island, and they provide a support network for the candidates as they go through the process. Most often this will be a facilitator, a teacher who has already earned the designation of National Board Certified Teacher. It is also a place to meet with other teachers undergoing the process, support each other, and sometimes to commiserate. This support goes a long way in making this very difficult process doable.

National Board Certification does not replace the teacher licensure requirements as maintained by the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board, but identifies the recipient as an exemplary practitioner, someone at the top of his or her profession. It signifies the teacher as someone who is a recognized leader in the art and science of teaching. And research has shown time and again that students in classrooms with National Board Certified Teachers show larger gains on assessments than do students in classrooms not staffed with nationally certified teachers. It is the only nationally based teacher evaluation and certification program to successfully undergo a rigorous scientifically based set of evaluations, and to show improved results for the students. I am very proud to honor these newly recognized teachers.

At a time when the country is working to improve education, when the No Child Left Behind Act is demanding a highly qualified teacher in every classroom, where schools, district and states are under the gun to make adequate yearly progress, where increasingly students must demonstrate achievement as measured by a high stakes test to graduate from high school, where districts and States are working to find, hire and retain professionals in this very difficult field, and where research has shown the ability of the classroom teacher is the most important factor affecting the learning of the students, I am proud to say to these newly certified teachers "Well Done," and "Mahalo Nui Loa."•

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, 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 which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:30 p.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 bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 418. An act to establish and rapidly implement regulations for State driver's license and identification document security standards, to prevent terrorists from abusing the asylum laws of the United States, to unify terrorism-related grounds for inadmissibility and removal, and to ensure expeditious construction of the San Diego border fence.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 6. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the Department of Defense should continue to exercise its statutory authority to support the activities of the Boy Scouts of America, in particular the periodic national and world Boy Scout Jamborees.

H. Con. Res. 26. Concurrent resolution honoring the Tuskegee Airmen for their bravery in fighting for our freedom in World War II, and for their contribution in creating an integrated United States Air Force.

H. Con. Res. 30. Concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 1928a, and the order of the House of January 4, 2005, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the United States Group of the North Atlantic Assembly: Mr. HEFLEY of Colorado, Chairman, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Vice Chairman, Mr. REGULA of Ohio, Mr. GILLMOR of Ohio, Mr. EHLERS of Michigan, Mr. BILIRAKIS of Florida, Mr. SHIMKUS of Illinois, and Mr. REYNOLDS of New York.

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-703. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Certification Procedures for Products and Parts; Type Certificates; Issue of Type Certificate; Surplus Aircraft of Armed Forces; Correcting Amendment" (RIN2120-ZZ70) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-704. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Standards: Transport Category Rotorcraft; Equipment: Flight and Navigation Instruments; Correction" (RIN2120-ZZ71) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-705. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Civil Penalty Assessment Procedures; Correction and Technical Amendment" (RIN2120-AE84) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-706. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Sea Scallop and Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Framework 16 and 39" (RIN0648-AR55) received on February 7, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-707. A communication from the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of

the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2001 and 2002 annual reports compiled by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service on reasonably identifiable expenditures for the conservation of endangered and threatened species by Federal and State agencies received on December 17, 2004; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-708. A communication from the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a corrected version that replaces the reports received on December 17, 2004 of the 2001 and 2002 annual reports compiled by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service on reasonably identifiable expenditures for the conservation of endangered and threatened species by Federal and State agencies received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-709. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fisheries; 2005 and 2006 Summer Flounder Specifications; 2005 Scup and Black Sea Bass Specifications;" (RIN0648-AR51) received on February 7, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-710. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final 2005, 2006 and 2007 Fishing Quotas for Atlantic Surfclams, Ocean Quahogs, and Maine Mahogany Ocean Quahogs" (RIN0648-AR52) received on February 7, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-711. A communication from the Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report dated December 30, 2004 entitled "Assistance Provided to Foreign Aviation Authorities for FY 2004", received on February 7, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-712. A communication from the Under Secretary and Director, Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Changes to Implement the Patent Fee Related Provisions of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005" received on February 7, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-713. A communication from the Deputy Chief Acquisition Officer, Director for Procurement, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Scientific and Technical Reports—SBIR and STTR Contracts" (RIN2700-AD04) received on February 7, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-714. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; Fishery reopening; quota transfer" (I.D. 122704C) received on February 7, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-715. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of the Understandings Reached at the June 2004 Australia Group (AG) Plenary

Meeting and Through a Subsequent AG Interpositional Decision; Clarifications to the Scope of ECCNs 1A004, 1A994, and 2B351; Corrections to Country Group D and ECCNs 1C355, 1C395, and 1C995; Additions to the List of States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention" (RIN0694-AD25) received February 7, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-716. A communication from Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision of Export Control Classification Number (ECCN) 2B351 to Conform with the Australia Group (AG) (Control List of Dual-Use Chemical Manufacturing Facilities and Equipment and Related Technology)" (0694-AD16) received on February 7, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-717. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Buckle Up America: The National Initiative for Increasing Safety Belt Use" received February 7, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-718. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Federal Railroad Administrator, received on February 7, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-719. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Office of the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Deputy Secretary, received February 7, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-720. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Federal Railroad Administrator, received on February 7, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-721. A communication from the Director, Office of White House Liaison, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, received on February 7, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-722. A communication from the Director, Office of White House Liaison, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Under Secretary for Industry and Security, received on February 7, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-723. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report stating that the Coast Guard implemented no new rules concerning the Edible Oil Regulatory Reform Act, received on January 25, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-724. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of two violations of the Antideficiency Act as required by U.S. Code, Title 31, Section 1351, received on January 25, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-725. A communication from the Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the National

Transportation Safety Board's appeal letter to the Office of Management and Budget regarding the initial determination of the Board's fiscal year 2006 budget request, received on January 25, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-726. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on Fiscal Year 2004 Competitive Sourcing Efforts, received on January 25, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-727. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, APHIS, Department of Agriculture transmitting the Department's final rule—Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy; Minimal-Risk Regions and Importation of Commodities [Docket No. 03-080-3] (RIN 0579-AB73). Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry on January 6, 2005, inadvertently attached to 109ec00017, and therefore not individually noted at that time.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LOTT, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, without amendment:

S. Res. 49. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

S. Res. 50. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the periods March 1, 2005, through September 30, 2005, October 1, 2005, through September 30, 2006, and October 1, 2006, through February 28, 2007.

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. DODD:

S. 369. A bill to establish protections against compelled disclosure of sources, and news information, by persons providing services for the news media; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LOTT (for himself, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. HATCH, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 370. A bill to preserve and protect the free choice of individual employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, or to refrain from such activities; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REED, Mrs. CLINTON, and Ms. MIKULSKI):

S. 371. A bill to provide for college quality, affordability, and diversity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. DODD, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. STEVENS, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 372. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that a deduction equal to fair market value shall be allowed for charitable contributions of literacy, musical, artistic, or scholarly compositions created by the donor; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HARKIN: