

Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Fiscal Year 2004 Annual report on Programmatic and Financial Performances; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1059. A communication from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Fiscal Year 2006 Performance Budget; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1060. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Adequacy of Minnesota Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Program" (FRL7873-1) received on February 14, 2005; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1061. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; Texas; Revision to the Rate of Progress plan for the Houston/Galveston (HGA) Ozone Nonattainment Area" (FRL7872-7) received on February 14, 2005; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1062. A communication from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning the status of the Commission's licensing and regulatory duties; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1063. A communication from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's report on the status of its licensing and regulatory duties; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1064. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Texas; Revision to Control Volatile Organic Compound Emissions from Consumer Related Sources" (FRL7871-7) received on February 14, 2005; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1065. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; West Virginia; Revised Format of 40 CFR Part 52 for Materials Being Incorporated by Reference" (FRL No. 7861-3) received on February 8, 2005; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1066. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Priorities for Uncontrolled Hazardous Waste Sites" (FRL7871-9) received on February 14, 2005; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1067. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the Arizona State Implementation Plan Maricopa County Environmental Services Department" (FRL7860-8) received on February 14, 2005; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1068. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "South Carolina: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Pro-

gram Revision" (FRL7870-2) received on February 14, 2005; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1069. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a drawdown under 506 of the foreign assistance act to support the Philippines; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1070. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedule of Fees for Consular Services, Department of State and Overseas Embassies Consulates" (RIN1400-AB94; 1400-AB95; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1071. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of an international agreement other than treaties; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1072. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Agreements between the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) and Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1073. A communication from the Secretary of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1074. A communication from the Treasurer, Navy Wives Club of America, transmitting, pursuant to law, the audit and tax forms for the period beginning September 1, 2003 through August 31, 2004; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1075. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning the progress and status of compliance with the privatization requirements of the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1076. A communication from the Administrator, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Fiscal Year 2006 Legislative Package Statement of Needs and Purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-1077. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Publication of Administrative Forfeiture Notice" (RIN1651-AA48); to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1078. A communication from the Regulation Officer, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Determining Income and Resources under the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program" (RIN0960-AF84) received on February 17, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1079. A communication from the Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rules Relating to Review of National Futures Association Decisions in Disciplinary, Membership Denial, Registration and Member Responsibility Actions" (RIN3038-AC12) received on February 15, 2005; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1080. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department

of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Golden Nematode: Regulated Areas" (Doc. No. 04-093-2) received on February 15, 2005; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1081. A communication from the Regulatory Contact, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "United States Standards for Wheat" (RIN0580-AA86) received on February 16, 2005; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1082. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, there report of a rule entitled "Brucellosis in Swine; Add Arkansas, Louisiana, and Michigan to List of Validated Brucellosis Free States" (Doc. No. 04-103-2) received on February 16, 2004; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1083. A communication from the Director, Child Nutrition Division, Special Nutrition, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Child and Adult Care Food Program; Increasing the Duration of Tiering Determinations for Day Care Homes" (RIN0584-AD67) received on February 16, 2005; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

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. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. FEINGOLD):

S. 457. A bill to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to issue guidance for, and provide oversight of, the management of micropurchases made with Governmentwide commercial purchase cards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. JEFFORDS, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

S. 458. A bill to amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act to give States the option to create a program that allows individuals receiving temporary assistance to needy families to obtain post-secondary or longer duration vocational education; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. LOTT, and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 459. A bill to require a study and report regarding the designations and construction of a new interstate route from Savannah, Georgia to Knoxville, Tennessee; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. KERRY:

S. 460. A bill to expand and enhance benefits for members of the Armed Forces and their families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 461. A bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to require that a member of the uniformed services who is wounded or otherwise injured while serving in a combat zone continue to be paid monthly military pay and allowances, while the member recovers from the wound or injury, at least equal to the monthly military pay and allowances the

member received immediately before receiving the wound or injury, to continue the combat zone tax exclusion for the member during the recovery period, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 462. A bill to deauthorize the project for navigation, Tenants Harbor, Maine; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 463. A bill to deauthorize the project for navigation, Northeast Harbor, Maine; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 464. A bill to modify the project for navigation, Union River, Maine; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 465. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Army to carry out a project for the mitigation of shore damage attributable to the project for navigation, Saco River, Maine; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 466. A bill to deauthorize a certain portion of the project for navigation, Rockland Harbor, Maine; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. REED, Mr. LUGAR, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. CHAMBLISS, and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. 467. A bill to extend the applicability of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 8

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 8, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking minors across State lines in circumvention of laws requiring the involvement of parents in abortion decisions.

S. 147

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 147, a bill to express the policy of the United States regarding the United States relationship with Native Hawaiians and to provide a process for the recognition by the United States of the Native Hawaiian governing entity.

S. 241

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE), the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 241, a bill to amend section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934 to provide that funds received as universal service contributions and the universal service support programs established pursuant to that section are not subject to certain provisions of title 31, United States Code, commonly known as the Antideficiency Act.

S. 285

At the request of Mr. BOND, the names of the Senator from California

(Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 285, a bill to reauthorize the Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education Program.

S. 328

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) were added as cosponsors of S. 328, a bill to facilitate the sale of United States agricultural products to Cuba, as authorized by the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000.

S. 360

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 360, a bill to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act.

S. 361

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 361, a bill to develop and maintain an integrated system of ocean and coastal observations for the Nation's coasts, oceans and Great Lakes, improve warnings of tsunamis and other natural hazards, enhance homeland security, support maritime operations, and for other purposes.

S. 454

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 454, a bill to release to the State of Arkansas a reversionary interest in Camp Joseph T. Robinson.

S. RES. 63

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 63, a resolution calling for an investigation into the assassination of Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri and urging steps to pressure the Government of Syria to withdraw from Lebanon.

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 63, supra.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

S. 457. A bill to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to issue guidance for, and provide oversight of, the management of micropurchases made with Governmentwide commercial purchase cards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today with my colleague, Senator RUSS FEINGOLD, to introduce the "Purchase Card Waste Elimination Act of 2005," to help eliminate wasteful spending that can occur when the Government neglects to pay attention to where it makes its purchases.

Last year, the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, now the Com-

mittee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, explored the Government's use of purchase cards and we learned about ways to save an estimated \$300 million annually through better management of purchase cards. Purchase cards are, in essence, credit cards that agencies give to its employees for the purpose of obtaining goods and services for the Federal Government. In fact, under Federal acquisition law, purchase cards are the Government's preferred method for making what are known as "micropurchases"—that is items costing \$2,500 or less. Although Government employees spend billions of dollars with purchase cards each year, Federal agencies do very little to analyze the items obtained with purchase cards in an attempt to get a better price for the Government.

The American people have the right to expect the Federal Government to spend their tax dollars carefully and wisely. While this is true at all times, it is never more so than today when the Government is running large budget deficits. The Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs has a special role to play in reducing wasteful spending, and I have made this role a priority at the Committee. This legislation is one aspect of our committee's efforts to reduce waste, fraud and abuse in Government spending.

Purchase cards came into Federal Government-wide use in 1989. They allow Government employees to easily and efficiently purchase routine items such as office supplies, computers and copying machines. While they are generally used for small purchases, they accounted for more than \$16 billion in Federal spending in 2003. In 1994, they accounted for only \$1 billion.

This increase in use is good news because it means that more Government spending is being executed in an expeditious manner that reduces red tape and saves on administrative costs. At the same time, the use of purchase cards should enable us to conduct comprehensive analysis of how this \$16 billion is spent and where. This information could be analyzed and used to further reduce the Federal Government's costs. At present, however, this is not being done.

Last year, Senator FEINGOLD, Representative SCHAKOWSKY and I released a report by the Government Accountability Office identifying missed opportunities for savings. According to that report the missed savings were due to both a lack of training and a lack of management attention and oversight. According to GAO, too many purchase cardholders failed to obtain readily available discounts on purchase cards buys. Even where the Government and the vendor had negotiated a discounted price for items through the General Services Administration schedules, Federal employees with purchase cards failed to take advantage of the discounted prices and their managers were completely unaware of those lost