

the 2d Armored Division; an instructor at The Judge Advocate General's School; the Staff Judge Advocate of the 32d Army Air Defense Command; the Chief of the Personnel, Plans, and Training Office; the Staff Judge Advocate of V Corps; the Assistant Judge Advocate General for Civil Law and Litigation; and the Assistant Judge Advocate General for Military Law and Operations.

He reached the top of his profession when he was appointed the 36th Judge Advocate General of the Army. General Romig is now completing his remarkable military career.

I know all my colleagues join me in saluting Major General Thomas J. Romig and his wife Pamela for their many years of truly outstanding service to The Judge Advocate General's Corps, the U.S. Army, and our country.●

SERVICE OF JOHN L. ALEXANDER

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize John L. Alexander, Jefferson Parish Public Schools Social Studies consultant and Close Up Director of Louisiana. Devoting his life to education, Mr. Alexander will retire from service on June 30, 2005. Today, I want to take a moment to offer Mr. Alexander my deep appreciation for his dedication to the families of Jefferson Parish and the entire State of Louisiana.

Mr. Alexander began his teaching career in 1967 in the Orleans Parish school system. In 1968, he acted as assistant principal and teacher at St. Philip Neri School in Metairie, LA. And in 1975, he began a 30-year career as a social studies consultant for the Jefferson Parish Public School system.

Acting as the Louisiana Director of the Close Up Foundation, Mr. Alexander has led Louisiana's involvement in the Nation's largest nonprofit citizenship education organization. In honor of Mr. Alexander's excellent example of citizenship and service, I come to the Senate floor today to express my gratitude to John Alexander for his many years of service to Louisiana.●

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 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 2:31 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 bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1042. An act to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to clarify the definition of net worth under certain circumstances for purposes of the prompt corrective action authority of the National Credit Union Administration Board, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1812. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a demonstration grant program to provide patient navigator services to reduce barriers and improve health care outcomes, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2326. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 614 West Old County Road in Belhaven, North Carolina, as the "Floyd Lupton Post Office".

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. 47. Concurrent resolution commending the establishment in College Point, New York, of the first free, public kindergarten in the United States.

H. Con. Res. 163. Concurrent resolution honoring the Sigma Chi Fraternity on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 643. An act to amend the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987 to reauthorize State mediation programs.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1812. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a demonstration grant program to provide patient navigator services to reduce barriers and improve health care outcomes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 2326. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 614 West Old County Road in Belhaven, North Carolina, as the "Floyd Lupton Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

The following concurrent resolutions were read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 47. Concurrent resolution commending the establishment in College Point, New York, of the first kindergarten in the United States; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H. Con. Res. 163. Concurrent resolution honoring the Sigma Chi Fraternity on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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-2604. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Trade Commission, transmit-

ting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report to Congress for the period from October 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2605. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Management Response for the period of October 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2606. A communication from the Inspector General, United States Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Semiannual Report for the period of October 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2607. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report for the period of October 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2608. A communication from the Chairman, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Inspector General Semiannual Report for October 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2609. A communication from the Administrator, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Report on Competitive Sourcing Results for Fiscal Year 2004; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2610. A communication from the Executive Assistant to the Secretary, Smithsonian Institution, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Facilities Management Reorganization Is Progressing, but Funding Remains a Challenge"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2611. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Inspector General Semiannual Report for the period October 1, 2004–March 31, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2612. A communication from the Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Chairman's Semiannual Report on Final Action Resulting from Audit Reports for the period of October 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2613. A communication from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Inspector General Semiannual Report for the period of September 30, 2004 through April 1, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2614. A communication from the Chairman, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period of October 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2615. A communication from the Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Office of Inspector General for the period ending March 31, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2616. A communication from the Chairman, Board of Governors, United States Postal Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Office of Inspector General and the Postal Service management response to the report for the period ending March 31, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2617. A communication from the Chair, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Inspector General's Semiannual Report and Management's Report for the period ending March 31, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2618. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report on Audit Follow-Up covering the period of October 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2619. A communication from the Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period of October 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2620. A communication from the Chairman, National Science Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the National Science Foundation (NSF) Inspector General's Semiannual Report for the period from October 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005 and reports on final actions on audits prepared by NSF management and approved by the National Science Board; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2621. A communication from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report for the period of October 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2622. A communication from the Auditor of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Review of the School Transit Subsidy Program Administered by the District of Columbia Department of Transportation"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2623. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, transmitting, pursuant to law the report of a rule entitled "5 CFR Parts 1600, 1601, 1604, 1605 1606, 1620, 1640, 1645, 1650, 1651, 1653, 1655, and 1690, Various Changes to the Thrift Savings Plan" received on June 14, 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2624. A communication from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2004 Annual Report for the Department's Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2625. A communication from the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the impacts of the Compacts of Free Association with the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Committee on Finance, without amendment:

S. 1230. An original bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the extension of the Highway Trust Fund and the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund expenditure authority and related taxes and to provide for excise tax reform and simplification, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 109-82).

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. GRASSLEY:

S. 1230. An original bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the extension of the Highway Trust Fund and the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund expenditure authority and related taxes and to provide for excise tax reform and simplification, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Finance; placed on the calendar.

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

S. 1231. A bill to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to modify provisions relating to the National Fund for Excellence in American Indian Education; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG:

S. 1232. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to increase production and use of renewable fuel and to increase the energy independence of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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

S. 1233. A bill for the relief of Diana Gecaj Engstrom; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRAIG:

S. 1234. A bill to increase, effective as of December 1, 2005, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CRAIG:

S. 1235. A bill to amend chapters 19 and 37 of title 38, United States Code, to extend the availability of \$400,000 in coverage under the servicemembers' life insurance and veterans' group life insurance programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BOND, Mr. BURNS, and Mr. AKAKA):

S. 1236. A bill to ensure the availability of spectrum to amateur radio operators; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

S. 1237. A bill to expedite the transition to digital television while helping consumers to continue to use their analog televisions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. DOMENICI):

S. 1238. A bill to amend the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 to provide for the conduct of projects that protect forests, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. DORGAN, and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 1239. A bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to permit the Indian Health Service, an Indian tribe, a tribal or-

ganization, or an urban Indian organization to pay the monthly part D premium of eligible medicare beneficiaries; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN):

S. 1240. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an investment tax credit for the purchase of trucks with new diesel engine technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KOHL (for himself and Mr. FEINGOLD):

S. 1241. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on fixed ratio speed changers for truck-mounted concrete mixers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 1242. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on lutetium oxide; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 1243. A bill to reduce temporarily the duty on triethylene glycol bis[3-(3-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-5-methylphenyl)propionate]; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN):

S. 1244. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals a deduction for qualified long-term care insurance premiums, use of such insurance under cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements, and a credit for individuals with long-term needs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 1245. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on phosphoric acid, lanthanum salt, cerium terbium-doped; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. FEINGOLD):

S. 1246. A bill to require the Secretary of Education to revise regulations regarding student loan payment deferment with respect to borrowers who are in postgraduate medical or dental internship, residency, or fellowship programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DODD (for himself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. KERRY):

S. 1247. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish a scholarship program to encourage and support students who have contributed substantial public services; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 1248. A bill to establish a servitude and emancipation archival research clearinghouse in the National Archives; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental 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. FEINGOLD:

S. Res. 171. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should submit to Congress a report on the time frame for the withdrawal of United States troops from Iraq; to the Committee on Armed Services.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 37

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas