

Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Applicability of Cost Accounting Standards Coverage" (Docket No. 3110-01) received on July 28, 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2762. A communication from the General Counsel, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Time and Material and Labor Hours Contracts for Commercial Items" (Docket No. 3110-01) received on July 28, 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2763. A communication from the General Counsel, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Changes to Acquisition Thresholds" (Docket No. 3110-01) received on July 28, 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2764. A communication from the Under Secretary for Management, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's commercial activities inventory for fiscal year 2006; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2765. A communication from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, the report of a draft bill entitled, "Veterans' Pride Initiative Act"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-2766. A communication from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, the report of a draft bill entitled, "Agent Orange Equitable Compensation Act"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-193. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of Rockland County, New York, urging Congress to schedule a public hearing in Rockland County with the Federal Aviation Administration and to not close the public comment period on the proposed airspace redesign; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

POM-194. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Louisiana urging Congress to provide funding for the Louisiana University of Medical Sciences, Inc., College of Primary Care Medicine; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 137

Whereas, Louisiana suffers with one of the worst health environments in the country, including a high infant mortality rate, a high rate of low birth weight babies, and an incidence of stroke that is 1.3 times that of the rest of the country, outside of the "stroke belt"; and

Whereas, despite the best efforts of medical education institutions in Louisiana, the deficit of primary care physicians continues; and

Whereas, less than one-half of the 1998 graduates of medical education institutions in Louisiana selected a primary care specialty; and

Whereas, Louisiana University of Medical Sciences, Inc., College of Primary Care Medicine, is a non-profit organization designed to address the shortage of primary care physicians in small towns, rural areas, and underserved areas; and

Whereas, the faculty and staff of the College of Primary Care Medicine are com-

mitted to a teaching program that addresses the shortage of primary care physicians both in Louisiana and nationwide; and

Whereas, throughout the educational experience at the College of Primary Care Medicine of the Louisiana University of Medical Sciences, Inc., the student will be exposed to a wide variety of primary health care settings; and

Whereas, through the program at the College of Primary Care Medicine of the Louisiana University of Medical Sciences, Inc., the traditional basic medical sciences will be thoroughly presented, and students will be given all the tools necessary to be successful on the United States Medical Licensing Examination. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana hereby memorializes the Congress of the United States to provide funding for the Louisiana University of Medical Sciences, Inc., College of Primary Care Medicine. Be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the secretary of the United States Senate, the clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of the Louisiana delegation to the Congress of the United States.

POM-195. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois urging Congress to act on legislation that would ensure the safety and well-being of the returning veterans who face mental illness caused by their fulfillment of their duties; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Whereas, A significant growth in Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) has been identified over the past few years with the escalation of combat veterans returning home from the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts; nation-wide calls for more assistance for those returning with mental issues as a result of combat have been growing, and this resolution is in response to those calls; and

Whereas, As of January 2007, more than 1.6 million U. S. Servicemen and women had served in Afghanistan and Iraq; and

Whereas, In October 2005, the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs reported that more than 430,000 U. S. soldiers have been discharged from the military following service in Afghanistan and Iraq; more than 119,000 have sought help for medical or mental health issues from the Department of Veterans Affairs to date; and

Whereas, In January 2006, the Journal of the American Medical Association reported that 35% of Iraq Veterans have already sought help for mental health concerns; a 2003 New England Journal of Medicine Study found that more than 60% of Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom veterans showing symptoms of PTSD were unlikely to seek help due to fears of stigmatization or loss of career advancement opportunities; and

Whereas, In 2005, the Department of Veterans Affairs reported that 18% of Afghanistan Veterans and 20% of Iraq Veterans in their care were suffering from some type of service-connected psychological disorder; and

Whereas, The Department of Veterans Affairs has seen a tenfold increase in PTSD cases in 2006; according to the VA, more than 37,000 Vets of Iraq and Afghanistan are suffering from mental health disorders, and more than 16,000 have already been diagnosed with PTSD; and

Whereas, According to the Army, since March 2003, at least 45 U. S. soldiers and 9 Marines have committed suicide in Iraq; at least 20 soldiers and 23 Marines have committed suicide since returning home, though exact numbers are not available; and

Whereas, The United States Congress is currently considering H.R. 612, H.R. 1538, S. 713, and H.R. 1268, which address the tragic Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder situation among our returning veterans; therefore, be it

Resolved, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-fifth General Assembly of the State of Illinois, that our returning veterans deserve the very best in healthcare, including mental care, and that both the Federal Government and State Governments must work together to provide this healthcare; and be it further

Resolved, That the State of Illinois wishes to be a model State for the medical care that we offer to our returning soldiers in joint partnership with the Federal Government; and be it further

Resolved, That we urge Congress to act on H.R. 612, H.R. 1538, S. 713, and H.R. 1268 for the safety and well-being of our returning veterans who face mental illness caused by their fulfillment of their duties; and be it further

Resolved, That suitable copies of this resolution be sent to the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader of the U. S. Senate, the Speaker and the Minority Leader of the U. S. House of Representatives, the Illinois Congressional Delegation, and the Director of the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. KENNEDY, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 793. A bill to provide for the expansion and improvement of traumatic brain injury programs (Rept. No. 110-140).

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 1260. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6301 Highway 58 in Harrison, Tennessee, as the "Claude Ramsey Post Office".

H.R. 1335. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 508 East Main Street in Seneca, South Carolina, as the "S Sgt Lewis G. Watkins Post Office Building".

H.R. 1425. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4551 East 52nd Street in Odessa, Texas, as the "Staff Sergeant Marvin "Rex" Young Post Office Building".

H.R. 1434. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 896 Pittsburgh Street in Springdale, Pennsylvania, as the "Rachel Carson Post Office Building".

H.R. 1617. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 561 Kingsland Avenue in University City, Missouri, as the "Harriett F. Woods Post Office Building".

H.R. 1722. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 601 Banyan Trail in Boca Raton, Florida, as the "Leonard W. Herman Post Office".

H.R. 2025. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11033 South State Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the "Willye B. White Post Office Building".

H.R. 2077. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20805 State Route 125 in Blue Creek, Ohio, as the "George B. Lewis Post Office Building".

H.R. 2078. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14536 State Route 136 in Cherry Fork, Ohio,

as the "Staff Sergeant Omer T. 'O.T.' Hawkins Post Office".

H.R. 2127. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 408 West 6th Street in Chelsea, Oklahoma, as the "Clem Rogers McSpadden Post Office Building".

H.R. 2563. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 309 East Linn Street in Marshalltown, Iowa, as the "Major Scott Nisely Post Office".

H.R. 2570. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 301 Boardwalk Drive in Fort Collins, Colorado, as the "Dr. Karl E. Carson Post Office Building".

By Mr. KENNEDY, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment:

S. 1011. A bill to change the name of the National Institute on Drug Abuse to the National Institute on Diseases of Addiction and to change the name of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism to the National Institute on Alcohol Disorders and Health.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 1539. A bill to designate the post office located at 309 East Linn Street, Marshalltown, Iowa, as the "Major Scott Nisely Post Office".

S. 1596. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 103 South Getty Street in Uvalde, Texas, as the "Dolph S. Briscoe, Jr. Post Office Building".

By Mr. KENNEDY, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1693. A bill to enhance the adoption of a nationwide interoperable health information technology system and to improve the quality and reduce the costs of health care in the United States.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 1732. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 301 Boardwalk Drive in Fort Collins, Colorado, as the "Dr. Karl E. Carson Post Office Building".

S. 1772. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 127 South Elm Street in Gardner, Kansas, as the "Private First Class Shane R. Austin Post Office".

S. 1781. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 118 Minner Avenue in Bakersfield, California, as the "Buck Owens Post Office".

S. 1896. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11 Central Street in Hillsborough, New Hampshire, as the "Officer Jeremy Todd Charron Post Office".

By Mr. DODD, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, without amendment:

S. 1923. An original bill to authorize appropriations for assistance for the Housing Assistance Council, the Raza Development Fund, and for the Housing Partnership Network (HPN) and its members, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN for the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

Jim Nussle, of Iowa, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

*Dennis R. Schrader, of Maryland, to be Deputy Administrator for National Preparedness, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

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

NOMINATIONS DISCHARGED

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of the following nominations and the nominations were confirmed:

Eric G. John, of Indiana, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Kingdom of Thailand.

Nominee: Eric G. John.

Post: Thailand.

The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.

Contributions, amount, date; and donee:

1. Self, none.
2. Spouse, none.
3. Children and spouses, none.
4. Parents: Patricia John, \$25.00, 9/2004, George W. Bush.
5. Grandparents, none.
6. Brothers and spouses, Robert John, \$250.00, 11/2003, John Edwards.
7. Sisters and spouses, none.

Michael W. Michalak, of Michigan, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Nominee: Michael W. Michalak.

Post: Washington, D.C.

The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.

Contributions, amount, date, and donee.

1. Self, none.
2. Spouse, none.
3. Children and spouses, none.
4. Parents, none.
5. Grandparents, none.
6. Brothers and spouses, none.
7. Sisters and spouses, none.

The Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry was discharged from further consideration of the following nominations and the nominations were confirmed:

Jill E. Sommers, of Kansas, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for the remainder of the term expiring April 13, 2009.

Bartholomew H. Chilton, of Delaware, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for the remainder of the term expiring April 13, 2008.

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. REED (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1910. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that amounts derived from Federal grants and State matching funds in connection with revolving funds established in accordance with the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act will not be treated as proceeds or replacement proceeds for purposes of section 148 of such Code; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Mrs. DOLE, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. KERRY):

S. 1911. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to protect the health of susceptible populations, including pregnant women, infants, and children, by requiring a health advisory, drinking water standard, and reference concentration for trichloroethylene vapor intrusion, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. 1912. A bill for the relief of Maha Dakar; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 1913. A bill to improve the amendments made by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 1914. A bill to require a comprehensive nuclear posture review, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SUNUNU:

S. 1915. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide incentives to physicians for writing electronic prescriptions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR (for himself, Mr. VITTER, and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. 1916. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to modify the program for the sanctuary system for surplus chimpanzees by terminating the authority for the removal of chimpanzees from the system for research purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. TESTER):

S. 1917. A bill to include Idaho and Montana as affected areas for purposes of making claims under the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (42 U.S.C. 2210 note) based on exposure to atmospheric nuclear testing; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 1918. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to expand the definition of firefighter to include apprentices and trainees, regardless of age or duty limitations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. HATCH, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 1919. A bill to establish trade enforcement priorities for the United States, to strengthen the provisions relating to trade remedies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. REID:

S. 1920. A bill to award competitive grants to eligible partnerships to enable the partnerships to implement innovative strategies