

Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Prospective Payment System and Consolidated Billing for Skilled Nursing Facilities—Update for Fiscal Year 2008" (RIN0938-AO64) received on August 1, 2007; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2780. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Center for Medicare Management, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program; Changes to the Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment Systems and Fiscal Year 2008 Rates" (RIN0938-AO70) received on August 1, 2007; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2781. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Section 1248 Attribution Principles" ((RIN1545-BA93)(TD 9345)) received on July 29, 2007; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2782. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Return Required by Subchapter T Cooperatives under Section 6012" ((RIN1545-BF82)(TD 9336)) received on July 29, 2007; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2783. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a certification of a proposed technical assistance agreement for the export of technical data, defense services, and articles related to the Laser-based Directional Infrared Countermeasures System to the United Kingdom; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2784. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to waiving the restrictions contained in the Cooperative Threat Reduction Act with respect to Uzbekistan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2785. A communication from the Under Secretary of Commerce (Intellectual Property), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Miscellaneous Changes to Trademark Trial and Appeal Board Rules" (RIN0651-AB56) received on July 31, 2007; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2786. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Changes in the Regulation of Iodine Crystals and Chemical Mixtures Containing Over 2.2 Percent Iodine" (RIN1117-AA93) received on July 31, 2007; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2787. A communication from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to statistics on the operation of the premerger notification program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2788. A communication from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, the report of a draft bill intended to clarify the requirements for special monthly pension based on age and disability; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mrs. BOXER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, without amendment:

H.R. 50. A bill to reauthorize the African Elephant Conservation Act and the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994.

H.R. 465. A bill to reauthorize the Asian Elephant Conservation Act of 1997.

By Mrs. BOXER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 742. A bill to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to reduce the health risks posed by asbestos-containing products, and for other purposes.

S. 775. A bill to establish a National Commission on the Infrastructure of the United States.

S. 1785. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to establish deadlines by which the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall issue a decision on whether to grant certain waivers of preemption under that Act.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. LEVIN for the Committee on Armed Services.

Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. David A. Deptula, 6792, to be Lieutenant General.

Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. Claude R. Kehler, 6600, to be General.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Kenneth W. Hunzeker, 4503, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Lt. Gen. James D. Thurman, 8182, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Lt. Gen. James J. Lovelace, 0304, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Carter F. Ham, 0921, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Col. Lawrence A. Haskins, 3608, to be Brigadier General.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. Richard K. Gallagher, 9308, to be Vice Admiral.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. Robert T. Moeller, 1217, to be Vice Admiral.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. James A. Winnefeld, Jr., 5212, to be Vice Admiral.

Navy nomination of Adm. Michael G. Mullen, 9509, to be Admiral.

Marine Corps nomination of Gen. James E. Cartwright, 5961, to be General.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Air Force nomination of Damion T. Gottlieb, 5640, to be Major.

Air Force nomination of Francis E. Lowe, 3894, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Lista M. Benson and ending with Karen L. Weis, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 25, 2007.

Air Force nominations beginning with Kevin C. Blakley and ending with Robert A. Tetla, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 25, 2007.

Air Force nominations beginning with Robert K. Abernathy and ending with Anthony J. Zucco, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 25, 2007.

Air Force nominations beginning with Mary Ann Behan and ending with Paul A. Willingham, which nominations were re-

ceived by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 25, 2007.

Army nominations beginning with Dawud A. Agbere and ending with Edward J. Yurus, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 25, 2007.

Army nominations beginning with Blake C. Ortner and ending with Andrew S. Zeller, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 25, 2007.

Army nominations beginning with Julie A. Bentz and ending with Thomas L. Turpin, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 25, 2007.

Army nominations beginning with Larry L. Guyton and ending with Linda M. Williams, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 25, 2007.

Navy nominations beginning with Jose A. Acosta and ending with Lawrence A. Ramirez, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 25, 2007.

Navy nominations beginning with Douglas P. Barber, Jr. and ending with Thomas J. Welsh, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 25, 2007.

Navy nominations beginning with Susan D. Chacon and ending with Seung C. Yang, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 25, 2007.

Navy nominations beginning with Enein Y. H. Aboul and ending with Kimberly A. Zuzelski, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 25, 2007.

By Mr. INOUYE for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

*William G. Sutton, Jr., of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

*Ronald Spoehel, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

*Thomas J. Barrett, of Alaska, to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation.

*Paul R. Brubaker, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Department of Transportation.

Mr. INOUYE. Mr. President, for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation I report favorably the following nomination list which was printed in the RECORD on the date indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that this nomination lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

*Coast Guard nomination of Kristine B. Neeley, 1750, to be Lieutenant.

By Mr. CONRAD for the Committee on the Budget.

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

*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.)

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. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 1934. A bill to extend the existing provisions regarding the eligibility for essential air service subsidies through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. GREGG, Mr. COBURN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAIG, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. THUNE, Mr. VITTER, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. KYL, and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. 1935. A bill to establish a Commission on Congressional Budgetary Accountability and Review of Federal Agencies; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SALAZAR (for himself, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BAYH, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. INOUE, Mr. KERRY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. HAGEL, and Mr. BROWNBACK):

S. 1936. A bill to provide for a plebiscite on the future status of Puerto Rico; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. COLEMAN (for himself and Ms. KLOUCHAR):

S. 1937. A bill to authorize additional funds for emergency repairs and reconstruction of the Interstate I-35 bridge located in Minneapolis, Minnesota, that collapsed on August 1, 2007, to waive the \$100,000,000 limitation on emergency relief funds for those emergency repairs and reconstruction, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. REED:

S. 1938. A bill to provide for the reviewing, updating, and maintenance of National Flood Insurance Program rate maps, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. DOMENICI):

S. 1939. A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain land in the Santa Fe National Forest, New Mexico; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. DOMENICI):

S. 1940. A bill to reauthorize the Rio Puerco Watershed Management Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself and Mr. PRYOR):

S. 1941. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Wolf House, located in Norfolk, Arkansas, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. CLINTON, and Ms. MIKULSKI):

S. 1942. A bill to amend part D of title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants for the renovation of schools; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 1943. A bill to establish uniform standards for interrogation techniques applicable

to individuals under the custody or physical control of the United States Government; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. CASEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. STEVENS, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 1944. A bill to provide justice for victims of state-sponsored terrorism; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 1945. A bill to provide a Federal income tax credit for Patriot employers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 1946. A bill to help Federal prosecutors and investigators combat public corruption by strengthening and clarifying the law; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 1947. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to improve the quality improvement organization (QIO) program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VOINOVICH:

S. 1948. A bill to award grants to establish Advanced Multidisciplinary Computing Software Centers, which shall conduct outreach, technology transfer, development, and utilization programs in specific industries and geographic regions for the benefit of small- and medium-size manufacturers and businesses; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CRAIG, and Mr. DOMENICI):

S. 1949. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to provide loans to certain organizations in certain States to address habitats and ecosystems and to address and prevent invasive species; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BAYH, and Mr. DODD):

S. 1950. A bill to require a report on contingency planning for the redeployment of United States forces from Iraq; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. SMITH, and Mr. LOTT):

S. 1951. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to ensure that individuals eligible for medical assistance under the Medicaid program continue to have access to prescription drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. SMITH, and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 1952. A bill to provide a Federal tax exemption for forest conservation bonds, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. FEINGOLD:

S. 1953. A bill to amend the Agricultural Manufacturing Act of 1946 to require labeling of raw agricultural forms of ginseng, including the country of harvest, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. ENZI, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. SMITH, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 1954. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to pharmacies under part D; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 1955. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to make grants to first responder agencies that have employees in the National Guard or Reserves on active duty; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. MCCAIN, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. LEVIN):

S. 1956. A bill to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to provide equitable access for foster care and adoption services for Indian children in tribal areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. KOHL, Mrs. CLINTON, and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 1957. A bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to provide protection for fashion design; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. KERRY, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. COLEMAN):

S. 1958. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure and foster continued patient quality of care by establishing facility and patient criteria for long-term care hospitals and related improvements under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 1959. A bill to establish the National Commission on the Prevention of Violent Radicalization and Homegrown Terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. KERRY):

S. 1960. A bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to improve surety bond guarantees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. SESSIONS:

S. 1961. A bill to expand the boundaries of the Little River Canyon National Preserve in the State of Alabama; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SESSIONS:

S. 1962. A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to authorize a regional water enhancement program in the environmental quality incentives program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. CARPER):

S. 1963. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow bonds guaranteed by the Federal home loan banks to be treated as tax exempt bonds; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 1964. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish new separate fee schedule areas for physicians' services in States with multiple fee schedule areas to improve Medicare physician geographic payment accuracy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. STEVENS (for himself, Mr. INOUE, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. PRYOR, and Mr. NELSON of Florida):

S. 1965. A bill to protect children from cybercrimes, including crimes by online