

for Humanity. This is a prestigious award that reflects their hard work and dedication to eliminating poverty around the world. It is also a reflection of the valuable role they have played in giving back to their local community.

Okiciyapi Tipi works with the Midwest Region Habitat for Humanity International. By creating new progressive partnerships with local banks, Okiciyapi Tipi has helped to facilitate tremendous rehabbing projects for the past two seasons. These projects have drawn volunteers from across the world. Jerry Farlee, executive director of Okiciyapi Tipi, has been nominated for a 3-year term on the U.S. Advisory Council for Habitat for Humanity International in order to further support the goals of the affiliates servicing rural areas.

It gives me great pleasure to recognize Okiciyapi Tipi and to congratulate them on receiving this well-earned award and wish them continued success in the years to come.●

#### RECOGNIZING KELLI VAN STEENWYK

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Kelli Van Steenwyk for receiving the Supporter of the Year Award from the South Dakota Habitat for Humanity. This is a prestigious award that reflects her hard work and dedication to eliminating poverty around the world. It is also a reflection of the valuable role she has played in giving back to her local community.

Kelli Van Steenwyk with Hub Area Habitat for Humanity is employed by Wells Fargo Financial and gathered building and committee assistance for Hub Area Habitat for Humanity. Kelli recruited the support of 12 other co-workers. Working alongside Kirstie Hoon, Kelli has shown great leadership. Her fundraising committee has been successful at contributing greatly to Hub Area Habitat for Humanity activities. Kelli is a valuable supporter of the Aberdeen community.

It gives me great pleasure to recognize Kelli Van Steenwyk and to congratulate her on receiving this well-earned award and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

#### RECOGNIZING WELLS FARGO

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I wish to recognize Wells Fargo for receiving the Supporter of the Year Award from the South Dakota Habitat for Humanity. This is a prestigious award that reflects their hard work and dedication to eliminating poverty around the world. It is also a reflection of the valuable role they have played in giving back to their local community.

Wells Fargo works with Habitat for Humanity of South Dakota. Wells Fargo has distributed donations to Habitat for Humanity affiliates across South Dakota. These generous donations have exceeded \$883,000. Wells Fargo employees have been a major asset to Habitat for Humanity of South Dakota by volunteering 16,000 hours of labor in the construction of 33 homes across the state. Wells Fargo's finan-

cial and volunteer support has allowed Habitat for Humanity to substantially expand its work throughout South Dakota.

It gives me great pleasure to recognize Wells Fargo and to congratulate them on receiving this well-earned award and wish them continued success in the years to come.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, 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.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:33 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, 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. 4156, An act making emergency supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

At 3:12 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, 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. 719, An act to authorize additional appropriations for supervision of Internet access by sex offenders convicted under Federal law, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3320, An act to provide assistance for the Museum of the History of Polish Jews in Warsaw, Poland.

H.R. 3845, An act to establish a Special Counsel for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction within the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, to improve the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, to increase resources for regional computer forensic labs, and to make other improvements to increase the ability of law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute child predators.

H.R. 4120, An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for more effective prosecution of cases involving child pornography, and for other purposes.

At 3:38 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 259, Concurrent resolution providing for an adjournment or recess of the two Houses.

#### 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-247. A resolution adopted by the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission at their annual meeting relative to the opinions of the oil and gas producing states on certain matters; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-248. A resolution adopted by the Atlanta World War II Round Table urging Congress to add words to the inscription on the World War II Memorial; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-249. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan urging Congress to reauthorize Amtrak funding and support states in their efforts to expand passenger rail service; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 107

Whereas, passenger rail service has historically focused on long distance routes. States may provide shorter, regional service if the state pays most of the cost. Fourteen states, including Michigan, Illinois, and Wisconsin, provide funding support to Amtrak to support in-state and regional passenger rail systems; and

Whereas, ridership on these shorter, regional routes has increased dramatically in the past two years. Ticket sales on Midwest intercity rail lines have reached record numbers. In Michigan, ridership has risen by 31 percent on the Blue Water passenger train and 20 percent on the Wolverine passenger train over the past two years. The state hopes to add passenger rail service between Detroit and Ann Arbor. Expanded passenger rail service is being promoted as a solution to rising oil prices, pollution, and increased highway congestion; and

Whereas, states would like federal assistance in funding the shorter passenger rail services. Federal matching dollars are provided for other transportation modes, and states would like to see a similar program for in-state and regional passenger rail projects. Senate Bill 294, currently before the United States Senate, would provide \$19.2 billion in reauthorization funds to Amtrak and provide grants to state projects: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives,* That we memorialize Congress to reauthorize Amtrak funding and support states in their efforts to expand passenger rail service; and be it further

*Resolved,* That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-250. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of New York urging Congress to eliminate the expiration period of the Federal Do Not Call Registry; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### SENATE No. 3582

Whereas, the Do Not Call Registry was established in the State of New York in 2000 to protect citizens from unwanted sales calls; it was made more effective in 2003, when it merged with the National Do Not Call Registry; and

Whereas, the National Do Not Call Registry provides citizens across the state and country with the privacy they deserve and adequate penalties for businesses which violate that privacy by persisting with unwanted phone calls; and

Whereas, the merging of the two Do Not Call Registries has effectively protected New York State residents from bothersome and unwanted phone solicitations for the last five years; and

Whereas, due to the five year expiration of the National Do Not Call Registry, many of the first enrollees will soon again be vulnerable to telephone solicitations unless they re-enroll: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved,* That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to urge the New York

State Congressional Delegation to eliminate the 5-year expiration date and make the National Do Not Call Registry permanent; and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the President of the Senate of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to each member of the Congress of the United States from the State of New York.

POM-251. A resolution adopted by the Midwestern Legislative Conference of the Council of State Governments expressing the Council's support for improved vehicle fuel economy; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### RESOLUTION

Whereas, H.R. 2927 sets tough fuel economy standards without off ramps or loopholes, by requiring separate car and truck standards to meet a total fleet fuel economy between 32 and 35 mpg by 2022—an increase of as much as 40 percent over current fuel economy standards—and requires vehicle fuel economy to be increased to the maximum feasible level in the years leading up to 2022; and

Whereas, H.R. 2927, while challenging, will provide automakers more reasonable lead time to implement technology changes in both the near- and long-term. Model year 2008 vehicles are already available today, and product and manufacturing planning is done through Model Year 2012. H.R. 2927 recognizes the critical need for engineering lead times necessary for manufacturers to make significant changes to their fleets; and

Whereas, H.R. 2927 respects consumer choice by protecting the important functional differences between passenger cars and light trucks/SUV's. Last year, 2006, was the sixth year in a row that Americans bought more trucks, minivans, and SUVs than passenger cars, because they value attributes such as passenger and cargo load capacity, four-wheel drive, and towing capability that most cars are not designed to provide; and

Whereas, while some would like fuel economy increases to be much more aggressive and be implemented with much less lead time, Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards must be set at levels and in time frames that do not impose economic harm on the manufacturers, suppliers, dealers, and others in the auto industry; and

Whereas, proponents of unrealistic and unattainable CAFE standards cite Europe's 35 mpg fuel economy, without ever mentioning Europe's \$6 per gallon gasoline prices, the high sales of diesel vehicles, the high proportion of Europeans driving manual transmission vehicles (80 percent in Europe vs. 8 percent in the U.S.), the significant differences in the size mix of vehicles, or that trucks and SUVs are virtually nonexistent among European households; and

Whereas, proponents of unreasonable CAFE standards claim they will save consumers billions, but they neglect to talk about the upfront costs of such changes to the manufacturers of meeting unduly strict CAFE standards—more than \$100 billion, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration—which will lead to vehicle price increases of several thousand dollars; and

Whereas, proponents of unrealistic CAFE standards ignore the potential safety impacts of downsized vehicles on America's highways and overlook the historical role and critical importance of manufacturing plants to our national and economic security. They seem unconcerned about threats to the 7.5 million jobs that are directly and indirectly dependent on a vibrant auto industry in the United States; and

Whereas, H.R. 2927 is a reasonable bill that balances a number of important public policy concerns. The bill represents a tough but fair compromise that deserves serious consideration and support: Now therefore be it

*Resolved*, by the Council of State Governments Midwestern Legislative Conference, That we memorialize the United States Congress to enact H.R. 2927, which responsibly balances achievable fuel economy increases with important economic and social concerns, including consumer demand; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this resolution be submitted to the President of the U.S. Senate, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, and the members of the congressional delegations of all Midwestern Legislative Conference states.

POM-252. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Pennsylvania urging Congress to override the President's veto of the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007; to the Committee on Finance.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 447

Whereas, the highly successful State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), created by the Federal Balanced Budget Act of 1997, has enabled states to provide health care coverage to more than 6 million uninsured low-income children in this country; and

Whereas, through the program's enhanced Federal match funding, Pennsylvania is currently helping to provide health care coverage to more than 164,000 low-income children who do not qualify for Medicaid and would otherwise be uninsured; and

Whereas, Pennsylvania led the nation in launching the first Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 1992 and provided the model for Federal support of all states; and

Whereas, in 2006, Pennsylvania continued its leadership by expanding affordable health care coverage to uninsured children through its Cover All Kids program; and

Whereas, the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007, H.R. 976, is a bipartisan compromise plan to reauthorize the SCHIP program, which expired on September 30, 2007, and to expand coverage to an additional 3.8 million children; and

Whereas, on October 3, 2007, the President of the United States vetoed H.R. 976, citing philosophical differences with regard to the expansion of the program; and

Whereas, this veto will severely hamper Pennsylvania's efforts to help more than 133,000 remaining uninsured children obtain access to health care coverage; and

Whereas, it is critical that this legislation be enacted to ensure affordable health care coverage for all uninsured children: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania condemn the veto by the President of the United States of the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress of the United States to override the veto; and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, to the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

POM-253 A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan urging Congress to override the President's veto of the State Children's

Health Insurance Program; to the Committee on Finance.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 201

Whereas, since 1997, the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCRIP) has provided health insurance for children under age 19 from low income families who are not eligible for Medicaid. The program allocated over \$40 billion for SCRIP through 2007 to states that provided matching funds to plan a SCRIP program, to expand their Medicaid program, or to implement a combined program relying on Medicaid and separate private plans; and

Whereas, the compromise SCHIP bill passed by Congress was vetoed by President Bush. This bipartisan measure would have reauthorized the program and added \$35 billion over the next five years to cover 10 million children, including the 6.6 million currently covered and 4 million additional uninsured children; and

Whereas, the number of uninsured children declined by 26.6%, resulting in nearly 79,000 more children having health care coverage than ten years ago. MI Child has operated in conjunction with the Medicaid program to provide a much-needed safety net for Michigan's children; and

Whereas, an override of this veto is crucial to providing access to health care for millions of children. Expansion of this successful program is long overdue and strongly supported by the American people. Politics and misplaced priorities should not supersede a bipartisan solution to protect the health and lives of our most vulnerable citizens—innocent children: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives*, That we memorialize the United States Congress to override the President's veto of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP); and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-254. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Pennsylvania expressing support for "National Food Safety Education Month"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 398

Whereas, in 1994, the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation's (NRAEF) International Food Safety Council created "National Food Safety Education Month" as an annual campaign; and

Whereas, the purpose of "National Food Safety Education Month" is to strengthen food safety education and training among persons in the restaurant and food service business and to educate the public on the safe handling and preparation of food; and

Whereas, there are more than 200 known foodborne diseases caused by viruses, toxins and metals and usually stemming from the improper handling, preparation or storage of food; and

Whereas, bacteria are the common cause of the foodborne illness; and

Whereas, foodborne illness costs the United States economy billions of dollars each year in lost productivity, hospitalization, long-term disability and even death; and

Whereas, the United States Department of Agriculture estimated that in 2000 medical costs and losses in productivity resulting from five bacterial foodborne pathogens was \$6.9 billion; and

Whereas, it is estimated that in 2001 the annual cost of salmonellosis caused by the

Salmonella bacteria was \$2.14 billion, including medical costs, the cost of time lost from work and the cost or value of premature death; and

Whereas, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that in the United States, there are 76 million illnesses, 325,000 hospitalizations and 5,000 deaths per year due to consumption of food contaminated with pathogenic microorganisms; and

Whereas, numerous cases have occurred in the United States and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania: 2007—Salmonella from peanut butter in 44 states, 425 cases; 2006—E. coli in eight states from fresh spinach, 205 cases, including 3 deaths; and 2003—hepatitis A from Chi-Chi's sourced green onions in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and

Whereas, up to 2,000 cases of salmonellosis occur each year in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and

Whereas, following four simple steps, consumers can keep food safe from bacteria: clean—wash hands and surfaces often; separate—do not cross-contaminate; cook—cook to proper temperature; and chill—refrigerate promptly; Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania express full and enthusiastic support for "National Food Safety Education Month" in September 2007; and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

POM-255. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Michigan urging Congress to provide for the construction and maintenance of a national cemetery in Michigan's Upper Peninsula; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 102

Whereas, a measure of the respect our nation accords the men and women who protect us through their military service is how we treat our veterans long after they have finished their military duty. The network of national cemeteries under the administration of the United States Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) is a most appropriate expression of the respect a grateful citizenry holds for those who have worn the nation's uniforms and faced grave perils to safeguard our freedoms; and

Whereas, ever since President Lincoln signed legislation during the Civil War to create national cemeteries as final resting places "for soldiers who have died in the service of the country," this network of cemeteries has grown. Today, there are 141 national cemeteries, with 125 under the VA National Cemetery Administration. New facilities are regularly developed; and

Whereas, despite the growth in the number of national cemeteries, including the addition of the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly that opened in 2005, veterans in our Upper Peninsula remain very far from any such facility. In fact, the nearest national cemeteries are hundreds of miles away, near Milwaukee and Minneapolis. This distance presents a significant obstacle for the families of many veterans. We should do all we can to make this measure of honor and respect more readily available to all veterans: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate*, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to provide for the construction and maintenance of a national cemetery in Michigan's Upper Peninsula; and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 719. An act to authorize additional appropriations for supervision of Internet access by sex offenders convicted under Federal law, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 3320. An act to provide assistance for the Museum of the History of Polish Jews in Warsaw, Poland; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 3845. An act to establish a Special Counsel for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction within the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, to improve the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, to increase resources for regional computer forensic labs, and to make other improvements to increase the ability of law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute child predators; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 4120. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for more effective prosecution of cases involving child pornography, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 4156. An act making emergency supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 2363. A bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BYRD, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Special Report entitled "Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals from the Concurrent Resolution, Fiscal Year 2008" (Rept. No. 120-230).

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

Report to accompany S. 1642, a bill to extend the authorization of programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 110-231).

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 366. A resolution designating November 2007 as "National Methamphetamine Awareness Month", to increase awareness of methamphetamine abuse.

S. Res. 367. A resolution commemorating the 40th anniversary of the mass movement for Soviet Jewish freedom and the 20th anniversary of the Freedom Sunday rally for Soviet Jewry on the National Mall.

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

S. 1970. A bill to establish a National Commission on Children and Disasters, a National Resource Center on Children and Disasters, and for other purposes.

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

S. 2272. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service known as the Southpark Station in Alexandria, Louisiana, as the John "Marty" Thiels Southpark Station, in honor and memory of Thiels, a Louisiana postal worker who was killed in the line of duty on October 4, 2007.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. LEVIN for the Committee on Armed Services.

\*Douglas A. Brook, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

\*John J. Young, Jr., of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics.

\*Robert L. Smolen, of Pennsylvania, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration.

Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. Carrol H. Chandler, 9115, to be General.

Army nomination of Col. Donald L. Ruthford, 5430, to be Brigadier General.

Army nominations beginning with Colonel Joseph Carvalho, Jr. and ending with Colonel Keith W. Gallagher, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on October 18, 2007.

Army nomination of Lt. Gen. Thomas F. Metz, 5686, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Jeffrey A. Sorenson, 3510, to be Lieutenant 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 Michael V. Siebert, 6633, to be Captain.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brian D. O'neil and ending with Frank R. Vidal, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 1, 2007.

Army nomination of Anthony Barber, 5447, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Tim C. Lawson, 5165, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Richard D. Fox II, 3613, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of John G. Goulet, 3964, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of David L. Patten, 9398, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Mark J. Benedict and ending with Gustav D. Waterhouse, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 1, 2007.

Marine Corps nomination of Melvin L. Chattman, 5718, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Dana R. Brown and ending with Mark R. Reid, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 1, 2007.

Navy nominations beginning with Julian D. Arellano and ending with Jared W. Wyrick, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 1, 2007.

By Mr. LEAHY for the Committee on the Judiciary.