

transmitting, pursuant to law, notification of the fact that the Commission's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2007 is now available; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3976. A communication from the Chairman, International Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3977. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Retention Incentives" (RIN3206-AL41) received on November 15, 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3978. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Prevailing Rate Systems: Abolishment of Rock Island, Illinois, as a Non-appropriated Fund Federal Wage System Wage Area" (RIN3206-AL44) received on November 13, 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3979. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Prevailing Rate Systems: Definition of the Municipality of Bayamon, PR, to a Nonappropriated Fund Federal Wage System Wage Area" (RIN3206-AL43) received on November 13, 2007; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3980. A communication from the Senior Associate General Counsel, National Counterterrorism Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy and designation of an acting officer for the position of Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, received on November 13, 2007; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC-3981. A communication from the White House Liaison, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of Attorney General, received on November 13, 2007; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3982. A communication from the White House Liaison, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy for the position of Secretary, received on November 13, 2007; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petition or memorial was laid before the Senate and was referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-256. A resolution adopted by the Macomb County Board of Commissioners of the State of Michigan urging Congress to support H.R. 2927 which addresses increases in fuel economy; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 274. A bill to amend chapter 23 of title 5, United States Code, to clarify the disclosures of information protected from prohibited personnel practices, require a statement in

nondisclosure policies, forms, and agreements that such policies, forms, and agreements conform with certain disclosure protections, provide certain authority for the Special Counsel, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 110-232).

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2248. An original bill to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978, to modernize and streamline the provisions of that Act, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. AKAKA for the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

\*Michael W. Hager, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Human Resources and Management).

\*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.

#### 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. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. BURR):

S. 2376. A bill to establish a demonstration project to provide for patient-centered medical homes to improve the effectiveness and efficiency in providing medical assistance under the Medicaid program and child health assistance under the State Children's Health Insurance Program; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 2377. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the quality of care provided to veterans in Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities, to encourage highly qualified doctors to serve in hard-to-fill positions in such medical facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. ROBERTS:

S. 2378. A bill to authorize the voluntary purchase of certain properties in Treece, Kansas, endangered by the Cherokee County National Priorities List Site, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 2379. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Interior to cancel certain grazing leases on land in Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument that are voluntarily waived by the lessees, to provide for the exchange of certain Monument land in exchange for private land, to designate certain Monument land as wilderness, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 2380. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modernize the application of the subpart F rules to computer software, to expand the subpart F de minimis rule, and to extend certain expiring provisions; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 2381. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend and improve protections for sole community hospitals under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PRYOR:

S. 2382. A bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to quickly and fairly address the abundance of surplus manufactured housing units set red by the Federal Government around the country at taxpayer expense; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 2383. A bill to require a pilot program on the mobile provision of care and services for veterans in rural areas by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SALAZAR:

S. 2384. A bill to authorize the Chief of Engineers to conduct a feasibility study relating to the construction of a multipurpose project in the Fountain Creek watershed located in the State of Colorado; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. 2385. A bill to provide Federal Perkins Loan cancellation to fire fighters; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 2386. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, to authorize temporary mortgage and rental payments; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 2387. A bill to establish guidelines and incentives for States to establish arsonist registries and to require the Attorney General to establish a national arsonist registry and notification program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 2388. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, to increase the maximum amount of assistance to individuals and households; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 2389. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the alternative minimum tax credit amount for individuals with long-term unused credits for prior year minimum tax liability, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 2390. A bill to promote fire-safe communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. REED:

S. 2391. A bill to provide for affordable housing relief, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. OBAMA:

S. 2392. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to establish and maintain a public website through which individuals may find a complete database of available scholarships, fellowships, and other programs of financial assistance in the study of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 2393. A bill to close the loophole that allowed the 9/11 hijackers to obtain credit

cards from United States banks that financed their terrorist activities, to ensure that illegal immigrants cannot obtain credit cards to evade United States immigration laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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

S. 2394. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to simplify, modernize, and improve public notice of and access to tax lien information by providing for a national, Internet accessible, filing system for Federal tax liens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. CLINTON (for herself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

S. 2395. A bill to establish an adoption process improvement pilot program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. LOTT, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 2396. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to modernize the quality improvement organization (QIO) program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

S. 2397. A bill to amend the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 to preserve and expand minority depository institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S. 2398. A bill to phase out the use of private military contractors; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

S. 2399. A bill to expand and improve housing counseling services by increasing financial education and counseling services available to homeowners and prospective homebuyers in financial turmoil or who seek credit or other personal financial assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. DODD):

S.J. Res. 25. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of John W. McCarter as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. Res. 385. A resolution honoring those who have volunteered to assist in the cleanup of the November 7, 2007, oil spill in San Francisco Bay; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. Res. 386. A resolution to authorize testimony and legal representation in State of Nebraska v. Pamir J. Safi; considered and agreed to.

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

S. Res. 387. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the degradation of the Jordan River and the Dead Sea and welcoming cooperation between the peoples of Israel, Jordan, and the Palestinian Authority; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. Con. Res. 53. A concurrent resolution condemning the kidnapping and hostage-taking of 3 United States citizens for over 4 years by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), and demanding their immediate and unconditional release; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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

S. Con. Res. 54. A concurrent resolution supporting the designation of a week as "National Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Automated External Defibrillator Awareness Week"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. WEBB):

S. Con. Res. 55. A concurrent resolution commemorating the centennial anniversary of the sailing of the Navy's "Great White Fleet", launched by President Theodore Roosevelt on December 16, 1907, from Hampton Roads, Virginia, and returning there on February 22, 1909; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. DODD, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Con. Res. 56. A concurrent resolution encouraging the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to take action to ensure a peaceful transition to democracy in Burma; considered and agreed to.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 60

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 60, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide a means for continued improvement in emergency medical services for children.

S. 325

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 325, a bill to provide for innovation in health care through State initiatives that expand coverage and access and improve quality and efficiency in the health care system.

S. 380

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 380, a bill to reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

S. 469

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 469, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the special rule for contributions of qualified conservation contributions.

S. 505

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 505, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the above-the-line deduction for teacher classroom supplies and to expand such deduction to include qualified professional development expenses.

S. 583

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor

of S. 583, a bill to create a competitive grant program for States to enable the States to award salary bonuses to highly qualified elementary school or secondary school teachers who teach, or commit to teach, for at least 3 academic years in a school served by a rural local educational agency.

S. 747

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 747, a bill to terminate the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and for other purposes.

S. 803

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 803, a bill to repeal a provision enacted to end Federal matching of State spending of child support incentive payments.

S. 912

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 912, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the incentives for the construction and renovation of public schools.

S. 1000

At the request of Mr. STEVENS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1000, a bill to enhance the Federal Telework Program.

S. 1102

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1102, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expedite the application and eligibility process for low-income subsidies under the Medicare prescription drug program and to revise the resource standards used to determine eligibility for an income-related subsidy, and for other purposes.

S. 1103

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1103, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to include costs incurred by the Indian Health Service, a Federally qualified health center, an AIDS drug assistance program, certain hospitals, or a pharmaceutical manufacturer patient assistance program in providing prescription drugs toward the annual out of pocket threshold under part D of the Medicare program.

S. 1108

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1108, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide a special enrollment period for individuals who qualify for an income-related subsidy under the Medicare prescription drug program and to provide funding for the conduct of outreach