

based program recidivated over a 2-year period.

One of the most effective reentry strategies that Safer, the Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights, and other nonprofit organizations have devised is transitional jobs, a strategy that worked for welfare to work, and is now working for prison returnees. In a transitional jobs program, former prisoners with employment challenges are hired and paid a wage for legitimate employment in a time-limited, subsidized job. The program not only offers real work, income, skill development, and a letter of reference and experience to add to their resume, it also offers coaching and support services to help participants overcome substantial barriers to employment, such as substance abuse or mental health issues. The program focuses heavily on placement into unsubsidized work at the earliest possible time and job retention services after placement.

The participants in transitional jobs programs gain an immediate source of legitimate income upon release. They also gain paid work experience, access to professional counseling and training services, and a clear path to unsubsidized employment in the community. Employers gain access to a pipeline of supported workers who have demonstrated an ability to do the job and remain employable. Most of all, our communities gain by helping ex-prisoners to contribute positively to family, neighborhood, and the larger environment.

Too many people are caught up in the criminal justice system. Especially within the African-American community where nearly a third of Black males will enter State or Federal prison sometime during their lifetime. Communities are protected and strengthened when people who break the law are punished appropriately. But communities—all communities, including yours and mine—are weakened if we neglect the challenges of rehabilitation and reentry.

To improve the integration of former prisoners and to reduce recidivism is in all of our best interests. A well-designed reentry system can enhance public safety, reduce recidivism, reduce costs, and help prisoners achieve long-term integration. The Second Chance Act is an important effort to strengthen America's communities. The bill is supported by a wide range of organizations, and I urge my colleagues to join us in passing this important legislation.

CONGRATULATING ZACH JOHNSON

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I am pleased today to have the fortunate opportunity to recognize and congratulate a fellow Iowan on a magnificent achievement. On Sunday, 31-year-old Zach Johnson won the prestigious Masters golf tournament at the famed Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, GA. I am joined by my colleague, Sen-

ator HARKIN, in submitting a Senate resolution congratulating Zach for his victory.

Zach not only won one of the most difficult golf tournaments in the world, he also won quite possibly one of the most difficult of all the Masters' tournaments in history. Gusting winds and bitterly cold weather combined with the traditional challenges of the golf course to create one of the toughest tournaments. His winning score of one-over-par 289 tied the highest winning score in Masters history. In the process, he beat fellow golf champions Tiger Woods and Retief Goosen by two-strokes.

Zach was born in Iowa City and grew up in Cedar Rapids, playing golf at Elmcrest Country Club in Cedar Rapids. He went on to play golf at Drake University in Des Moines, graduating in 1998. To continue his pursuits as a professional golfer, Zach counted on the support of family and friends in Cedar Rapids who believed in him. His success didn't happen overnight; his dedication to the game and his hard work ethic helped him earn the prized green jacket.

Even in the aftermath of winning one of golf's highest achievements, he remained humble in his acceptance. He attributed much of his success to his perseverance and patience. He recognized his family and friends who believed in him even when he wasn't so sure himself, and as a man of faith he knew there was another power guiding him.

Through it all, he continued to insist that he's just a normal guy from Cedar Rapids, IA. I am proud of Zach Johnson for his brilliant win, and I am proud of him as an Iowan. I know Iowans are honored and blessed to have a person like Zach Johnson representing us in the world of professional golf. So I congratulate him on his outstanding victory, and I wish him and his family all the best.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING STELLA WILDRICK

• Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, today I want to recognize the devoted service of Stella Wildrick, who will retire on April 27, 2007, after 15 years as Postmistress for Lake Minchumina, AK.

Lake Minchumina is situated near the geographical center of Alaska, 65 miles north-northwest of our great Denali National Park. A remote and rural community accessible only by air, Lake Minchumina depends upon mail service for the delivery of food, clothing, and supplies, as well as correspondence.

As Postmistress, Stella has been a very important person in this community where everything that cannot be harvested or made from the land must be flown in.

Throughout the past 15 years, Stella has also been an asset to the U.S. Post-

al Service as a professional, friendly, dependable and always helpful representative. With advances in technology, Postmistress Wildrick has overseen many changes to the mail service in Lake Minchumina.

The people of Lake Minchumina and Alaska are deeply grateful for her sacrifice and willingness to go above and beyond the usual to ensure quality mail service.

I commend Postmistress Wildrick for her dedication to the Lake Minchumina community and wish her all the best in her well-deserved retirement.●

COMMENDING THE WORK OF STUDENT EMPLOYEES

• Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, today I recognize and celebrate students who work while attending college as part of the University of Minnesota Duluth's, UMD, National Student Employment Week.

During the week of April 9-13, 2007, UMD will honor the approximately 1,500 student employees during their National Student Employment Week. I applaud these students for going above and beyond their studies to give back to UMD, and I encourage employers to thank them for their contributions.

I would like to give special congratulations to UMD's 2007 National Student Employment Week Awardees: Derric Johnson, Student Employee of the Year; Carly Moritz, First Runner Up; and Meghan Keil and Phong Yang, Second Runners Up.

I also commend the work of Marinda Batzlaff, Josh Baumann, Ann Beacom, Samuel Bradley, Ruta Embaye, Courtney Grandahl, Kelly Gunelson, Christine Hirsch, Brittany Jurek, Krista Kniffin, Bryan LaCore, Cal Larson, Christina Lashyro, Abigail Linder, Emily Lubbert, Jessica Lutgen, Aaron Miller, Calley O'Neil, Ashton Portner, Hilary Ramsey, Thomas Rieck, Jessica Robey, Bud Rodecker, Anthony Rostvold, Taryn Runck, Michael Schumacher, Clay Sharkey, and Sheena Stueber.

Again, I thank all of these students for their hard work and wish them the best of luck at UMD and in their future careers.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, 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 and two withdrawals which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 5:18 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by one of its clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 1002. An act to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to reinstate certain provisions relating to the nutrition services incentive program.

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-1271. A communication from the Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fee for Inspecting Fruits and Vegetables, Processed" (RIN0581-AC56) received on April 4, 2007; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1272. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tomatoes Grown in Florida; Change in Handling Requirements" (Docket No. AMS-FV-06-0208) received on April 4, 2007; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1273. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Hazelnuts Grown in Oregon and Washington; Establishment of Final Free and Restricted Percentages for the 2006-2007 Marketing Year" (Docket No. AMS-FV-06-0175) received on April 4, 2007; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1274. A communication from the Administrator, Risk Management Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Almond and Walnut Crop Insurance Provisions" (RIN0563-AC08) received on April 10, 2007; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1275. A communication from the Chairman, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, its annual report relative to the Board's health and safety activities relating to defense nuclear facilities; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1276. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Electronic Submission and Processing of Payment Requests" (DFARS Case 2005-D009) received on April 10, 2007; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1277. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Prohibition on Acquisition from Communist Chinese Military Companies" (DFARS Case 2006-D007) received on April 10, 2007; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1278. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule en-

titled "New Designated Countries" (DFARS Case 2006-D062) received on April 10, 2007; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1279. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Free Trade Agreements—Guatemala and Bahrain" (DFARS Case 2006-D028) received on April 10, 2007; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1280. A communication from the Director, Pentagon Renovation and Construction Program Office, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report on the Office's work in progress, completed and planned before March 1, 2007; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1281. A communication from the Deputy Chief of Legislative Affairs, Department of the Navy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's performance decision to transfer certain functions to contract workers; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1282. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the critical skills retention bonus program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1283. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, the report of (10) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1284. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual Selected Acquisition Reports for the quarter ending December 31, 2006; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1285. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the threat posed by improvised explosive devices; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1286. A communication from the Paralegal, Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clean Fuels Grant Program" (RIN2132-AA91) received on April 3, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1287. A communication from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of the Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the Public Access to HUD Records Under the Freedom of Information Act Regulations" (RIN2501-AD22) received on April 4, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1288. A communication from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Community Planning and Development, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Timeliness Expenditure Standards for the Insular Areas Program" (RIN2501-AD15) received on April 4, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1289. A communication from the Assistant to the Board, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Expanded Examination Cycle for Certain Small Insured Depository Institutions and U.S. Branches and Agencies of Foreign Banks" (Docket No. R-1279) received on April 4, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1290. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import

Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Singapore; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1291. A communication from the Acting General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the designation of an acting officer for the position of General Counsel, received on April 10, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1292. A communication from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's activities during calendar year 2006 under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1293. A communication from the Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Buy American Act; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1294. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to the United Arab Emirates; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1295. A communication from the Executive Director, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the use of category rating; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1296. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision of Methods for Renewing and Replacing Permits Issued Under the West Coast Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan" (RIN0648-AU91) received on April 4, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1297. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Office of the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of General Counsel, received on April 4, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1298. A communication from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's annual report relative to the implementation of the Do Not Call Registry; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1299. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Critical Skills Retention Bonus program; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1300. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Biennial Specification and Management Measures; Correction" (RIN0648-AU57) received on April 10, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1301. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Temporary Rule; Inseason Summer Flounder