

civilians at Mountain Home Air Force Base for their incredible work serving and protecting our Nation.●

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. KERRY. Madam President, today I honor the distinguished 70-year history of the National Small Business Association. This member-driven organization continues to take the lead on important issues facing small businesses and is the oldest small business advocacy group in the United States. It is especially fitting that we recognize this organization during National Small Business Week.

The NSBA can trace its founding back to DeWitt M. Emery, a determined small business owner struggling to keep his business running in the midst of the Great Depression. As owner of the Monroe Letterhead Corporation in Akron, OH, Mr. Emery labored to keep his small business running while feeling burdened by the increasing cost of doing business—including higher material costs and wages.

Frustrated by the lack of support for small businesses in national politics, and inspired by an idea to make his and his peers' voices heard, Mr. Emery founded the National Small Business Men's Association on November 13, 1937. One hundred sixty small business owners out of 200 who received Mr. Emery's recruitment letter joined the organization that now boasts a reach of over 150,000 small businesses.

In keeping with the organization's responsiveness to the ever-changing small business climate, and to be more inclusive of the growing number of women small business owners, the group changed its name in 1962 to the National Small Business Association.

In 1986, the organization changed its name again to National Small Business United when it joined with Small Business United, or SBU, a rival organization that started 5 years earlier. SBU and its member groups, such as the Smaller Business Association of New England, or SBANE, helped establish the current organization's vast network of small business affiliates. After the merger, the new organization became responsible for running the SBANE-created Washington Presentation. In addition to SBANE, some of the other NSBA affiliates are the Arizona Small Business Association, the Small Business Association of Michigan, Missouri Merchants and Manufacturers Association, SMC Business Councils, Council of Smaller Enterprises and Small Business California. Thanks to its strong affiliates NSBA has emerged as a vibrant grassroots organization.

In 2003, the oldest small business advocacy group changed its name back to the National Small Business Association. Through its name changes and merger, the organization's commitment to representing small business owners has been unwavering, and to-

day's group boasts a wide variety of members from carpenters to investors, from manufacturers to grocers. NSBA truly represents the diversity of our Nation's small businesses. As chairman of the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I work with NSBA's members in my State and across the Nation, welcoming their insights and unique perspective.

I find it important to note that today's small business owners struggle with some of the same issues that plagued Mr. Emery in 1937, and many new issues. From access to capital to health care, we will continue to work with small businesses as they strive to maintain and grow their firms—and as they make a significant contribution to our economy. Through the efforts of advocacy groups like the NSBA working with us to pass legislation, we have been able to assist thousands of determined small business owners like Mr. Emery. The tireless work of the NSBA is testament to the resolve and spirit of small business owners, and I am gratified that the current organization leads the charge on many important issues. I invite the Senate to join me in honoring NSBA and its distinguished history of nonpartisan work on behalf of small businesses.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, 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. 1257. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to provide shareholders with an advisory vote on executive compensation.

H.R. 1495. An act to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Speaker removes Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, as a conferee and appoints Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, to fill the vacancy thereon, on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1591) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276h and the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group: Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, Mr. WELLER of Illinois, Mr. DREIER of California, Mr. MACK of Florida, and Mr. FORTUNO of Puerto Rico.

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d, clause 10 of rule 1, and the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Speaker appoints

the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group: Mr. MANZULLO of Illinois, Mr. McCOTTER of Michigan, Mr. STEARNS of Florida, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, and Mr. BROWN of South Carolina.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 3:10 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 1003. An act to amend the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 to reauthorize the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

H.R. 1130. An act to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to extend the authority to withhold from public availability a financial disclosure report filed by an individual who is a judicial officer or judicial employee, to the extent necessary to protect the safety of the individual or a family member of that individual, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 865. An act to grant rights-of-way for electric transmission lines over certain Native allotments in the State of Alaska; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1257. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to provide shareholders with an advisory vote on executive compensation; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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-1593. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Army that is identified as being case number 04-07; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-1594. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Donald J. Wetekam, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1595. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Albert M. Calland III, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1596. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Flood Elevation Determinations" (72 FR 17426) received on April 18, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1597. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Flood Elevation Determinations" (72 FR 17413) received on April 18, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1598. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Secretary of the Army's review of the report of the Chief of Engineers on the Ventura River; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1599. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the views of the South Florida Water Management District, the State of Florida, the Department of the Interior, and the Environmental Protection Agency on the Picaune Strand ecosystem restoration project; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1600. A communication from the Chief of the Regulatory Management Division, Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removal of the Standardized Request for Evidence Processing Timeframe" (RIN1615-AB13) received on April 18, 2007; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BURR, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. SMITH, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. REED, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 1183. A bill to enhance and further research into paralysis and to improve rehabilitation and the quality of life for persons living with paralysis and other physical disabilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. KERRY):

S. 1184. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resources study regarding the suitability and feasibility of designating certain historic buildings and areas in Taunton, Massachusetts, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. BURR, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1185. A bill to provide grants to States to improve high schools and raise graduation rates while ensuring rigorous standards, to develop and implement effective school models for struggling students and dropouts, and to improve State policies to raise graduation rates, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. FEINGOLD:

S. 1186. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to provide for the expedited consideration of certain proposed rescissions of budget authority; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. KERRY:

S. 1187. A bill to require the Architect of the Capitol to develop a plan to reduce car-

bon dioxide emissions from the Capitol complex, with the goal of achieving carbon neutrality at the complex by December 31, 2020; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. LUGAR (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BAYH, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. LEVIN):

S. 1188. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to enhance the ability to produce fruits and vegetables on covered commodity base acres; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

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

S. 1189. A bill to designate the Federal Building and United States Courthouse located at 100 East 8th Avenue in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, as the "George Howard, Jr. Federal Building and United States Courthouse"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BOND, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. BURR, Mr. BYRD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COBURN, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. COLEMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. DODD, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HATCH, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. KOHL, Mr. KYL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REED, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SMITH, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SPECTER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. THUNE, Mr. VITTER, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WEBB, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 165. A resolution relative to the death of Representative Juanita Millender-McDonald, of California; considered and agreed to.

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

S. Res. 166. A resolution commemorating the lifetime achievement of the Reverend Leon H. Sullivan; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 119

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from West Vir-

ginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 119, a bill to prohibit profiteering and fraud relating to military action, relief, and reconstruction efforts, and for other purposes.

S. 223

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 223, a bill to require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form.

S. 406

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 406, a bill to ensure local governments have the flexibility needed to enhance decision-making regarding certain mass transit projects.

S. 408

At the request of Mr. CHAMBLISS, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 408, a bill to recognize the heritage of hunting and provide opportunities for continued hunting on Federal public land.

S. 469

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) and the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) were added as cosponsors 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. 479

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 479, a bill to reduce the incidence of suicide among veterans.

S. 543

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 543, a bill to improve Medicare beneficiary access by extending the 60 percent compliance threshold used to determine whether a hospital or unit of a hospital is an inpatient rehabilitation facility under the Medicare program.

S. 548

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 548, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that a deduction equal to fair market value shall be allowed for charitable contributions of literary, musical, artistic, or scholarly compositions created by the donor.

S. 558

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 558, a bill to provide parity between health insurance coverage of mental health benefits and benefits for medical and surgical services.

S. 573

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from New York