

this nomination to the full Senate. If they choose to report the nomination, I will schedule action as quickly as I can. If they reject the nomination, that action will also be on the merits.

After I had read the opinion and understood the case, I visited personally with THAD COCHRAN. I think the world of THAD COCHRAN. I have served with him now in the Congress for 25 years. I have served with Senator LOTT for 25 years. I went to both of them and said: I know how strongly you feel about Judge Southwick, but here are the facts. I read to them the dissent of Judge King. I read to them the full dissent. Anyone who cares to hear what Judge King had to say only has to look at the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I also told them that the Magnolia Bar Association, the African American Bar Association in the State of Mississippi, opposes Judge Southwick. The NAACP opposes Judge Southwick.

Republican Senators may disagree with the decision of the Judiciary Committee when and if it comes, but they should not treat it as an affront or an outrage. It is simply the way in which the Founders envisioned the Senate would work as a partner with the President in deciding who is entitled to lifetime appointments to the Federal bench.

Again, the Judiciary Committee didn't stall Southwick. They scheduled a hearing at a time that was convenient to everyone. It was precise. It was to the point. Everyone was able to ask their questions. They had a full hearing. If he can't convince that committee that he is the man for the job, that is our process. Certainly, at a subsequent time, if and when we get a Democratic President, if they process these nominations in the manner that we have, that will be fine. It is the way we are supposed to work.

Whatever happens with the Southwick nomination, the Senate will continue to process judicial nominations in due course and in good faith, as I have pledged. I repeat, I know how strongly the distinguished Republican leader feels about judges. I think there are a lot of things that are just as important. He feels strongly about this. I accept that. But I would like everyone to look at the record as to what has happened with this nomination. It has been moved expeditiously. They can have a vote anytime they wish in the committee. There are votes that take place almost every Thursday. They can schedule it anytime they want. But I think it would be asking quite a bit for someone to think that when the committee of jurisdiction on an issue turns something down, we should take it up on the floor. That is not how things work.

I would only say, I would think, based on the decisions participated in by Judge Southwick, anyone who has any concern about the feelings of the members of the Judiciary Committee who are Democrats should read this record because it explains very clearly what the problem is in this case.

Mr. President, we were hoping to clear a number of the President's nomi-

nations today—the Export-Import Bank of the United States, two nominees we were ready to clear; the Securities Investor Protection Corporation, one, two, three nominations; the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, we have someone there to clear; the Securities Investor Protection Corporation, we have an individual there who has been cleared on our side.

All these nominations have been cleared on our side. The holdups are with the minority. So we are trying to clear the President's nominations. We cannot do it unless the Republicans agree to it. They are his nominations.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

H.R. 980. An act to provide collective bargaining rights for public safety officers employed by States or their political subdivisions.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

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

S. Res. 236. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of the National Anthem Project, which has worked to restore America's voice by re-teaching Americans to sing the national anthem.

S. Res. 248. A resolution honoring the life and achievements of Dame Lois Browne Evans, Bermuda's first female barrister and Attorney General, and the first female Opposition Leader in the British Commonwealth.

S. Res. 261. A resolution expressing appreciation for the profound public service and educational contributions of Donald Jeffry Herbert, fondly known as "Mr. Wizard".

#### 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 Mrs. CLINTON:

S. 1840. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide recruitment and retention incentives for volunteer emergency service workers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BENNETT, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. DOLE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. VOINOVICH):

S. 1841. A bill to provide a site for the National Women's History Museum in Washington, District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. DODD, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. FEINGOLD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 1842. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for patient

protection by limiting the number of mandatory overtime hours a nurse may be required to work in certain providers of services to which payments are made under the Medicare Program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. HARKIN, Mrs. CLINTON, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. DODD, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. STABENOW, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 1843. A bill to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 to clarify that an unlawful practice occurs each time compensation is paid pursuant to a discriminatory compensation decision or other practice, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 968

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 968, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide increased assistance for the prevention, treatment, and control of tuberculosis, and for other purposes.

S. 982

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 982, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for integration of mental health services and mental health treatment outreach teams, and for other purposes.

S. 1060

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1060, a bill to reauthorize the grant program for reentry of offenders into the community in the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, to improve reentry planning and implementation, and for other purposes.

S. 1213

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1213, a bill to give States the flexibility to reduce bureaucracy by streamlining enrollment processes for the Medicaid and State Children's Health Insurance Programs through better linkages with programs providing nutrition and related assistance to low-income families.

S. 1318

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1318, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an incentive to preserve affordable housing in multifamily housing units which are sold or exchanged.

S. 1338

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a

cosponsor of S. 1338, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a two-year moratorium on certain Medicare physician payment reductions for imaging services.

S. 1494

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1494, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the special diabetes programs for Type I diabetes and Indians under that Act.

S. 1576

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1576, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the health and healthcare of racial and ethnic minority groups.

S. 1607

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1607, a bill to provide for identification of misaligned currency, require action to correct the misalignment, and for other purposes.

S. 1692

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1692, a bill to grant a Federal charter to Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporated.

S. 1708

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1708, a bill to provide for the expansion of Federal efforts concerning the prevention, education, treatment, and research activities related to Lyme and other tick-borne diseases, including the establishment of a Tick-Borne Diseases Advisory Committee.

S. 1739

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1739, a bill to amend section 35 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the health coverage tax credit, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2000

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2000 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1585, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2067

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2067 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1585, to authorize appro-

priations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BENNETT, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. Clinton, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. DOLE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. VOINOVICH):

S. 1841. A bill to provide a site for the National Women's History Museum in Washington, District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the National Women's History Museum Act of 2007, a bill that would clear the way to locate a long-overdue historical and educational resource in our Nation's capital city.

In each of the last two Congresses, the Senate has approved earlier versions of this bill by unanimous consent. I appreciate that past support, and I appreciate the cosponsorship today from 18 of my colleagues, Senators AKAKA, BENNETT, BOXER, CANTWELL, CLINTON, COLEMAN, DURBIN, DOLE, KLOBUCHAR, LANDRIEU, LINCOLN, MCCASKILL, MIKULSKI, MURKOWSKI, MURRAY, SNOWE, STABENOW, and VOINOVICH.

Women constitute the majority of our population. They make invaluable contributions to our country, not only in traditional venues like the home, schools, churches, and volunteer organizations, but in Government, corporations, medicine, law, literature, sports, entertainment, the arts, and the military services. The need for a museum recognizing the contributions of American women is of long standing.

A presidential commission on commemorating women in American history concluded that, "Efforts to implement an appropriate celebration of women's history in the next millennium should include the designation of a focal point for women's history in our Nation's capital."

That report was issued in 1999. Nearly a decade later, although Congress has commendably made provisions for the National Museum for African American History and Culture, the National Law Enforcement Museum, and the National Building Museum, there is still no national institution in the capital region dedicated to women's role in our country's history.

The proposed legislation calls for no new Federal program and no new claims on the budget. It would simply direct the General Services Adminis-

tration to negotiate and enter into an occupancy agreement with the National Women's History Museum, Inc. to establish a museum in the long-vacant Pavilion Annex of the Old Post Office building in Washington, DC.

The National Women's History Museum is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational institution based in the District of Columbia. Its mission is to research and present the historic contributions that women have made to all aspects of human endeavor, and to present the contributions that women have made to the Nation in their various roles in family, the economy, and society.

The Pavilion Annex to the Old Post Office was a commercial failure and remains a continuing drain on Federal maintenance budgets. Putting the building to use as a museum would provide lease payments and establish a new historical and educational destination site on Pennsylvania Avenue that would bring new visitor traffic and new economic activity to the neighborhood.

These are sound reasons for supporting this bill. The best reason, however, is the obligation to demonstrate the gratitude and respect we owe to the many generations of American women who have helped build, sustain, and advance our society. They deserve a building to present their stories, as well as the stories of pioneering women like abolitionist Harriet Tubman, Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, astronaut Sally Ride, and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

That women's roll of honor would also include a distinguished predecessor in my Senate seat, the late Senator Margaret Chase Smith, the first woman nominated for President of the United States by a major political party, and the first woman elected to both Houses of Congress. Senator Smith began representing Maine in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1940, won election to the Senate in 1948, and enjoyed bipartisan respect over her long career for her independence, integrity, wisdom, and decency. She remains my role model and, through the example of her public service, an exemplar of the virtues that would be honored in the National Women's History Museum.

I thank my colleagues for their past support of this effort, and urge them to renew that support for this bill.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. DODD, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. FEINGOLD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 1842. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for patient protection by limiting the number of mandatory overtime hours a nurse may be required to work in certain providers of services to which payments are made under the Medicare