

front parlor of their house in 1915. From this humble start, Haven's Candies has grown to become a well-known name in candy making. The company now has a factory and store in Westbrook, as well as retail locations in Windham and Portland, one block from the house where Haven's began. And as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I am particularly pleased that the U.S. Small Business Administration has been able to help Haven's over the years through financing and other assistance.

Using time-tested methods, Haven's still handcrafts its candies. Haven's offers customers an extensive array of exquisite goods, including homemade fudge, marzipan, jumbo peanut butter cups, and buttercrunch toffee. The company also produces a varied selection of sugar-free candies, including peanut brittle and cashew turtles. Some of the Maine-themed candies sold at Haven's include the needham, a chocolate with a soft potato, coconut, and vanilla center, and delicious blueberry creams, celebrating Maine's rich heritage of blueberry harvesting. Perhaps Haven's most impressive production is its salt water taffy. Made by hand, its dozens of unique flavors include creamsicle, maple, and watermelon. Haven's salt water taffy has attracted significant attention, and retailers of the candy include Maine's own L. L. Bean.

Haven's production methods allow for the romantic in all of us to surprise our sweethearts any day of the week. The company can make monogrammed chocolates and offers personalized packaging to create anyone's favorite combination of sweets. For Valentine's Day, Haven's offers chocolate-dipped strawberries, fancy hearts filled with a mix of chocolates, and the unique Valentine party tray, which includes a great variety of chocolates surrounding a heart-shaped tray filled with mixed nuts. Haven's also makes assorted holiday gifts for other occasions, including Easter and Father's Day. The company holds a free open house every Columbus Day when children can make their own candy at the factory. Additionally, Haven's raises funds annually for the Center for Grieving Children by hosting "make your own candy cane" events.

On Valentine's Day, we take the opportunity to enjoy the sweeter side of life. Luckily for the employees of Haven's Candies, they get to enjoy it every day! Not only is the candy they produce scrumptious, but their work ethic is exemplary, and their dedication to putting smiles on the faces of children of all ages is commendable. I congratulate owner Andy Charles and everyone at Haven's who continue to make delectable candies nearly 100 years after this company's remarkable inception and wish them future success.●

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.)

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2633. A bill to provide for the safe redeployment of United States troops from Iraq.

S. 2634. A bill to require a report setting forth the global strategy of the United States to combat and defeat al Qaeda and its affiliates.

S. 2636. A bill to provide needed housing reform.

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. HAGEL:

S. 2637. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an exclusion for gain from the sale of farmland to encourage the continued use of the property for farming, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KOHL:

S. 2638. A bill to change the date for regularly scheduled Federal elections and establish polling place hours; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 2639. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for an assured adequate level of funding for veterans health care; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BURR (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. CRAIG):

S. 2640. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance and improve insurance, housing, labor and education, and other benefits for veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. KOHL):

S. 2641. A bill to amend title XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to improve the transparency of information on skilled nursing facilities and nursing facilities and to clarify and improve the targeting of the enforcement of requirements with respect to such facilities; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Ms. SNOWE, and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 2642. A bill to establish a national renewable energy standard, to extend and create renewable energy tax incentives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. GREGG):

S. 2643. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to promulgate regulations to control hazardous air pollutant emissions from electric utility steam generating units; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. 2644. A bill to clarify and improve information for members and former members of the Armed Forces on upgrades of discharge, to prohibit personality disorder discharges in cases of post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. STEVENS:

S. 2645. A bill to require the Commandant of the Coast Guard, in consultation with the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, to conduct an evaluation and review of certain vessel discharges; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CRAIG:

S. 2646. A bill for the relief of Thomas Stephen Long, Patricia Merryl Long, Stephanie Bianca Long, and Chelsea Ann Long; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KOHL:

S. 2647. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on fan assisted, plug-in, scented oil dispensing, electrothermic appliances; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 2648. A bill to amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to improve programs carried out through youth opportunity grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ISAKSON:

S. 2649. A bill to allow an income tax exception to limitations on personal casualty losses for losses occurring in tornado disaster areas; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. STABENOW, and Mrs. HUTCHISON):

S. 2650. A bill to provide for a 5-year carryback of certain net operating losses and to suspend the 90 percent alternative minimum tax limit on certain net operating losses; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. INHOFE:

S. 2651. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to make technical corrections to the renewable fuel standard; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. INOUE, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. VITTER, Mr. COCHRAN, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. 2652. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Defense to make a grant to the National World War II Museum Foundation for facilities and programs of America's National World War II Museum; to the Committee on Armed Services.

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

S. 2653. A bill to further United States security by restoring and enhancing the competitiveness of the United States for international students, scholars, scientists, and exchange visitors and by facilitating business travel to the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COLEMAN (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. 2654. A bill to provide for enhanced reimbursement of servicemembers and veterans for certain travel expenses; to the Committee on Armed Services.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SPECTER, and Mr. BROWN):

S. Res. 454. A resolution designating the month of March 2008 as "MRSA Awareness Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. Res. 455. A resolution calling for peace in Darfur; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. SUNUNU):

S. Res. 456. A resolution directing the United States to undertake bilateral discussions with Canada to negotiate an agreement to conserve populations of large whales at risk of extinction that migrate along the Atlantic seaboard of North America; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. REID:

S. Res. 457. A resolution recognizing the cultural and historical significance of the Chinese New Year or Spring Festival; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 60

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) 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. 702

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 702, a bill to authorize the Attorney General to award grants to State courts to develop and implement State courts interpreter programs.

S. 791

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 791, a bill to establish a collaborative program to protect the Great Lakes, and for other purposes.

S. 911

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 911, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to advance medical research and treatments into pediatric cancers, ensure patients and families have access to the current treatments and information regarding pediatric cancers, establish a population-based national childhood cancer database, and promote public awareness of pediatric cancers.

S. 1010

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1010, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage guaranteed lifetime income

payments from annuities and similar payments of life insurance proceeds at dates later than death by excluding from income a portion of such payments.

S. 1277

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1277, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to clarify the treatment of payment under the Medicare program for clinical laboratory tests furnished by critical access hospitals.

S. 1328

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1328, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate discrimination in the immigration laws by permitting permanent partners of United States citizens and lawful permanent residents to obtain lawful permanent resident status in the same manner as spouses of citizens and lawful permanent residents and to penalize immigration fraud in connection with permanent partnerships.

S. 1382

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1382, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of an Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Registry.

S. 1418

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1418, a bill to provide assistance to improve the health of newborns, children, and mothers in developing countries, and for other purposes.

S. 1430

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1430, a bill to authorize State and local governments to direct divestiture from, and prevent investment in, companies with investments of \$20,000,000 or more in Iran's energy sector, and for other purposes.

S. 1499

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1499, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to reduce air pollution from marine vessels.

S. 1846

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1846, a bill to improve defense cooperation between the Republic of Korea and the United States.

S. 1906

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1906, a bill to understand and comprehensively address the oral health problems associated with methamphetamine use.

S. 1907

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1907, a bill to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to understand and comprehensively address the inmate oral health problems associated with methamphetamine use, and for other purposes.

S. 1921

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1921, a bill to amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to extend the authorization for that Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1926

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1926, a bill to establish the National Infrastructure Bank to provide funding for qualified infrastructure projects, and for other purposes.

S. 2045

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2045, a bill to reform the Consumer Product Safety Commission to provide greater protection for children's products, to improve the screening of non-compliant consumer products, to improve the effectiveness of consumer product recall programs, and for other purposes.

S. 2136

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2136, a bill to address the treatment of primary mortgages in bankruptcy, and for other purposes.

S. 2182

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2182, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to mental health services.

S. 2209

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2209, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives to improve America's research competitiveness, and for other purposes.

S. 2218

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2218, a bill to provide for the award of a military service medal to members of the Armed Forces who were exposed to ionizing radiation as a result of participation in a test of atomic weapons.

S. 2369

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S.