

KY; Harlan High School in Harlan, KY; Hazard High School in Hazard, KY; Hickman County High School in Clinton, KY; Jackson City School in Jackson, KY; Johnson Central High School in Paintsville, KY; Magoffin County High School in Salyersville, KY; Owensboro High School in Owensboro, KY; Paintsville High School in Paintsville, KY; Paris High School in Paris, KY; Phelps High School in Phelps, KY; Pineville High School in Pineville, KY; Russell County High School in Russell Springs, KY; Walton-Verona High School in Walton, KY; Whitley County High School in Williamsburg, KY; Williamsburg City School in Williamsburg, KY; and Williamstown High School in Williamstown, KY.

Again, I commend these high schools for a job well done. I hope that their efforts will inspire other schools in Kentucky and around the country to strive for the best.●

CONGRATULATING SILVER MEDAL SCHOOLS IN KENTUCKY

● Mr. BUNNING. Madam President, today I congratulate the top public schools in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. I was pleased to learn that U.S. News and World Report awarded seven high schools in Kentucky with a silver medal for their outstanding performance on standardized exams and for providing college-level coursework.

These seven Kentucky high schools have shown that they foster an environment that serves all students, no matter their academic goals, by demonstrating a commitment to excellence through quality education. These Silver Medal Schools back this up with measurable academic outcomes that show improvement throughout a range of performance indicators.

I have always been proud of Kentucky education because of its relentless effort to enhance and develop the lives of every student. This is a well deserved recognition for the excellent work that is done by all of these high schools, and I would like to congratulate each for its great success.

The following schools were commended with awards: Beechwood High School in Fort Mitchell, KY; Bowling Green High School in Bowling Green, KY; Dupont Manual High School in Louisville, KY; Highlands High School in Fort Thomas, KY; Louisville Male High School in Louisville, KY; North Oldham High School in Goshen, KY; and South Oldham High School in Crestwood, KY.

Again, I commend these high schools for a job well done. I hope that their efforts will inspire other schools in Kentucky and around the country to strive for the best.●

REMEMBERING MARY SWEENEY

● Mrs. CLINTON. Madam President, I would like to take a moment to remember one of my constituents and a

life-long New Yorker, Mary Sweeney of Niagara Falls. Seven years ago, it was my great honor to send congratulations to Mary and her husband John on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. I know that her fighting spirit will live on through John and her children, Moira, John, Billy, and Brendan, and a large and loving family of grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Born in the Great Depression, Mary exemplified the hopes and dreams of New York families whom I have had the honor and privilege of representing in the Senate these past 8 years. Mary had an ardent appreciation for public service and the political process, and she remained true to her strong convictions throughout her life. She was a loving wife and mother who worked every day to ensure opportunities for her children. In retirement she enjoyed her many grand-children and great-grand-children and she should be proud that the rewards of her commitment to her family, her church, and her community can be seen in the many accomplishments of her family and extended family and in the many loving tributes that have been shown to her since her passing.●

REMEMBERING ROBERT COOK EDWARDS

● Mr. GRAHAM. Madam President, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of a dedicated educator and innovator, Clemson University president emeritus Robert Cook Edwards. After a lifetime of unprecedented service to his students as Clemson's longest serving chief executive, Dr. Edwards passed away in Seneca, SC, on December 4, 2008, at the age of 94.

Dr. Edwards will be remembered for his legendary leadership, strength in business negotiation, and passion for Clemson football. Known as a giant in the history of Clemson University and affectionately referred to as "R.C." by his students, he led the institution through a period of peaceful integration and phenomenal growth to become a thriving, coeducational, and diversified university.

Born and raised in Fountain Inn, SC, Dr. Edwards attended Clemson College at the young age of 15. He went on to graduate with a bachelor of science degree in textile engineering in 1933, and after a successful career in the textile industry, he returned to Clemson as the university's first vice president for development in 1956. Dr. Edwards became acting president in 1958, after the death of President Robert F. Poole, and was eventually elected president on April 9, 1959, by the board of trustees. He became the eighth chief executive of Clemson and the second alumnus to hold the position.

Dr. Edwards peacefully led the university through racial integration when its first African-American student was enrolled in 1962. Despite the recurring turmoil of racial tensions

during the 1960s, President Edwards handled those challenging times without incident. His brave actions resulted in progress and advancement of equal civil rights throughout the State of South Carolina.

By the time of his retirement in 1979, Dr. Edwards had awarded over 28,000 diplomas, which represented more than 70 percent of all the undergraduate degrees and doctorates awarded in Clemson's history to date, the student body had grown to 11,000 students, 4 schools had become 9 colleges, and the students could choose from over 60 majors. Because of Dr. Edwards's oversight, leadership, and enthusiasm for growth, his influence has stretched beyond the gates of the university to impact the lives of men and women all over the country.

Dr. Edwards was predeceased by his wife Louise Odom Edwards, who died on July 29, 2008. She was affectionately referred to as "Moon Pie" by Clemson students and alumni and was said to be a perfect compliment to her husband, "R.C."

Robert Cook Edwards's legacy will live on not only in the hearts of his students and fellow educators, but through the developments and achievements he has accomplished at one of our Nation's finest institutions. I ask that the Senate join me in commemorating Dr. Edwards's lifelong dedication to higher learning and to the State of South Carolina.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:21 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, 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. 7321. An act to authorize financial assistance to eligible automobile manufacturers, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7327. An act to make technical corrections related to the Pension Protection Act of 2006, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills and joint resolution, without amendment:

S. 3663. An act to require the Federal Communications Commission to provide for a

short-term extension of the analog television broadcasting authority so that essential public safety announcements and digital television transition information may be provided for a short time during the transition to digital television broadcasting.

S. 3712. An act to make a technical correction in the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008.

S.J. Res. 46. Joint resolution ensuring that the compensation and other emoluments attached to the office of Secretary of State are those which were in effect on January 1, 2007.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 3:59 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Zapata, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HOYER) had signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 6184. An act to provide for a program for circulating quarter dollar coins that are emblematic of a national park or other national site in each State, the District of Columbia, and each territory of the United States, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7311. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2008 through 2011 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, to enhance measures to combat trafficking in persons, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD)

At 6:25 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HOYER) had signed the following enrolled bills and joint resolution:

S. 3663. An act to require the Federal Communications Commission to provide for a short-term extension of the analog television broadcasting authority so that essential public safety announcements and digital television transition information may be provided for a short time during the transition to digital television broadcasting.

S. 3712. An act to make a technical correction in the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008.

S.J. Res. 46. An act ensuring that the compensation and other emoluments attached to the office of Secretary of State are those which were in effect on January 1, 2007.

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-9103. A communication from the Director of the Policy Issuances Division, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling of Muscle Cuts of Beef (Including Veal), Lamb, Chicken, Goat, and Pork; Ground Beef, Ground Lamb, Ground Chicken, Ground Goat, and Ground Pork" (RIN0583-AD38) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2008; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-9104. A communication from the Acting Assistant Director of the Directives and Regulations Branch, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Predecisional Administrative Review Process for Hazardous Fuel Reduction Projects Authorized Under the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003" (RIN0596-AC15) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2008; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-9105. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Novaluron; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL-8391-5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2008; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-9106. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Mefenpyr-diethyl and Metabolites; Pesticide Tolerance" (FRL-8390-8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2008; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-9107. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pesticide Regulations; Technical Amendments" (FRL-8146-6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2008; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-9108. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Etofenprox; Pesticide Tolerance" (FRL-8390-9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2008; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-9109. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act that occurred within the Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, and has been assigned case number 06-02; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-9110. A communication from the Guiding Coalition Members, Project on National Security Reform, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Forging A New Shield"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-9111. A communication from the Associate General 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 "Public Access to HUD Records Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Production of Material or Provision of Testimony by HUD Employees: Revisions to Policies and Practices Regarding Subpoenas and Other Demands for Testimony" (RIN2501-AD39) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2008; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-9112. A communication from the Acting Secretary, Division of Trading and Markets, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment to Municipal Securities Disclosure" (RIN3235-AK20) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2008; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-9113. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmit-

ting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "General Regulations for Areas Administered by the National Park Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service" (RIN1024-AD70) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2008; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-9114. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Mississippi Regulatory Program" ((SATS No. MS-018-FOR)(Docket No. OSM-2008-0017)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2008; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-9115. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Excess Spoil, Coal Mine Waste, and Buffers for Perennial and Intermittent Streams" (RIN1029-AC04) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2008; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-9116. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Acquisition Management, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Agency's 2008 competitive sourcing; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9117. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment Rule" (RIN2020-AA46) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2008; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9118. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Oil Pollution Prevention; Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures Rule; Revisions to the Regulatory Definition of "Navigable Waters" (RIN2050-AG48) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2008; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9119. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rulemaking to Reaffirm the Promulgation of Revisions of the Acid Rain Program Rules; Interim Final Rule" (RIN2060-AP35) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2008; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9120. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rulemaking to Reaffirm the Promulgation of Revisions of the Acid Rain Program Rules; Direct Final Rule" (RIN2060-AP35) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2008; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-9121. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Control of Air Pollution From New Motor Vehicles and New Motor Vehicle Engines; Regulations Requiring Onboard Diagnostic Systems on 2010 and Later Heavy-duty Engines used in Highway Applications Over 14,000 Pounds; Revisions to Onboard Diagnostic Requirements for Diesel Highway Heavy-duty Vehicles Under 14,000 Pounds" (RIN2060-AL92) received in the Office of the