

EC-6676. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the certification of a proposed technical assistance agreement for the export of technical data, defense services, and defense articles in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more to The Ministry of Defense of the State of Kuwait; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6677. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the certification of a proposed technical assistance agreement for the export of technical data, defense services, and defense articles in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more to the Government of Mexico; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6678. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the certification of a proposed manufacturing license agreement for the manufacture of significant military equipment abroad and the export of defense services, and defense articles in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more to Norway for the production of the Evolved Sea Sparrow (ESSM) program rocket motor operated by NATO; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6679. A communication from the Ambassador at Large, Coordinator for Counter-Terrorism, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, notification of a correction in the Department's annual report entitled, "Country Reports on Terrorism 2007"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6680. A communication from the Chairman, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the actuarial status of the railroad retirement system, including recommendations for financing changes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6681. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Food Labeling: Health Claims; Dietary Noncariogenic Carbohydrate Sweeteners and Dental Caries" (Docket No. FDA-2006-P-0404) received on June 13, 2008; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6682. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the Department's Semiannual Report to Congress on Audit Follow-Up covering the period of October 1, 2007, through March 31, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6683. A communication from the Chairman, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General's Semiannual Report for the period of October 1, 2007, through March 31, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6684. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General's Semiannual Report for the period of October 1, 2007, through March 31, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6685. A communication from the Chair, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General's Semiannual Report for the period ending March 31, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6686. A communication from the Director, Peace Corps, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General's Semi-

annual Report for the period of October 1, 2007, through March 31, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BAUCUS, from the Committee on Finance, without amendment and with a preamble:

S.J. Res. 38. A joint resolution waiving certain provisions of the Trade Act of 1974 relating to the appointment of a Deputy United States Trade Representative.

## EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. BAUCUS for the Committee on Finance.

Eric M. Thorson, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of the Treasury.

\*Richard T. Morrison, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

\*David Gustafson, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

\*Elizabeth Crewson Paris, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

\*Edwin Eck, of Montana, to be a Member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board for a term expiring September 14, 2008.

\*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

## 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. REID (for Mrs. CLINTON (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER)):

S. 3145. A bill to designate a portion of United States Route 20A, located in Orchard Park, New York, as the "Timothy J. Russert Highway"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 3146. A bill to authorize the exploration of oil and natural gas in coastal areas to reduce the dependence of the United States on foreign energy sources, and to reduce gasoline and natural gas prices; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. WEBB):

S. 3147. A bill to authorize the State of Virginia to petition for authorization to conduct natural gas exploration and drilling activities in the coastal zone of the State; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 3148. A bill to modify the boundary of the Oregon Caves National Monument, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 3149. A bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to add certain segments to the Rogue River designation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 3150. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Transportation or the Administrator of Federal Aviation Administration from conducting auctions, implementing congestion pricing, limiting airport operations, or charging certain use fees at airports; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. BROWNBACK):

S. 3151. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to priority review vouchers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself and Mr. MARTINEZ):

S. 3152. A bill to provide for a comprehensive study by the National Research Council of the National Academies to assess the water management, needs, and conservation of the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River System; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. CORKER, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. DOLE):

S. 3153. A bill to amend the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council Act of 1978, to require the Council to establish a single telephone number that consumers with complaints or inquiries could call and be routed to the appropriate Federal banking agency or State bank supervisor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 3154. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to prescribe a standard to preclude commercials from being broadcast at louder volumes than the program material they accompany; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. SPECTER, and Mr. KOHL):

S. 3155. A bill to reauthorize and improve the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WICKER:

S. 3156. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to prescribe a standard to preclude commercials from being broadcast at louder volumes than the program material they accompany; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. KYL:

S. 3157. A bill to provide for the exchange and conveyance of certain National Forest System land and other land in southeast Arizona, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. Con. Res. 91. A concurrent resolution honoring Army Specialist Monica L. Brown, of Lake Jackson, Texas, extending gratitude to her and her family, and pledging continuing support for the men and women of the United States Armed Forces; considered and agreed to.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 450

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 450, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 545

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 545, a bill to improve consumer access to passenger vehicle loss data held by insurers.

S. 702

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) 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. 963

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 963, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants to educational organizations to carry out educational programs about the Holocaust.

S. 1190

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1190, a bill to promote the deployment and adoption of telecommunications services and information technologies, and for other purposes.

S. 1437

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1437, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the semicentennial of the enactment of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

S. 1708

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) 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. 2059

At the request of Mr. SMITH, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2059, a bill to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to clarify the eligibility requirements with respect to airline flight crews.

At the request of Mr. BOND, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2059, *supra*.

S. 2504

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2504, a bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to grant a Federal charter to the Military Officers Association of America, and for other purposes.

S. 2579

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2579, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the establishment of the United States Army in 1775, to honor the American soldier of both today and yesterday, in wartime and in peace, and to commemorate the traditions, history, and heritage of the United States Army and its role in American society, from the colonial period to today.

S. 2585

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2585, a bill to provide for the enhancement of the suicide prevention programs of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes.

S. 2666

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2666, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage investment in affordable housing, and for other purposes.

S. 2668

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2668, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove cell phones from listed property under section 280F.

S. 2731

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2731, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2009 through 2013 to provide assistance to foreign countries to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2731, *supra*.

S. 2766

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the names of the Senator from

Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) were added as cosponsors of S. 2766, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to address certain discharges incidental to the normal operation of a recreational vessel.

S. 2816

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2816, a bill to provide for the appointment of the Chief Human Capital Officer of the Department of Homeland Security by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

S. 2828

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2828, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint and issue coins commemorating the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Glacier National Park, and for other purposes.

S. 2907

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2907, a bill to establish uniform administrative and enforcement procedures and penalties for the enforcement of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act and similar statutes, and for other purposes.

S. 2920

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2920, a bill to reauthorize and improve the financing and entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 3038

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3038, a bill to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to extend the adoption incentives program, to authorize States to establish a relative guardianship program, to promote the adoption of children with special needs, and for other purposes.

S. 3122

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 3122, a bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to provide for the regulation of oil commodities markets, and for other purposes.

S. 3141

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3141, a bill to provide for nondiscrimination by eligible lenders in the Federal Family Education Loan Program.

S.J. RES. 41

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI), the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 41, a joint resolution approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003.

S. CON. RES. 89

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 89, a concurrent resolution authorizing Frank Woodruff Buckles to lie in honor in the rotunda of the Capitol upon his death.

S. RES. 580

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 580, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on preventing Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapons capability.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. WEBB):

S. 3147. A bill to authorize the State of Virginia to petition for authorization to conduct natural gas exploration and drilling activities in the coastal zone of the State; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I join those today who are addressing the issue of the energy problems that are facing our country today.

I commend the President of the United States today with regard to the offshore drilling decision that he has made, and prior thereto the indication by Senator MCCAIN as to his initiatives that he will take, in due course, I hope.

But we have to focus on not only the long picture, I will address that momentarily, but what we can do now, what we can do today and tomorrow to help alleviate the many hardships that this price structure—which none of us really envisioned—this price structure is inflicting on the American families today.

I was very proud to submit a resolution to this Senate on May 22, 2008, joined by a number of colleagues and cosponsors. I would like to once again read this short resolution in which the Senate spoke with regard to this issue about steps that could be taken now to help lessen the demand every day for the need of gasoline.

On May 22 the Senate said as follows:

S. RES. 577

Whereas each day, as Americans contend with rising gasoline prices, personal stories reflect the ways in which—

- (1) family budgets are suffering; and
- (2) the cost of gasoline is impacting the way Americans cope with that serious problem in family and work environments;

Whereas, as a consequence of economic pressures, Americans are finding ways to reduce consumption of gasoline, such as—

- (1) driving less frequently;
- (2) altering daily routines; and
- (3) even changing family vacation plans;

Whereas those conservation efforts bring hardships but save funds that can be redirected to meet essential family needs;

Whereas, just as individuals are reducing energy consumption, the Federal Government, including Congress, should take steps to conserve energy;

Whereas a Government-wide initiative to conserve energy would send a signal to Americans that the Federal Government—

- (1) recognizes the burdens imposed by unprecedented energy costs; and
- (2) will participate in activities to reduce energy consumption; and

Whereas an overall reduction of gasoline consumption by the Federal Government by even a few percentage points would send a strong signal that, as a nation, the United States is joining to conserve energy: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that the President should require all Federal departments and agencies to take initiatives to reduce daily consumption of gasoline and other fuels by the departments and agencies.

That is the end of the sense-of-the-Senate resolution.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks a letter that I wrote to the President a few days earlier, on May 16, addressing this very issue.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See exhibit 1.)

Mr. WARNER. That is a short step. But I do wish to refer to the future.

As noted earlier, the President has made his announcement this morning. But I would like to welcome him to this decisionmaking now to go to offshore drilling. With due respect to the Presiding Officer, we have different views expressed here a few moments ago. I want to go back over the history of this Senator, working with many others, on this issue of drilling offshore.

First, during the debate on the Energy Policy Act of 2005, H.R. 6, I attempted to offer an amendment that sought to allow States to opt out of the Federal moratorium on offshore drilling. I was joined by Senators ALEXANDER and VOINOVICH in that effort. Unfortunately, due to opposition to my proposal and the threat that my amendment would or could doom the whole bill, I withdrew the amendment, out of recognition of the hard work done by the managers.

But at that time, I warned my colleagues, and I said, standing at this very seat: I regret to predict this, but I see nothing but danger signs with regard to worldwide energy consumption and the predicament facing the United States of America.

That was over 2½ years ago that I so stated my concerns and also indicated that I wanted to support the move toward offshore drilling. So I regret that prediction of some years ago is now coming true.

Later, in 2005, I came to the floor for a second time in an attempt to push forward legislation that would allow States to opt out of the Federal moratorium. This legislation, known as the Outer Continental Shelf Revenue Sharing Act of 2005, S. 1810, was introduced 6 weeks after the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina.

I remind my colleagues that at the time, it was shockingly clear how vulnerable and how fragile our Nation's energy infrastructure, especially our oil and gas infrastructure, was to such a terrible disaster. Every American felt the effects of this terrible hurricane at the gas pump.

Again, however, no action was taken on my bill. But I did not give up. Less than 6 months later I came to the floor again, this time with my colleagues, Senators Allen, Talent, and Santorum, all three no longer Members of our Senate, and also Senator MARK PRYOR, who very much is a Member of our Senate today, to address this issue.

We introduced the Reliable and Affordable Natural Gas Energy Reform Act of 2006, S. 2290. The bill sought to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to allow coastal States to share in qualified OCS revenues should they choose, as States, to allow the exploration for natural gas only.

S. 2290 would have allowed a State to lift the moratorium and share in OCS revenues should their Governor successfully petition to allow drilling for natural gas off their coasts.

Again, no action was taken on this bill.

Finally, I came to the Senate floor last June, a year ago this month, when gas prices were almost \$1 lower than they are today, to offer, once again, an amendment on this subject. Specifically, my amendment would have allowed the Commonwealth of Virginia to explore for natural gas off its shores, a step already approved by the Governor of Virginia and our State legislature. If a natural gas reserve was found, the Governor, with the support of the State legislature, could have petitioned the Secretary of Interior to allow for the extraction of natural gas off the shores of Virginia. Furthermore, my amendment gave a voice in the process to the Secretary of Defense and to Virginia's neighboring States. I even set up a fund that would have provided money for environmental damage mitigation. Again, due to the opposition from some of my fellow Senators, my amendment was unsuccessful, failing 43-44, and today we continue to suffer from soaring energy prices. But I will never give up; never, never, never will I give up.

It is my firm belief that America must take a balanced approach toward its energy policy. That is why, for the Memorial Day recess, I joined the chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee in submitting and adopting the sense-of-the-Senate resolution I just read.

And that is why today I send to the desk and file a bill in keeping with