

EC-7074. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, texts of Conventions and Recommendations that were adopted by the International Labor Conference at Geneva; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7075. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 17-419, "Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Support Act of 2008" received on July 8, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7076. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 17-407, "Wards 4, 7, and 8 Anti-Sale of Single Containers of Alcoholic Beverages Act of 2008" received on July 7, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7077. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 17-406, "Compensation and Holdover Clarification Amendment Act of 2008" received on July 7, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7078. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 17-405, "Financial Literacy Council Establishment Act of 2008" received on July 7, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7079. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 17-404, "Noise Control Protection Amendment Act of 2008" received on July 7, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7080. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office's Federal Activities Inventory Reform Act Inventory Summary as of June 30, 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7081. A communication from the Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, notification of the fact that the cost of response and recovery efforts for FEMA-3283-EM in the State of Illinois has exceeded the limit for a single emergency declaration; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7082. A communication from the Acting Administrator, General Services Administration, transmitting notification that the Administration has made public its approval letter relative to its Commercial and Inherently Governmental Activities Inventories for fiscal year 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7083. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, "2007 Report to Congress on the Benefits and Costs of Federal Regulations and Unfunded Mandates on State, Local, and Tribal Entities"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7084. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's Other Transaction Authority; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7085. A communication from the Chief of the Trade and Commercial Regulations

Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Technical Corrections to Customs and Border Protection Regulations" (CBP Dec. No. 08-25) received on July 8, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7086. A communication from the Deputy Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Use of Meeting Rooms and Public Space" (RIN3095-AB33) received on July 7, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7087. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting a draft bill intended to establish authority for the Secretary to impose a fee on employers submitting applications to the Department for the certification of temporary employment of non-immigrant aliens under the H-2B non-agricultural worker visa program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7088. A communication from the Director of Regulations Management, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Beneficiary Travel Under 38 U.S.C. 111 Within the United States" (RIN2900-AM02) received on July 2, 2008; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. HARKIN for the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

\*Walter Lukken, of Indiana, to be Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

\*Bartholomew H. Chilton, of Delaware, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for a term expiring April 13, 2013.

\*Scott O'Malia, of Michigan, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for a term expiring April 13, 2012.

By Mr. AKAKA for the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

\*Christine O. Hill, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Congressional Affairs).

\*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.

#### 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 Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. STEVENS):

S. 3234. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a temporary income tax credit for commercial fisherman to offset high fuel costs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 3235. A bill to reduce the amount of financial assistance provided to the Government of Mexico in response to the illegal border crossings from Mexico into the United States, which serve to dissipate the political

discontent with the higher unemployment rate within Mexico; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. McCONNELL (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. KYL):

S. 3236. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to extend provisions under Medicare and Medicaid programs, and for other purposes; read the first time.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 60

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) 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. 678

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 678, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to ensure air passengers have access to necessary services while on a grounded air carrier and are not unnecessarily held on a grounded air carrier before or after a flight, and for other purposes.

S. 935

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 935, a bill to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 937

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 937, a bill to improve support and services for individuals with autism and their families.

S. 991

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 991, a bill to establish the Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation under the authorities of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961.

S. 1795

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1795, a bill to improve access to workers' compensation programs for injured Federal employees.

S. 2504

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) 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. 2507

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from New Jersey

(Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2507, a bill to address the digital television transition in border states.

S. 2510

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2510, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide revised standards for quality assurance in screening and evaluation of gynecologic cytology preparations, and for other purposes.

S. 2579

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) were added as cosponsors 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. 2668

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) 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.

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2668, *supra*.

S. 2736

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2736, a bill to amend section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 to improve the program under such section for supportive housing for the elderly, and for other purposes.

S. 2908

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2908, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to prohibit the display of Social Security account numbers on Medicare cards.

S. 2957

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2957, a bill to modernize credit union net worth standards, advance credit union efforts to promote economic growth, and modify credit union regularity standards and reduce burdens, and for other purposes.

S. 3108

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Pennsyl-

vania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3108, a bill to require the President to call a White House Conference on Food and Nutrition.

S. 3130

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3130, a bill to provide energy price relief by authorizing greater resources and authority for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and for other purposes.

S. 3134

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WEBB) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3134, a bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to require energy commodities to be traded only on regulated markets, and for other purposes.

S. 3177

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3177, a bill to develop a policy to address the critical needs of Iraqi refugees.

S. 3191

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3191, a bill to develop and promote a comprehensive plan for a national strategy to address harmful algal blooms and hypoxia through baseline research, forecasting and monitoring, and mitigation and control while helping communities detect, control, and mitigate coastal and Great Lakes harmful algal blooms and hypoxia events.

S. 3209

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3209, a bill to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to clarify the filing period applicable to charges of discrimination, and for other purposes.

S. 3223

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3223, a bill to establish a small business energy emergency disaster loan program.

S.J. RES. 43

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 43, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to marriage.

S. CON. RES. 87

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 87, a concurrent resolution congratulating the Republic of Latvia on the 90th anniversary of its declaration of independence.

S. RES. 580

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 580, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on preventing Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapons capability.

S. RES. 607

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 607, a resolution designating July 10, 2008, as "National Summer Learning Day".

S. RES. 609

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 609, a resolution recognizing the need for rapid recapitalization of the KC-135 aerial refueling fleet through re-competition of the United States Air Force's KC-X solicitation.

AMENDMENT NO. 5066

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 5066 proposed to H.R. 6304, a bill to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to establish a procedure for authorizing certain acquisitions of foreign intelligence, and for other purposes.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. STEVENS):

S. 3234. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a temporary income tax credit for commercial fishermen to offset high fuel costs; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise to introduce a bill that will help commercial fishermen in Alaska and all over the United States offset high fuel prices by providing a temporary income tax credit for excessive fuel costs. I am pleased to have Mr. STEVENS join me in introducing this important legislation.

Diesel fuel prices in Alaska and across the Nation have increased more than 50 percent over the past year. Some fishermen are reporting that they are now spending up to 70 percent of their income for fuel. This is having a devastating impact on this industry as fishermen do not have the option of passing the cost of fuel onto clients or customers, turning to alternative modes of transportation to do their jobs, or selling their product for a higher price. They can't simply increase the price of fish to offset higher fuel costs. Fish prices, in most cases, are set by the seafood processing sector and are tied to prices in the global seafood market in which Alaskan and American seafood compete.

All around the world, fishermen are responding to this crisis. They are