

H.R. 4284. An act to extend the Generalized System of Preferences and the Andean Trade Preference Act, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1242. An act to amend the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 to provide for additional monitoring and accountability of the Troubled Asset Relief Program; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 3639. An act to amend the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009 to establish an earlier effective date for various consumer protections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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-4151. 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 National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency in fiscal year 2003, and has been assigned National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency case number 08-03; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-4152. A communication from the Deputy Secretary, Division of Corporation Finance, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Proxy Disclosure Enhancements" (RIN3235-AK28) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 17, 2009; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4153. A communication from the Director of Environmental Policy and Compliance, Office of the Secretary, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 17, 2009; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4154. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tier II Issue: Cost Sharing Stock Based Compensation Directive No. 2" (LMSB-4-1109-040) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2009; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4155. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a petition to add workers from Oak Ridge Hospital in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, to the Special Exposure Cohort; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4156. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a petition to add workers from Piqua Organic Moderated Reactor in Piqua, Ohio, to the Special Exposure Cohort; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4157. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a petition to add workers from the Hanford site in Richland, Washington, to the Special Exposure Cohort; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4158. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a petition to add workers from the Metals and Controls Corporation in Attleboro, Massachusetts, to the Special Exposure Cohort; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4159. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a petition to add workers from the Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, New York, to the Special Exposure Cohort; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4160. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Community Services Block Act Discretionary Activities: Community Economic Development and Rural Facilities Programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4161. A communication from the Director, Strategic Human Resources Policy Division, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Adverse Actions" (RIN3206-AL39) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 17, 2009; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4162. A communication from the Director, Strategic Human Resources Policy Division, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Training; Supervisory, Management, and Executive Development" (RIN3206-AK75) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 17, 2009; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4163. A communication from the Director, Strategic Human Resources Policy Division, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Examining System" (RIN3206-AL51) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 17, 2009; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4164. A communication from the Chief of the Border Security Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Importer Security Filing and Additional Carrier Requirements; Correction" (RIN1651-AA70) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 17, 2009; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4165. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for a report relative to the FY2009 Agency Financial Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4166. A communication from the Secretary of the Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Fiscal Year 2009 Agency Financial Report"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4167. A communication from the US-VISIT Program Director, National Protection and Programs Directorate, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursu-

ant to law, the report of a rule entitled "United States Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology Program ("US-VISIT"); Enrollment of Additional Aliens in US-VISIT; Authority to Collect Biometric Data From Additional Travelers and Expansion to the 50 Most Highly Trafficked Land Border Ports of Entry" (RIN1601-AA35; RIN1600-AA00) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 17, 2009; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 69. A bill to establish a fact-finding Commission to extend the study of a prior Commission to investigate and determine facts and circumstances surrounding the relocation, internment, and deportation to Axis countries of Latin Americans of Japanese descent from December 1941 through February 1948, and the impact of those actions by the United States, and to recommend appropriate remedies, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 111-112).

By Mr. DORGAN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with amendments:

S. 1178. A bill to extend Federal recognition to the Chickahominy Indian Tribe, the Chickahominy Indian Tribe-Eastern Division, the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the Rappahannock Tribe, Inc., the Monacan Indian Nation, and the Nansemond Indian Tribe (Rept. No. 111-113).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. BAUCUS for the Committee on Finance.

*Lael Brainard, of the District of Columbia, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury.

*Ellen Gloninger Murray, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services.

*Bryan Hayes Samuels, of Illinois, to be Commissioner on Children, Youth, and Families, Department of Health and Human Services.

*Jim R. Esquea, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services.

*Michael W. Punke, of Montana, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador.

*Islam A. Siddiqui, of Virginia, to be Chief Agricultural Negotiator, Office of the United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador.

*Charles Collins, of Maryland, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury.

*Mary John Miller, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

*Michael F. Mundaca, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

*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 Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 2926. A bill to amend the XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the application of a consistent Medicare part B premium for all Medicare beneficiaries in a budget neutral manner for 2010, to provide an additional round of economic recovery payments to certain beneficiaries, and to assess the need for a consumer price index for elderly consumers to compute cost-of-living increases for certain governmental benefits; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 2927. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a tax on certain securities transactions to fund job creation and deficit reduction, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 2928. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain disaster tax relief provisions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 2929. A bill to prohibit secret modifications and revocations of the law, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 2930. A bill to deter terrorism, provide justice for victims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 624

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 624, a bill to provide 100,000,000 people with first-time access to safe drinking water and sanitation on a sustainable basis by 2015 by improving the capacity of the United States Government to fully implement the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005.

S. 891

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 891, a bill to require annual disclosure to the Securities and Exchange Commission of activities involving columbite-tantalite, cassiterite, and wolframite from the Democratic Republic of Congo, and for other purposes.

S. 1402

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1402, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the amount allowed as a deduction for start-up expenditures.

S. 2824

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2824, a bill to establish a small dollar loan-loss guarantee fund, and for other purposes.

S. 2854

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr.

BOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2854, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the credit for new qualified hybrid motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

S. 2925

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2925, a bill to establish a grant program to benefit victims of sex trafficking, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2995

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2995 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3590, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the first-time homebuyers credit in the case of members of the Armed Forces and certain other Federal employees, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3264

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3264 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3590, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the first-time homebuyers credit in the case of members of the Armed Forces and certain other Federal employees, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 2928. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain disaster tax relief provisions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today I have introduced a bill to extend deadlines for a number of provisions in the Heartland Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2008, as well as a number of national disaster tax relief provisions, through 2010.

The Heartland Disaster Tax Relief Act has been critical in rebuilding the lives and communities of those affected by the terrible floods and tornadoes from last year.

Because of delays in Federal funding and tighter credit conditions, many individuals, families, and businesses affected by the 2008 floods and storms will be unable to meet the deadline for the tax relief intended to help with recovery.

Louisiana is still rebuilding from Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Congress extended tax incentives for that disaster twice, and might even extend them a third time. I am just proposing a second year of the same kind of tax incentives that have been in effect for Hurricane Katrina victims for over 4 years.

This is especially important when small businesses are struggling to recover, and small businesses create 70 percent of all net new jobs.

It is only fair to extend the deadlines and give these individuals, families,

and businesses the chance to recover and rebuild.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2928

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Heartland Disaster Tax Relief Extension Act of 2009".

TITLE I—HEARTLAND DISASTER AREAS

SEC. 101. CREDIT TO HOLDERS OF TAX CREDIT BONDS.

Section 702(d)(7)(C) of the Heartland Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-343; 122 Stat. 3918) is amended by striking "January 1, 2010" and inserting "January 1, 2011".

SEC. 102. EDUCATION TAX BENEFITS.

Section 702(d)(8) of the Heartland Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-343; 122 Stat. 3918) is amended by striking "or 2009" and inserting "2009, or 2010".

SEC. 103. SPECIAL RULES FOR USE OF RETIREMENT FUNDS.

Section 702(d)(10) of the Heartland Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-343; 122 Stat. 3918) is amended—

(1) by striking "January 1, 2010" both places it appears and inserting "January 1, 2011", and

(2) by striking "December 31, 2009" both places it appears and inserting "December 31, 2010".

SEC. 104. ADJUSTMENTS REGARDING TAXPAYER AND DEPENDENCY STATUS.

Section 702(d)(15) of the Heartland Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-343; 122 Stat. 3918) is amended by striking "or 2009" and inserting "2009, or 2010".

SEC. 105. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this title shall take effect as if included in the enactment of section 702 of the Heartland Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2008.

TITLE II—NATIONAL DISASTER AREAS

SEC. 201. LOSSES ATTRIBUTABLE TO FEDERALLY DECLARED DISASTERS.

(a) NO LIMIT FOR 2010.—Paragraph (1) of section 165(h) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking "\$500 (\$100 for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2009)" and inserting "\$100 (\$0 for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2009, and before January 1, 2011)".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2009.

SEC. 202. EXPENSING OF QUALIFIED DISASTER EXPENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 198A(b)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking "January 1, 2010" and inserting "January 1, 2011".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to disasters occurring after December 31, 2009.

SEC. 203. NET OPERATING LOSSES ATTRIBUTABLE TO FEDERALLY DECLARED DISASTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subclause (I) of section 172(j)(1)(A)(i) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking "January 1, 2010" and inserting "January 1, 2011".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to disasters occurring after December 31, 2009.

SEC. 204. WAIVER OF CERTAIN MORTGAGE REVENUE BOND REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (11) of section 143(k) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is