

include 30 U.S. research libraries and 10 international research libraries.

It is important to note the ongoing, extensive assistance the Senate Foreign Relations Committee receives from the Jakarta LOC office. Research and preparation for committee projects on issues ranging from global food security, to international trade, non-proliferation, the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, EITI, counter-terrorism and human trafficking, have been augmented by the diligent efforts of LOC staff in Jakarta and elsewhere in the region.

The Jakarta LOC office ensures that the U.S. Congress and the Congressional Research Service have up-to-date legal and legislative regional information, and it assists other U.S. Government agencies in providing and sharing open source information as well as acquiring publications.

The Jakarta LOC office has also worked with the House Democracy Partnership, HDP, and The Asia Foundation to create a legislative library for the National Parliament of Timor-Leste and to train the library staff, and is cooperating with the HDP to develop a parliamentary research service and an improved information technology system there.

Indonesia is a young democracy. Its Parliament is confronted with many challenges, including the development of its own operational and staff infrastructure. The LOC office in Jakarta serves as a bridge facilitating communications and meetings between the staff of the U.S. Congress and the Indonesian Parliament. Our counterparts in the Indonesian Parliament have expressed appreciation for this initiative.

In conclusion, I am grateful for the assistance provided to the U.S. Senate by the Southeast Asia LOC office, and wanted to take this opportunity to openly convey my appreciation.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING SAM HAMILTON

• Mr. NELSON of Florida. Madam President, I speak today to commemorate the life of a true friend of Florida, Mr. Sam Hamilton, who passed away on Saturday. In September of last year, Mr. Hamilton became the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. That was a fitting position for a man who had dedicated 30 years to protecting the Nation's natural resources and wildlife.

Long before he was Director of Fish and Wildlife, Mr. Hamilton was committed to this country's wild spaces. Just last month, I was fortunate enough to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for an Everglades restoration project called the Picayune Strand, and Mr. Hamilton was there. It was a proud day for us all, but certainly for a man who had worked so long on Everglades issues and knew how much this project would benefit the endangered

Florida panther. On that unusually cold morning, he spoke about his experience in the Youth Conservation Corps at 15 years old in Mississippi and how that molded his dedication to wildlife conservation. Mr. Hamilton started his career with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Texas. He moved up the ranks to become the southeast region's director based in Atlanta.

During his time in Atlanta, he oversaw the Service's role in restoring the Everglades ecosystem. He took the Service's role of advising Federal agencies with regard to the Endangered Species Act seriously. He knew the ins and outs of the Apalachicola-Chatahoochee-Flint River Basin, and worked to protect the threatened and endangered species that call that system home, like the gulf sturgeon and the purple bankclimber mussel.

Mr. Hamilton was an avid fisher and hunter, and this gave him perspective on how to work with people from different backgrounds towards a common goal of conserving America's wildlife and the habitat that sustains it. I know that I echo my friends at the Department of the Interior like Secretary Ken Salazar and the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks Tom Strickland when I say that Mr. Hamilton will be sorely missed and his great contributions to my state and the country at large will not be forgotten. And to his family: wife Becky, sons Sam Jr. and Clay, and grandson Davis, you are in our thoughts during this difficult time. Thank you for helping your husband, father, and grandfather to serve this country.●

TRIBUTE TO KATHERINE PATERSON

• Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, I wish to acknowledge the lifetime work and recent achievements of Katherine Paterson of Barre, VT. Recently, Ms. Paterson was named National Ambassador for Young People's Literature by the Librarian of Congress James H. Billington.

Katherine Paterson's accomplishments as an author surely merit her appointment. She has twice been awarded the prestigious Newbery Medal, once for "Bridge to Terabithia" and a second time for "Jacob Have I Loved." In addition, she won the National Book Award, also twice, for "The Great Gilly Hopkins" and "The Master Puppeteer." Nor are these the only major recognitions of her importance as one of the major writers of our time. She has won 19 additional literary awards for other works, including the Hans Christian Andersen Medal, the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award and the Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts, which was awarded to her by her home State of Vermont.

Katherine Paterson was named a Living Legend by the Library of Congress in 2000.

Her most recent book is "The Day of the Pelican," a moving, dramatic story

of a refugee family's flight from war-torn Kosovo to America. It is the 2010 selection for Vermont Reads, a statewide reading program.

Katherine Paterson has long been dedicated to promoting literacy among young people, which makes her appointment as National Ambassador for Young People's Literature particularly appropriate. She has chosen "Read for Your Life" as the theme for her platform for the upcoming 2 years as National Ambassador. Throughout her tenure, she will be a most articulate advocate for the importance of literature in young people's lives.

We in Vermont are proud of Katherine Paterson's accomplishments as a writer. We are proud of her dedication to literacy among young readers. And, at this moment, we are proud that our national library, the Library of Congress, has conferred upon her this new honor, and the enlarged task of being the Nation's leading advocate for young people's literature.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, 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.)

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION FOR THE VIRGIN ISLANDS—PM 47

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the requirements of Public Law 94-584 (the "Act"), I hereby transmit to the Congress a proposed constitution for the United States Virgin Islands (USVI). The constitution, drafted by the Fifth Constitutional Convention of the United States Virgin Islands, was submitted to me on December 31, 2009, by Governor John P. deJongh, United States Virgin Islands. In submitting the proposed constitution, Governor deJongh expressed his concerns about several provisions of the proposed constitution, but he also expressed his hope that the people of the United States Virgin Islands continue to "move ahead towards [their] goal of increased local governmental autonomy."

The Act requires that I submit this proposed constitution to the Congress,

along with my comments. The Congress then has 60 days to amend, modify, or approve the proposed constitution. If approved, or approved with modification, the constitution will be submitted for a referendum in the Virgin Islands for acceptance or rejection by the people.

In carrying out my responsibilities pursuant to the Act, I asked the Department of Justice, in consultation with the Department of the Interior, to provide its views of the proposed constitution. The Department of Justice concluded that several features of the proposed constitution warrant analysis and comment, including: (1) the absence of an express recognition of United States sovereignty and the supremacy of Federal law; (2) provisions for a special election on the USVI's territorial status; (3) provisions conferring legal advantages on certain groups defined by place and timing of birth, timing of residency, or ancestry; (4) residence requirements for certain offices; (5) provisions guaranteeing legislative representation of certain geographic areas; (6) provisions addressing territorial waters and marine resources; (7) imprecise language in certain provisions of the proposed constitution's bill of rights; (8) the possible need to repeal certain Federal laws if the proposed USVI constitution is adopted; and (9) the effect of congressional action or inaction on the proposed constitution.

To assist the Congress in its deliberations about this important matter, I attach the analysis of the Department of Justice, with which the Department of the Interior concurs. I believe that the analysis provided by the Department of Justice warrants careful attention.

I commend the electorate of the Virgin Islands and its governmental representatives in their continuing commitment to increasing self-government and the rule of law.

BARACK OBAMA.
THE WHITE HOUSE, February 26, 2010.

NOTICE RELATIVE TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE ACTIONS AND POLICIES OF CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE AND OTHER PERSONS TO UNDERMINE ZIMBABWE'S DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES OR INSTITUTIONS—PM 48

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the

President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Zimbabwe and other persons to undermine Zimbabwe's democratic processes or institutions is to continue in effect beyond March 6, 2010.

The crisis constituted by the actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Zimbabwe and other persons to undermine Zimbabwe's democratic processes or institutions has not been resolved. These actions and policies continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the foreign policy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue this national emergency and to maintain in force the sanctions to respond to this threat.

BARACK OBAMA.
THE WHITE HOUSE, February 26, 2010.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 2009, the following enrolled bill, previously signed by the Speaker of the House, was signed on February 26, 2010, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD):

H.R. 3961. An act to extend expiring provisions of the USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005 and Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 until February 28, 2011.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:04 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 227. Concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Urban Crimes Awareness Week.

H. Con. Res. 238. Concurrent resolution recognizing the difficult challenges Black veterans faced when returning home after serving in the Armed Forces, their heroic military sacrifices, and their patriotism in fighting for equal rights and for the dignity of a people and a Nation.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following concurrent resolutions were read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 227. Concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Urban Crimes Awareness Week; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H. Con. Res. 238. Concurrent resolution recognizing the difficult challenges Black veterans faced when returning home after serv-

ing in the Armed Forces, their heroic military sacrifices, and their patriotism in fighting for equal rights and for the dignity of a people and a Nation; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

H.R. 4626. An act to restore the application of the Federal antitrust laws to the business of health insurance to protect competition and consumers.

H.R. 4691. An act to provide a temporary extension of certain programs, and for other purposes.

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. NELSON of Florida (for himself and Mr. LEMIEUX):

S. 3050. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to Miami-Dade County certain federally owned land in Florida, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 3051. A bill to suspend flood insurance rate map updates in geographic areas in which certain levees are being repaired; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

S. 3052. A bill to address the establishment and maintenance of the Systemic Resolution Fund of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 3053. A bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to permit the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund to be used for transportation and use of dredged materials for abandoned mine reclamation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

S. 3054. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to establish efficiency standards for bottle-type water dispensers, commercial hot food holding cabinets, and portable electric spas; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 3055. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to award grants to municipalities to carry out community greening initiatives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ISAKSON, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REID, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. Res. 427. A resolution designating the first week of April 2010 as "National Asbestos Awareness Week"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEMIEUX (for himself and Mr. COBURN):