

to getting our economy moving again and on a firm fiscal footing.

After all, we are all connected. No single individual built America on his or her own. We built it together. We have been, and always will be, “one Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.” We have always been a people with responsibilities to ourselves and with responsibilities to one another. This means that as Americans work hard to find a job, keep their businesses afloat and grow, and provide for their kids, their representatives in Washington must meet their responsibilities and make the tough choices needed to get our economy back on track.

This plan lives up to a simple idea: as a Nation, we can live within our means while still making the investments we need to prosper. It follows a balanced approach: asking everyone to do their part, so no one has to bear all the burden. And it says that everyone—including millionaires and billionaires—has to pay their fair share.

These may be tough times for our country, but I have a deep faith in the American spirit, and we are tougher than the times we live in and bigger than the politics we have recently seen. If we all put partisanship aside and roll up our sleeves, I have no doubt that we can meet the challenges of the moment and show the world once again why the United States of America remains the greatest country on Earth.

BARACK OBAMA,

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 19, 2011.

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-3273. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Pears Grown in Oregon and Washington; Assessment Rate Decrease for Fresh Pears” (Doc. No. AMS-FV-11-0060; FV11-927-2 IR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 16, 2011; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3274. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Dried Prunes Produced in California; Decreased Assessment Rate” (Doc. No. AMS-FV-11-0068; FV11-993-1 IR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 16, 2011; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3275. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Pears Grown in Oregon and Washington; Assessment Rate Decrease for Processed Pears” (Doc. No. AMS-FV-0070; FV11-927-3 IR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 16, 2011; to the

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3276. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Softwood Lumber Research, Promotion, Consumer Education and Industry Information Order; Correction” (Doc. No. AMS-FV-10-0015C; FR) (RIN0581-AD03) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 16, 2011; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3277. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Cotton and Tobacco Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Cotton Board Rules and Regulations: Adjusting Supplemental Assessment on Imports” (Doc. No. AMS-CN-11-0026; CN-11-002) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 16, 2011; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3278. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Review Group, Farm Service Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program, Livestock Indemnity Program, and General Provisions for Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance Programs” (RIN0560-AH95) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 15, 2011; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3279. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Tetrachloroviphos; Extension of Time-Limited Interim Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 8887-5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 15, 2011; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3280. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a biennial report relative to the Food Emergency Response Network; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3281. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Updated Statements of Legal Authority for the Export Administration Regulations” (RIN0694-AF34) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3282. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995, with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3283. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Iran as declared in Executive Order 12957; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3284. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of the General Counsel, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals for Material Licenses” (RIN3150-AI79) received in the Office

of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2011; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3285. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Notice of Availability of Proposed Models for Plant-Specific Adoption of Technical Specifications Task Force Traveler TSTF-500, Revision 2, ‘DC Electrical Rewrite—Update to TSTF-360’” (NUREG-1430, -1431, -1432, -1433, -1434) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 15, 2011; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3286. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendments to National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Area Sources: Plating and Polishing” (FRL No. 9466-1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 15, 2011; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3287. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Control of Particulate Matter Emissions from the Operation of Outdoor Wood-Fired Boilers” (FRL No. 9468-4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 15, 2011; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3288. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Bacillus thuringiensis eCry3.1Ab Protein in Corn; Temporary Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance” (FRL No. 8889-2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 15, 2011; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3289. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Final Withdrawal of Certain Federal Aquatic Life Water Quality Criteria Applicable to Wisconsin” (FRL No. 9466-3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 15, 2011; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3290. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Oregon: Final Approval of State Underground Storage Tank Program” (FRL No. 9465-3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 15, 2011; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3291. A communication from the Program Manager, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicaid Program; Recovery Audit Contractors” (RIN0938-AQ19) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2011; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3292. 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 “Due Dates for Estate Tax Return or Form 9939, Extension of Time to Pay Estate Tax, and Penalty Relief” (Notice 2011-76) received in the Office of the

President of the Senate on September 19, 2011; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3293. 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 "Tax Treatment of Employer Provided Cell Phones" (Notice 2011-72) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2011; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3294. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a semiannual report detailing telecommunications-related payments made to Cuba pursuant to Department of the Treasury licenses; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3295. A communication from the Acting Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the export to the People's Republic of China of items (1) low rail contour tape laying machine, (2) filament winding machines, and (1) 20 inch jet mill) not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3296. A communication from the Acting Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the export to the People's Republic of China of items (6,000 kilograms of Carboxy Terminated Polybutadiene and other items) not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3297. A communication from the Acting Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the export to the People's Republic of China of items (1) 8 micron master jet mill and other items) not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3298. A communication from the Program Manager, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rate Increase Disclosure and Review: Definitions of 'Individual Market' and 'Small Group Market' (CMS-9999-F)" (RIN0938-AR26) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3299. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities" (RIN1820-AB59) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3300. A communication from the Director, Recruitment and Hiring/Hiring Policy, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Noncompetitive Appointment of Certain Military Spouses" (RIN3206-AM36) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 15, 2011; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3301. A communication from the Staff Director, United States Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the appointment of members to the Georgia Advisory Committee; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3302. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Traditional Worker Classification" (RIN1615-AB76) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 15, 2011; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3303. A communication from the Vice Chair, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's fiscal year 2013 budget request; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

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. BOXER:

S. 1574. A bill to designate certain Federal lands in San Diego County, California, as wilderness, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 1575. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the depreciation recovery period for energy-efficient cool roof systems; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. NELSON of Florida):

S. 1576. A bill to measure the progress of relief, recovery, reconstruction, and development efforts in Haiti following the earthquake of January 12, 2010, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. KERRY, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 1577. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase and make permanent the alternative simplified research credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TOOMEY (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 1578. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act with respect to consumer confidence reports by community water systems; 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. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. KIRK, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. REID, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. BURR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COATS, Mr. COBURN, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HELLER, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHANNIS, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. KERRY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. KOHL, Mr. KYL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY,

Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REED, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. VITTER, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WEBB, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 271. A resolution honoring the life and legacy of the Honorable Charles H. Percy, former Senator for the State of Illinois; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 50

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 50, a bill to strengthen Federal consumer product safety programs and activities with respect to commercially-marketed seafood by directing the Secretary of Commerce to coordinate with the Federal Trade Commission and other appropriate Federal agencies to strengthen and coordinate those programs and activities.

S. 119

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 119, a bill to preserve open competition and Federal Government neutrality towards the labor relations of Federal Government contractors on Federal and federally funded construction projects.

S. 170

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 170, a bill to provide for the affordable refinancing of mortgages held by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

S. 409

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 409, a bill to ban the sale of certain synthetic drugs.

S. 579

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 579, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Defense to provide members of the Individual Ready Reserve, Individual Mobilization Augmentees, and inactive members of the National Guard who served in Afghanistan or Iraq with information on counseling to prevent suicide, and for other purposes.

S. 605

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 605, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to place synthetic drugs in Schedule I.

S. 633

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, her name was added as a cosponsor of S.