

care and have the greatest risk of having a low birth weight baby or delivering prematurely. The program has enabled UH to dramatically reduce incidences of preterm births and low birth weight babies by 8 percent and 8.7 percent below the national average respectively.

November has come to an end, but I look forward to continue working with organizations and health systems in Ohio and across the country to reduce premature births and ensure a healthy start in life for our Nation's children.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING JIM CAPOOT

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of James "Jim" Capoot, a dedicated husband, proud father, loving son, devoted friend, and respected colleague. Officer Capoot lost his life in the line of duty while serving the Vallejo Police Department on November 17, 2011. He was 45 years old.

Jim Capoot was originally from Little Rock, AR and served in the U.S. Marine Corps and as a California highway patrol officer before joining the Vallejo Police Department in 1992. Officer Capoot was a highly decorated officer having received the Vallejo Police Department Officer of the Year Award, the Medal of Merit, the Life Saving Medal, and twice awarded the Medal of Courage. In addition to his work with the police department, Officer Capoot was the volunteer coach of the Vallejo High School girls' basketball team and led the team to a section championship in 2010.

Officer Jim Capoot, like all those who serve in law enforcement across California, put his life on the line to protect his community. I extend my deepest condolences to his loving wife Jessica and three daughters. My thoughts and prayers are with them. We are forever indebted to him for his courage, service, and sacrifice.●

TRIBUTE TO RANCOURT & CO. SHOECRAFTERS

• Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, my home State of Maine boasts countless entrepreneurs who are working to ensure that our State and Nation have a vibrant, growing economy for years to come. Michael and Kyle Rancourt, a dynamic father and son duo, exemplify this vibrant entrepreneurial spirit. Through ingenuity and hard work, they have developed and maintained a thriving shoemaking business based in the central Maine city of Lewiston, which was once a hub for the industry. Today I wish to commend and recognize the founders of Rancourt & Co. Shoecrafters for their success and commitment to their business and local community.

The Rancourt family has provided superb quality shoes for three genera-

tions. The family began its business in 1964. However, 11 years ago, Mike Rancourt sold the small family shoe business to Allen-Edmonds, which at the time was its largest client. Soon after, due to a struggling economy, the U.S. shoe industry experienced tremendous difficulties, and it became necessary for Allen-Edmonds to reduce its staff and close the Lewiston factory originally owned by the Rancourts.

Aware of these developments and reluctant to see the shoe factory which provided so many throughout the community with jobs, Michael and Kyle Rancourt decided to buy the factory back from Allen-Edmonds in 2009, reviving their passion for shoe making. The Rancourts began anew with just 20 employees but quickly found success in what many considered to be a dying domestic industry as more shoe manufacturers expanded overseas. A shifting demand for domestically made, quality products provided the company with a growing consumer base and a steady source of revenue.

This small business uses resources purchased from around the world to hand-make men's dress and casual shoes using the traditional method known as "last." This meticulous process involves employees hand-fitting leather into a shoe form, tacking the leather pieces in place, and then hand-stitching them with waxed threads and needles. The result of this process is a shoe that is recognized around the world for its superior quality and genuine comfort.

Looking at the new Rancourt & Co. today, it is difficult to imagine that it once faced extinction. The company has grown to over 50 employees today and has increased the number of men's shoes it manufactures on a weekly basis from 250 to 1,000. These fine-crafted products are sold throughout the United States as well as in international locations such as Hong Kong, India, the United Arab Emirates, and Japan. This small firm continues to expand, and in July, the company launched an online store which already grosses between \$8,000-\$10,000 each week.

Small businesses like Rancourt & Co. Shoecrafters are critical to the economic health of our country and our local communities. During a time of heightened global competitiveness, Michael and Kyle Rancourt were able to revive and renew their business and compete in an environment that many thought was simply too difficult and taxing for domestic manufacturers. As a result of their efforts, the company has prospered, preserving jobs in a local Maine community while showing the world what American small businesses are truly capable of. I congratulate everyone at Rancourt & Co. Shoecrafters for their remarkable success and wish them many more years of accomplishment.●

RECOGNIZING BENTON COUNTY DRUG COURT

• Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, the Benton County Drug Treatment Court is a shining example of our Nation's drug court system. As one of only 10 mentor courts in the Nation, the Benton County Drug Treatment Court serves as a model program for the over 2,500 treatment courts in the United States. This achievement is especially significant given that the Benton County Drug Treatment Court started as an ambitious pilot program only 10 years ago.

The positive impact drug treatment courts have on individuals, families, and communities throughout our country is remarkable. Due to tireless efforts underway since the first drug court was established over 20 years ago, there is now a system in place which, if completed, reduces the likelihood of drug relapse for individuals, provides increased housing stability, and brings families together. The positive outcomes from completion of drug courts are well documented and benefit those outside the system as well by reducing costs to the taxpayer.

Congratulations to the Benton County Drug Court on their 10th anniversary. Because of innovative solutions like drug courts, our country is one step closer to breaking the cycle of addiction which has plagued our country for far too long.●

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.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:25 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1801. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for expedited security screenings for members of the Armed Forces.

H.R. 2192. An act to exempt for an additional 4-year period, from the application of the means-test presumption of abuse under chapter 7, qualifying members of reserve components of the Armed Forces and members of the National Guard who, after September 11, 2001, are called to active duty or to perform a homeland defense activity for not less than 90 days.

H.R. 2465. An act to amend the Federal Employees' Compensation Act.

H.R. 3012. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate the per-country numerical limitation for employment-based immigrants, to increase the per-country numerical limitation for family-sponsored immigrants, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1801. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for expedited security screenings for members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 2465. An act to amend the Federal Employees' Compensation Act; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

S. 1930. A bill to prohibit earmarks.

S. 1931. A bill to provide civilian payroll tax relief, to reduce the Federal budget deficit, and for other purposes.

S. 1932. A bill to require the Secretary of State to act on a permit for the Keystone XL pipeline.

The following joint resolutions were read the first time:

S.J. Res. 30. Joint resolution extending the cooling-off period under section 10 of the Railway Labor Act with respect to the dispute referred to in Executive Order No. 13586 of October 6, 2011.

S.J. Res. 31. Joint resolution applying certain conditions to the dispute referred to in Executive Order 13586 of October 6, 2011, between the enumerated freight rail carriers, common carriers by rail in interstate commerce, and certain of their employees represented by labor organizations that have not agreed to extend the cooling-off period under section 10 of the Railway Labor Act beyond 12:01 a.m. on December 6, 2011.

S.J. Res. 32. Joint resolution to provide for the resolution of the outstanding issues in the current railway labor-management dispute.

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-4082. A communication from the Administrator, Food and Nutrition Services, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Quality Control Error Tolerance Threshold" (RIN0584-AE24) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2011; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4083. 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 "Christmas Tree Promotion, Research, and Information Order, Referendum Procedures" (Docket No. AMS-FV-10-0008-FR-1A) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on

November 22, 2011; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4084. A communication from the Deputy to the Chairman, Legal Office, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Resolution Plans Required" (RIN3064-AD77) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4085. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Burma that was declared in Executive Order 13047 of May 20, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4086. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report relative to the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 12938 of November 14, 1994, with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4087. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the U.S. Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Annual Energy Review 2010"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4088. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans: South Carolina; Negative Declarations for Applicability of Groups I, II, III and IV Control Techniques Guidelines; and Applicability of Reasonably Available Control Technology for the Portion of York County, South Carolina within Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, North Carolina-South Carolina 1997 8-Hour Ozone Non-attainment Area" (FRL No. 9495-7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 22, 2011; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4089. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Designations of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; Georgia: Atlanta; Determination of Attaining Data for the 1997 Annual Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards" (FRL No. 9496-3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 22, 2011; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4090. 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 "User Fee to Take the Registered Tax Return Preparer Competency Examination" ((RIN1545-BK24) (TD 9559)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2011; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4091. 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 "Extension of Import Restrictions Imposed on Archaeological and Ethnological Material from Bolivia" (RIN1515-AD83) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2011; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4092. 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 "Import Restrictions Imposed on Certain Archaeological and Ethnological Material from Greece" (RIN1515-AD84) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2011; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4093. A communication from the Program Manager, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Privacy Act; Exempt Record System" (RIN0906-AA891) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4094. A communication from the Program Manager, Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Permanent Certification Program for Health Information Technology; Revisions to ONC-Approved Accreditor Processes" (RIN0991-AB77) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4095. A communication from the Deputy Director for Policy, Legislative and Regulatory Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits" (29 CFR Part 4022) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4096. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the fiscal year 2011 Agency Financial Report for the Department of Labor; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4097. A communication from the Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's fiscal year 2011 Performance and Accountability Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4098. A communication from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Veterans Affairs' Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2011 through September 30, 2011; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4099. A communication from the Chairman of the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semi-Annual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2011 through September 30, 2011; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4100. A communication from the Budget Officer, Office of the Treasurer, National Gallery of Art, transmitting, pursuant to law, the financial statements for the National Gallery of Art for the year ended September 30, 2011 and the auditor's report thereon; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4101. A communication from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Veterans Affairs 2011 Performance and Accountability Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4102. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs,