

Country (Armenia) and Other Trade Agreements Updates" ((RIN9000-AM16) (FAC 2005-56)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 29, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5167. A communication from the Chief Acquisition Officer, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2010-009, Government Property" ((RIN9000-AL95) (FAC 2005-56)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 29, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5168. A communication from the Chief Acquisition Officer, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2011-004, Socioeconomic Program Parity" ((RIN9000-AL88) (FAC 2005-56)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 29, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5169. A communication from the Chief Acquisition Officer, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2012-002, Trade Agreements Thresholds" ((RIN9000-AM17) (FAC 2005-56)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 29, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5170. A communication from the Chief Acquisition Officer, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2007-012, Requirements for Acquisitions Pursuant to Multiple-Award Contracts" ((RIN9000-AL93) (FAC 2005-56)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 29, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5171. A communication from the Chief Acquisition Officer, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-56, Technical Amendments" (FAC 2005-56) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 29, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5172. A communication from the Chief Acquisition Officer, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-56, Small Entity Compliance Guide" (FAC 2005-56) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 29, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5173. A communication from the Chief Acquisition Officer, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2010-015, Women-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Program" ((RIN9000-AL97) (FAC 2005-56)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 29, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5174. A communication from the Chief Acquisition Officer, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of

a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2008-030, Proper Use and Management of Cost-Reimbursement Contracts" ((RIN9000-AL78) (FAC 2005-56)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 29, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5175. A communication from the Chief Acquisition Officer, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-56, Introduction" (FAC 2005-56) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 29, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5176. A communication from the Human Resources Specialist, Office of the Executive Director, Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office's annual report on the category rating system; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-5177. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Women-Owned Small Business Federal Contract Program" (RIN3245-AG34) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 24, 2012; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-5178. A communication from the Director of the Regulation Policy and Management Office of the General Counsel, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Due Date of Initial Application Requirements for State Home Construction Grants" (RIN2900-AN77) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 27, 2012; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Andrew David Hurwitz, of Arizona, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

#### 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. KERRY (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2145. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit the Secretary of the Treasury to issue prospective guidance clarifying the employment status of individuals for purposes of employment taxes and to prevent retroactive assessments with respect to such clarifications; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. UDALL of

Colorado, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. COONS, Mr. KERRY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico):

S. 2146. A bill to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to create a market-oriented standard for clean electric energy generation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BEGICH:

S. 2147. A bill to provide for research, monitoring, and observation of the Arctic Ocean and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. VITTER, Mr. COBURN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BLUNT, and Mr. ENZI):

S. 2148. A bill to amend the Toxic Substance Control Act relating to lead-based paint renovation and remodeling activities; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 2149. A bill to exclude from consumer credit reports medical debt that has been in collection and has been fully paid or settled, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 2150. A bill to amend title XVI of the Social Security Act to clarify that the value of certain funeral and burial arrangements are not to be considered available resources under the supplemental security income program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. COATS, Mr. BURR, and Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin):

S. 2151. A bill to improve information security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. VITTER (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. KIRK, Mr. BLUNT, and Mr. HATCH):

S. Res. 385. A resolution condemning the Government of Iran for its continued persecution, imprisonment, and sentencing of Youcef Nadarkhani on the charge of apostasy; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. COONS, Mr. MCCONNELL, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. THUNE, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. RISCH, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BLUNT, Mrs. McCASKILL, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. COATS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. COBURN, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BENNET, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. HELLER, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. KYL, Mr. LEE, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. VITTER, Mr. BURR, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Ms.

SNOWE, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. JOHANNES, Mr. KOHL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. CONRAD, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. ENZI):

S. Res. 386. A resolution calling for free and fair elections in Iran, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. LEVIN):

S. Res. 387. A resolution celebrating Black History Month; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. KERRY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. SESSIONS):

S. Res. 388. A resolution commemorating the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812 and "The Star Spangled Banner"; and recognizing the historical significance, heroic human endeavor, and sacrifice of the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Revenue Marine Service, and State militias, during the War of 1812; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. Con. Res. 35. A concurrent resolution to establish the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies for the inauguration of the President-elect and Vice President-elect of the United States on January 21, 2013; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. Con. Res. 36. A concurrent resolution to authorize the use of the rotunda and Emancipation Hall of the Capitol by the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies in connection with the proceedings and ceremonies conducted for the inauguration of the President-elect and the Vice President-elect of the United States; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 491

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 491, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to recognize the service in the reserve components of the Armed Forces of certain persons by honoring them with status as veterans under law, and for other purposes.

S. 593

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 593, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the tax rate for excise tax on investment income of private foundations.

S. 1086

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1086, a bill to reauthorize the Special Olympics Sport and

Empowerment Act of 2004, to provide assistance to Best Buddies to support the expansion and development of mentoring programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1167

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1167, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the diagnosis and treatment of hereditary hemorrhagic telangiectasia, and for other purposes.

S. 1544

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1544, a bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to exempt a certain class of securities from such Act.

S. 1616

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1616, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt certain stock of real estate investment trusts from the tax on foreign investments in United States real property interests, and for other purposes.

S. 1886

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1886, a bill to prevent trafficking in counterfeit drugs.

S. 1930

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1930, a bill to prohibit earmarks.

S. 1935

At the request of Mrs. HAGAN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1935, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the March of Dimes Foundation.

S. 1980

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1980, a bill to prevent, deter, and eliminate illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing through port State measures.

S. 2032

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2032, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 regarding proprietary institutions of higher education in order to protect students and taxpayers.

S. 2036

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) were

added as cosponsors of S. 2036, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

S. 2057

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2057, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to allow physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and clinical nurse specialists to supervise cardiac, intensive cardiac, and pulmonary rehabilitation programs.

S. 2100

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2100, a bill to suspend sales of petroleum products from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve until certain conditions are met.

S. 2103

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2103, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect pain-capable unborn children in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

S. 2118

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 2118, a bill to remove unelected, unaccountable bureaucrats from seniors' personal health decisions by repealing the Independent Payment Advisory Board.

S. 2139

At the request of Mrs. MCCASKILL, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2139, a bill to enhance security, increase accountability, and improve the contracting of the Federal Government for overseas contingency operations, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1538

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1538 intended to be proposed to S. 1813, a bill to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1617

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1617 intended to be proposed to S. 1813, a bill to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1671

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the