

EC-8385. A communication from the Chairman of the United States Holocaust Museum, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Museum's fiscal year 2012 Report on Audit and Investigative Activities; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8386. A communication from the Treasurer of the National Gallery of Art, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Gallery's Performance and Accountability Report for the year ended September 30, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8387. A communication from the Director, Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Federal Election Commission 2012 Performance and Accountability Report"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8388. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Energy's Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8389. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8390. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Health and Human Service's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2012 through September 30, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8391. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Fiscal Year 2012 Performance and Accountability Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8392. A communication from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Fiscal Year 2012 Performance and Accountability Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8393. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Fiscal Year 2012 Performance and Accountability Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8394. A communication from the Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic; Reopening of the 2012 Commercial Sector for South Atlantic Red Snapper, Gag, and South Atlantic Shallow-Water Grouper" (RIN0648-XC332) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8395. A communication from the Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska Management Area" (RIN0648-XC346) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8396. A communication from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmit-

ting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Vessels Using Jig Gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648-XC344) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8397. A communication from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska Management Area" (RIN0648-XC333) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8398. A communication from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Herring Fishery; Sub-ACL (Annual Catch Limit) Harvested for Management Area 1A" (RIN0648-XC156) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8399. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Compatibility with Consumer Electronics Equipment" (MB Docket No. 11-169; PP Docket No. 00-67, FCC 12-126) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 27, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8400. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Crowell, Knox City, Rule, and Quana, Texas)" (MB Docket No. 08-97; RM-11428) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 27, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-133. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan memorializing the Congress of the United States to provide funding to the United States Army Corps of Engineers for dredging harbors of refuge and repairing and maintaining seawalls of harbors of refuge in Michigan; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 325

Whereas, Regular dredging and maintenance and repair of breakwater seawalls is needed to keep recreational harbors open to boaters in Michigan and the other Great Lakes states. Natural shoaling exacerbated by continued low lake levels has left many recreational harbors too shallow for boaters to enter safely, which is jeopardizing charter fishing operations, local communities, and other businesses that depend on boating. Portage Lake Harbor, Leland Harbor, and Arcadia Harbor are just a few of the fifteen Great Lakes harbors of concern that are dangerously shallow for boaters; and

Whereas, Not only is dredging and maintenance and repair of breakwater seawalls

needed to accommodate recreational boaters, but also to provide safe harbor to all types of boaters, including commercial shippers. Maintaining harbors of refuge is a requirement to ensure that our obligation of providing safe shipping lanes for trade is met. With Portage Lake Harbor being one of the four Michigan harbors of refuge along the western side of the state and one of the thirteen statewide, it is a necessity that it be maintained and dredged to a proper depth; and

Whereas, The federal budget did not include funding for dredging harbors of refuge and maintenance and repair of breakwater seawalls of harbors of refuge maintained in the past by the United States Army Corp of Engineers. This lack of funding will cripple the Great Lakes recreational boating and charter fishing industry, impacting millions of boaters, businesses, and communities that they support. Because no funding has been provided, local Great Lakes communities have had to acquire private funding to be able to keep tourism alive during the boating season; and

Whereas, The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers never completed a replacement seawall at Portage Lake Harbor begun in 2003. The seawall is now undermined, further narrowing the shipping channel. The Army Corps has designated the seawall as facing "imminent failure"; and

Whereas, It is necessary, for the safety of commercial shippers and all other Great Lakes traffic, to maintain harbors of refuge and, therefore, it should be deemed worthy to appropriate funds from the federal Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund, which holds surplus funds in excess of \$8 billion, to Great Lakes harbors. The relatively small federal investment needed to maintain these harbors is insignificant compared to the billions of dollars and thousands of jobs generated; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to provide funding to the United States Army Corps of Engineers for dredging harbors of refuge and repairing and maintaining seawalls of harbors of refuge in Michigan, particularly Portage Lake Harbor located in Onekama, MI; and be it further

Resolved, That we call on Congress to include funding for the United States Army Corps of Engineers to rebuild and complete the Portage Lake Harbor seawall; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-134. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Rhode Island urging Congress to pass and send to the states a constitutional amendment permitting state and federal regulation and restriction of independent political expenditures; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

JOINT RESOLUTION S. 2656

Whereas, The growing influence of large independent political expenditures by corporations and wealthy individuals is a great and growing concern to the people of the United States and the State of Rhode Island; and

Whereas, In a democracy the assurance of a fair and uncorrupted election process is of the utmost importance, and the Rhode Island General Assembly believes that it is a legitimate and vital role of government to regulate independent political expenditures by corporations, unions, and wealthy individuals; and

Whereas, In fulfillment of this important role the government of the United States and a majority of states have regulated and restricted independent political expenditures by corporations; and

Whereas, In 2010, the Supreme Court of the United States decided by a bare majority in *Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission* that the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States prohibits restrictions on the use of corporate and union treasury funds for electioneering; and

Whereas, *Citizens United* was a dramatic reversal of established Supreme Court precedent, and overturned decades of statutes enacted by Congress and numerous state legislatures; and

Whereas, *Citizens United* has served as precedent for further legal decisions harming our democratic system of government, including *SpeechNow.org v. FEC*, which allows wealthy individuals to anonymously channel unlimited political expenditures through Super PACs; and

Whereas, In the wake of *Citizens United* there has been an exponential increase in large independent political expenditures by corporations and wealthy individuals which threatens the integrity of the election process, corrupts our candidates, dilutes the power of individual voters and distort the public discourse; and

Whereas, Article V of the United States Constitution empowers and obligates the people of the United States of America to use the constitutional amendment process to amend their constitution; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That this General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations respectfully urges the Congress of the United States to pass and send to the states for ratification an amendment to the constitution to effectively overturn the holding of *Citizens United* and its progeny and to permit the governments of the United States and the several states to regulate and restrict independent political expenditures by corporations and wealthy individuals; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, the Minority Leader of the United States Senate, and to each Senator and Representative from Rhode Island in the Congress of the United States.

POM-135. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island urging Congress to pass and send to the states a constitutional amendment permitting state and federal regulation and restriction of independent political expenditures; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

JOINT RESOLUTION H. 7899

Whereas, The growing influence of large independent political expenditures by corporations and wealthy individuals is a great and growing concern to the people of the United States and the State of Rhode Island; and

Whereas, In a democracy the assurance of a fair and uncorrupted election process is of the utmost importance, and the Rhode Island General Assembly believes that it is a legitimate and vital role of government to regulate independent political expenditures by corporations, unions, and wealthy individuals; and

Whereas, In fulfillment of this important role the government of the United States

and a majority of states have regulated and restricted independent political expenditures by corporations; and

Whereas, In 2010, the Supreme Court of the United States decided by a bare majority in *Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission* that the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States prohibits restrictions on the use of corporate and union treasury funds for electioneering; and

Whereas, *Citizens United* was a dramatic reversal of established Supreme Court precedent, and overturned decades of statutes enacted by Congress and numerous state legislatures; and

Whereas, *Citizens United* has served as precedent for further legal decisions harming our democratic system of government, including *SpeechNow.org v. FEC*, which allows wealthy individuals to anonymously channel unlimited political expenditures through Super PACs; and

Whereas, In the wake of *Citizens United* there has been an exponential increase in large independent political expenditures by corporations and wealthy individuals which threatens the integrity of the election process, corrupts our candidates, dilutes the power of individual voters and distort the public discourse; and

Whereas, Article V of the United States Constitution empowers and obligates the people of the United States of America to use the constitutional amendment process to amend their constitution; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That this General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations respectfully urges the Congress of the United States to pass and send to the states for ratification an amendment to the constitution to effectively overturn the holding of *Citizens United* and its progeny and to permit the governments of the United States and the several states to regulate and restrict independent political expenditures by corporations and wealthy individuals; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, the Minority Leader of the United States Senate, and to each Senator and Representative from Rhode Island in the Congress of the United States.

POM-136. A concurrent resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of the State of Kansas urging the Congress of the United States to extend equal benefits and compensation for the treatment of Agent Orange exposure to Vietnam era veterans who served outside of Vietnam; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5016

Whereas, Thousands of veterans of the Vietnam War suffer from the effects of exposure to Agent Orange, a powerful and toxic defoliant used to clear areas of dense vegetation used as enemy hideouts; and

Whereas, Agent Orange exposure causes a variety of devastating health effects, such as increased rates of cancer, immune system disorders and genetic maladies which lead to birth defects in the children of those exposed; and

Whereas, Although the use of Agent Orange is most commonly associated with the country of Vietnam, it was also used extensively in surrounding areas such as Thailand; and

Whereas, Many veterans affected by exposure to Agent Orange proudly and bravely

served their country without ever actually setting foot in Vietnam itself; and

Whereas, These veterans are struggling to obtain the same medical benefits and compensation to deal with their exposure as those who served on the ground in Vietnam: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein: That the Congress of the United States is urged to work with the Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure that Vietnam era veterans who served in support of the Vietnam War are able to receive the same medical benefits and compensation for the treatment of Agent Orange exposure as those who served within the country's borders.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

Report to accompany S. 2038, An original bill to prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112-244).

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 823

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 823, a bill to permit aliens who lawfully enter the United States on valid visas as nonimmigrant elementary and secondary school students to attend public schools in the United States for longer than 1 year if such aliens reimburse the local educational agency that administers the school for the full, unsubsidized per capita cost of providing education at such school for the period of the alien's attendance.

S. 2212

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2212, a bill to clarify the exception to foreign sovereign immunity set forth in section 1605(a)(3) title 28, United States Code.

S. 2318

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2318, a bill to authorize the Secretary of State to pay a reward to combat transnational organized crime and for information concerning foreign nationals wanted by international criminal tribunals, and for other purposes.

S. 3199

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3199, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to stimulate international tourism to the United States and for other purposes.

S. 3227

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from West