

I want to thank Abe for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his next journey.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CYRUS WESTERN

● Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Cyrus Western for his hard work as an intern in the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Cyrus is a native of Sheridan, WY. He graduated from Washington and Jefferson College with a bachelor of arts in environmental science. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Cyrus for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his next journey.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

##### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 12:19 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 3187. An act 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.

H.R. 6582. An act to allow for innovations and alternative technologies that meet or exceed desired efficiency goals, and to make technical corrections to existing Federal energy efficiency laws to allow American manufacturers to remain competitive.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mrs. GILLIBRAND).

At 5:35 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 resolution:

H. Res. 829. Resolution to respectfully return to the Senate the bill (H. R. 4310) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

#### 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-8547. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Buprofezin Pesticide Tolerances; Technical Correction" (FRL No. 9371-3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8548. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Zeta Cypermethrin; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9371-7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8549. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Spirodiclofen; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9371-5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8550. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fenpyroximate; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9360-3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8551. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Flood Elevation Determinations" ((44 CFR Part 67) (Docket No. FEMA-2012-0003)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8552. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries; Specifications and Management Measures" (RIN0648-BC57) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8553. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Crescent City Fourth of July Fireworks Event, Crescent City, CA" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2012-0141)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8554. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Special Regulations; Areas of the National Park System, Yellowstone National Park - Winter Use" (RIN1024-AE10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2012; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-8555. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for a report entitled "Revised Guidance of Treatment of Tenants under CERCLA'S BFPF Provision"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8556. 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; West Virginia; The 2002 Base Year Emissions Inventory for the Parkersburg-Marietta, WV-OH Nonattainment Area for the 1997 Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standard" (FRL No. 9760-7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8557. 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; West Virginia; The 2002 Base Year Emissions Inventory for the Charleston Nonattainment Area for the 1997 Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standard" (FRL No. 9759-7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8558. 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; Maryland; The 2002 Base Year Inventory for the Baltimore, Maryland Nonattainment Area for the 1997 Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standard" (FRL No. 9759-6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8559. 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; Maryland; The 2002 Base Year Emissions Inventory for the Washington County, Maryland Nonattainment Area for the 1997 Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standard" (FRL No. 9760-1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8560. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulation of Fuels and Fuel Additives: Modifications to Renewable Fuel Standard and Diesel Sulfur Programs" (FRL No. 9758-8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8561. 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; West Virginia; The 2002 Base Year Emissions Inventory for the Huntington-Ashland, WV-KY-OH Nonattainment Area for the 1997 Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standard" (FRL No. 9759-9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8562. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Guidance for Performing the Integrated Assessment for External Flooding" (JLD-ISG-2012-05) received in the Office of the President of

the Senate on December 7, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8563. A communication from the Commissioner, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Competitive Sourcing Report for fiscal year 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-8564. 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 "Leave-Based Donation Programs to Aid Victims of Hurricane Sandy" (Notice 2012-69) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 13, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-8565. 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 "Fees on Health Insurance Policies and Self-Insured Plans for the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Trust Fund" ((RIN1545-BK59) (TD 9602)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-8566. 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 "Technical Corrections to U.S. Customs and Border Protection Regulations" (CBP Dec. 12-21) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 7, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-8567. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) Mandated Evaluation of Express Lane Eligibility: First Year Findings"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-8568. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, an addendum to a certification, transmittal number: DDTC 12-157, of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country regarding any possible affects such a sale might have relating to Israel's Qualitative Military Edge over military threats to Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-8569. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, an addendum to a certification, transmittal number: DDTC 12-167, of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country regarding any possible affects such a sale might have relating to Israel's Qualitative Military Edge over military threats to Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-8570. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12-095); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-8571. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12-126); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-8572. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant

to sections 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12-156); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-8573. A communication from the Program Manager, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Opioid Drugs in Maintenance and Detoxification Treatment of Opiate Addiction; Proposed Modification of Dispensing Restrictions for Buprenorphine and Buprenorphine Combination as Used in Approved Opioid Treatment Medications" (RIN0930-AA14) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2012; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-8574. 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 "Health Information Technology: Revisions to the 2014 Edition Electronic Health Record Certification Criteria; and Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Revisions to the Electronic Health Record Incentive Program" (RIN0938-AR71; RIN0991-AB89) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2012; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-8575. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Secondary Direct Food Additives Permitted in Food for Human Consumption; Sodium Dodecylbenzenesulfonate" (Docket No. FDA-2011-F-0853) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2012; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-8576. 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-8577. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Semiannual Report to Congress on Audit Follow-up for the period of April 1, 2012 through September 30, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8578. A communication from the Chief Operating Officer/Acting Executive Director, U.S. Election Assistance Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission'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-8579. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semi-Annual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2012 through September 30, 2012 and the Semi-Annual Report of the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8580. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Residential, Business, and Wind and Solar Resource Leases on Indian Land" (RIN1076-AE73) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 7, 2012; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-8581. A communication from the Acting General Counsel, National Indian Gaming

Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Enforcement Actions" (RIN3141-AA50) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 7, 2012; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-8582. 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 "Technical Revisions to Part 53—State Veterans Homes" (RIN2900-AO54) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2012; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

## 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. TOOMEY:

S. 3670. A bill to prohibit the use of fiscal year 2013 funds for United States participation in joint military exercises with Egypt if the Government of Egypt abrogates, terminates, or withdraws from the 1979 Egypt-Israel peace treaty; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. LUGAR:

S. 3671. A bill to provide certain assistance to North Atlantic Treaty Organization allies; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 3672. A bill to clarify the collateral requirement for certain loans under section 7(d) of the Small Business Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. CORKER:

S. 3673. A bill to provide a comprehensive deficit reduction plan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PRYOR (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 3674. A bill to amend the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to provide certain exemptions relating to the taking of migratory game birds; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 3675. A bill to expand the HUBZone program for communities affected by base realignment and closure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 3676. A bill to promote high-quality, cost-efficient, and effective administrative support services to agencies overseas; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself and Mr. SHELBY):

S. 3677. A bill to make a technical correction to the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973; considered and passed.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. Res. 614. A resolution celebrating the World Peace Corps Mission and the World Peace Prize; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BURR (for himself, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mrs. HAGAN):