

## MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, 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 and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

## MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:15 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, 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. 313. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to institute spending limits and transparency requirements for Federal conference and travel expenditures, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1660. An act to require the establishment of Federal customer service standards and to improve the service provided by Federal agencies.

H.R. 2768. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify that a duty of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue is to ensure that Internal Revenue Service employees are familiar with and act in accord with certain taxpayer rights.

H.R. 2769. An act to impose a moratorium on conferences held by the Internal Revenue Service.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1911) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish interest rates for new loans made on or after July 1, 2013, to direct the Secretary of Education to convene the Advisory Committee on Improving Postsecondary Education Data to conduct a study on improvements to postsecondary education transparency at the Federal level, and for other purposes.

At 11:43 a.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. 850. An act to impose additional human rights and economic and financial sanctions with respect to Iran, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2565. An act to provide for the termination of employment of employees of the Internal Revenue Service who take certain official actions for political purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 41. Concurrent resolution encouraging peace and reunification on the Korean Peninsula.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 8162 of Public Law

106-79, as amended, and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. THOMPSON of California.

## ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 1:00 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 2611. An act to designate the headquarters building of the Coast Guard on the campus located at 2701 Martin Luther King, Jr., Avenue Southeast in the District of Columbia as the "Douglass A. Munro Coast Guard Headquarters Building", and for other purposes.

H.R. 2167. An act to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish additional requirements to improve the fiscal safety and soundness of the home equity conversion mortgage insurance program.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

## ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 1:30 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1911. An act to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish interest rates for new loans made on or after July 1, 2013, to direct the Secretary of Education to convene the Advisory Committee on Improving Postsecondary Education Data to conduct a study on improvements to postsecondary education transparency at the Federal level, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

## MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 313. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to institute spending limits and transparency requirements for Federal conference and travel expenditures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 850. An act to impose additional human rights and economic and financial sanctions with respect to Iran, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1660. An act to require the establishment of Federal customer service standards and to improve the service provided by Federal agencies; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2565. An act to provide for the termination of employment of employees of the Internal Revenue Service who take certain official actions for political purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 2768. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify that a duty of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue is to ensure that Internal Revenue Service employees are familiar with and act in accord with certain taxpayer rights; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 2769. An act to impose a moratorium on conferences held by the Internal Revenue Service; to the Committee on Finance.

## 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-2490. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Special Local Regulations; Dinghy Poker Run, Middle River; Baltimore County, Essex, MD" ((RIN1625-AA08) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0489)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2491. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Special Local Regulations; Revision of 2013 America's Cup Regulated Area, San Francisco Bay; San Francisco, CA" ((RIN1625-AA08) (Docket No. USCG-2011-0551)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2492. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Special Local Regulation; Tall Ships Celebration Bay City, Bay City, MI" ((RIN1625-AA08) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0368)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2493. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Special Local Regulations; Red Bull Flugtag National Harbor Event, Potomac River; National Harbor Access Channel, MD" ((RIN1625-AA08) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0114)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2494. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Security Zone; Naval Exercise; Pacific Ocean, Coronado, CA" ((RIN1625-AA87) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0482)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2495. A communication from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Connect America Fund" ((RIN3060-AF85) (FCC 13-73)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2496. A communication from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Review of Wireline Competition Bureau Data Practices, Computer III Further Remand Proceedings; Bell Operating Company Provision of Enhanced Services; 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review—Review of Computer III and ONA Safeguards and Requirements" ((RIN3060-AK03) (FCC 13-69)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2497. A communication from the Deputy Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the

report of a rule entitled “Facilitating the Deployment of Text-to-911 and Other Next Generation 911 Applications Framework for Next Generation 911 Deployment” (FCC 13-64) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2498. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Regulated Navigation Areas; Bars along the Coasts of Oregon and Washington” ((RIN1625-AC01) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0216)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2499. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Navigation and Navigable Waters; Technical, Organizational, and Conforming Amendments” ((RIN1625-AC06) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0397)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2500. 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; Outer Banks Bluegrass Festival; Shallowbag Bay, Manteo, NC” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0330)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2501. 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; Venetian Fireworks; Kalamazoo Lake, Saugatuck, MI” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0539)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2502. 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; Feast of Lanterns Fireworks Display, Pacific Grove, CA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0238)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2503. 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; City of Menominee 4th of July Fireworks, Green Bay, Menominee, MI” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0540)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2504. 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; Summer in the City Water Ski Show; Fox River, Green Bay, WI” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0541)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2505. 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; Sugar House Casino Fireworks Display, Delaware River; Philadelphia, PA”

((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0495)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2506. 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; Fifth Coast Guard District Fireworks Displays, Delaware River; Philadelphia, PA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0493)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2507. 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; Grand Haven 4th of July Fireworks; Grand River; Grand Haven, MI” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0547)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2508. 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; Margate Mother’s Association Fireworks Display, Atlantic Ocean; Margate, NJ” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0494)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2509. 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; Fort Monroe Fireworks Display, Chesapeake Bay, Hampton, VA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0443)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2510. 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; Big Bay Boom, San Diego Bay; San Diego, CA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0059)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2511. 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; National Cherry Festival Air Show and Fireworks Display, West Grand Traverse Bay, Traverse City, MI” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0189)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2512. 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 Zones; Annual Independence Day Fireworks Displays, Skagway, Haines, and Wrangell, AK” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0078)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2513. 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; Execpro Services Fireworks Display, Lake Tahoe, Incline Village, NV” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-

0383)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2514. 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; San Diego Symphony Summer POPS Fireworks 2013 Season, San Diego, CA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0388)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2515. 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; City of Martinez Fourth of July Fireworks Display, Carquinez Strait, Martinez, CA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0345)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2516. 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; City of Vallejo Fourth of July Fireworks Display, Mare Island Strait, Vallejo, CA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0355)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2517. 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; Fifth Coast Guard District Firework Display, Pagan River; Smithfield, VA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0473)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2518. 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; Tennessee River, Mile 625.5 to 626.5” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0408)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2519. 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; Northside Park Pier Fireworks Display, Assawoman Bay, Ocean City, MD” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0439)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2520. 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; America’s Cup Safety Zone and No Loitering Area, San Francisco, CA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0551)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2521. 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; South Park Bridge Construction, Lower Duwamish Waterway, Seattle, WA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0452)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 17, 2013; to the

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2522. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pilot Certification and Qualification Requirements for Air Carrier Operations" ((RIN2120-AJ67) (Docket No. FAA-2010-0100)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2523. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Adoption of Statutory Prohibition on the Operation of Jets Weighing 75,000 Pounds or Less That Are Not Stage 3 Noise Compliant" ((RIN2120-AK25) (Docket No. FAA-2013-0503)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2524. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Flight Data Recorder Airplane Parameter Specification Omissions and Corrections" ((RIN2120-AK27) (Docket No. FAA-2013-0579)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2525. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Combined Drug and Alcohol Testing Programs" ((RIN2120-AK01) (Docket No. FAA-2012-0688)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2526. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of VOR Federal Airway V-345 in the Vicinity of Ashland, WI" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2013-0236)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2527. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Restricted Area R-2504A and R-2504B; Camp Roberts, CA, and Restricted Area R-2530; Sierra Army Depot, CA" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2013-0515)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2528. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Restricted Areas R-2907A and R-2907B, Lake George, FL; and R-2910, Pinacastle, FL" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2010-1146)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2529. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Adminis-

tration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (53); Amdt. No. 3543" ((RIN2120-AA65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2530. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (78); Amdt. No. 3542" ((RIN2120-AA65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2531. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Airspace; Presidio, TX" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2012-0770)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2532. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Airspace; Colt, AR" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2012-1281)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2533. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Airspace; Elbow Lake, MN" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2012-1121)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2534. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Airspace; Sanibel, FL" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2012-1334)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2535. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Airspace; Grand Canyon, AZ" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2013-0163)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2536. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Worthington, MN" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2012-1139)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2537. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Adminis-

tration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Ogallala, NE" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2012-1138)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2538. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class D and E Airspace; Twin Falls, ID" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2013-0258)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2539. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Airspace; Parkston, SD" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2012-1282)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2540. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2012-0864)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2541. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2013-0302)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2542. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Embraer S.A. Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2012-1230)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2543. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2008-0620)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2544. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Learjet Inc. Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2013-0214)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2545. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Adminis-

transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; PILATUS Aircraft Ltd. Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2013-0598)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2546. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Helicopters” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2013-0522)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2547. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH Helicopters” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2013-0018)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2548. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation (Sikorsky) Model Helicopters” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2012-1206)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2549. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Piper Aircraft, Inc. Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2013-0535)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2550. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Dowty Propellers Propellers” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2009-0776)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2551. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; DASSAULT AVIATION Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2012-1067)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2552. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2012-1039)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2553. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Adminis-

tration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2012-1035)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2554. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH Helicopters” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2012-1305)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2555. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter Deutschland (Eurocopter) Helicopters” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2013-0520)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2556. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2012-1034)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2557. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Cessna Aircraft Company Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2012-1330)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2558. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Various Restricted Category Helicopters” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2013-0553)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2559. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Pilatus Aircraft Ltd. Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2013-0223)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2560. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce plc Turbofan Engines” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2012-1327)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2561. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division,

Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Forchlorfenuron; Temporary Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 9391-9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 31, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2562. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Sorbitan monooleate ethylene oxide adduct; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance” (FRL No. 9389-8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 31, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2563. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Complex Polymeric Polyhydroxy Acids; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance” (FRL No. 9391-2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 31, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2564. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Releasing Information; General Provisions; Accounting and Reporting Requirements; Reports of Accounts and Exposures” (RIN3052-AC76) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 18, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2565. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Handling of Animals; Contingency Plans; Stay of Regulations” ((RIN0579-AC69) (Docket No. APHIS-2006-0159)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 31, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2566. A communication from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting, (6) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Defense, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2567. A communication from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting, (2) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of the Navy, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2568. A communication from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting, (2) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of the Air Force, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2013; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2569. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the review of internal records to verify employment of Iraqi nationals by the U.S. Government and request from each prime contractor or grantee that has performed work in Iraq information that can verify the employment of Iraqi nationals by such contractor or grantee; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2570. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Report to Congress on Department of Defense Fiscal Year

2012 Purchases from Foreign Entities"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2571. A communication from the Attorney, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendments to the 2013 Mortgage Rules Under the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (Regulation X) and the Truth in Lending Act (Regulation Z)" ((RIN3170-AA37) (Docket No. CFPB-2013-0010)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 25, 2013; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2572. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 12947 with respect to terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2573. A communication from the Attorney, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Electronic Fund Transfers (Regulation E)" ((RIN3170-AA33) (Docket No. CFPB-2012-0050)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 25, 2013; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2574. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Broker-Dealer Reports" (RIN3235-AK2574) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 31, 2013; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2575. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Financial Responsibility Rules for Broker-Dealers" (RIN3235-AJ85) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 31, 2013; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2576. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pyrooxasulfone; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9393-6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 29, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2577. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Trifluralin; Pesticide Tolerance" (FRL No. 9393-5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 29, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2578. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Significant New Uses of Ethaneperoxoic Acid, 1,1-Demethylpropyl Ester" (FRL No. 9392-4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 29, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2579. 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 State Implementation Plans; State of Montana; Interstate Transport of Pollution for the 2006 PM2.5 NAAQS" (FRL No. 9839-1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 29, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2580. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Quality Designations for the 2010 Sulfur Dioxide (SO2) Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard" (FRL No. 9841-4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 31, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2581. 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; Oregon: Infrastructure Requirements for the 1997 and 2006 Fine Particulate Matter and 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards" (FRL No. 9841-1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 31, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2582. 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; State of Colorado; Second Ten-Year Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan for Greeley" (FRL No. 9840-9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 31, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2583. 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; State of Colorado; Second 10-Year Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan for Colorado Springs" (FRL No. 9840-7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 31, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2584. 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, State of California, San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District, New Source Review" (FRL No. 9837-5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 31, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2585. 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; Pennsylvania; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference" (FRL No. 9811-9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 31, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2586. 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; Wisconsin; Permit Exemption Rule" (FRL No. 9834-4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 31, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2587. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Conditional Exclusions from Solid Waste and Hazardous Waste for Solvent-Contaminated Wipes" (FRL No. 9838-2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 31, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2588. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regu-

latory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Software Requirement Specifications for Digital Computer Software used in Safety Systems for Nuclear Power Plants" (Regulatory Guide 1.172, Revision 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2589. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Developing Software Life Cycle Processes for Digital Computer Software used in Safety Systems for Nuclear Power Plants" (Regulatory Guide 1.173, Revision 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2590. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Safety Evaluation of Westinghouse Electric Company Topical Report WCAP-12610-P-A and CENPD-404-P-A, Addendum 2/WCAP-14342-A and CENPD 404-NP-A, Addendum 2, 'Westinghouse Clad Corrosion Model for ZIRLOTM and Optimized ZIRLOTM'" (Project No. 700) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2591. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Preparation of Environmental Reports for Nuclear Power Plant License Renewal Applications" (Regulatory Guide 4.2, Supplement 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2592. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Verification, Validation, Reviews, and Audits for Digital Computer Software Used in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants" (Regulatory Guide 1.168, Revision 2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2593. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Configuration Management Plans for Digital Computer Software Used in Safety Systems for Nuclear Power Plants" (Regulatory Guide 1.169, Revision 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2594. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Software Unit Testing for Digital Computer Software Used in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants" (Regulatory Guide 1.171, Revision 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2595. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Software Unit Testing for Digital Computer Software Used in Safety Systems for Nuclear Power Plants" (Regulatory Guide 1.171, Revision 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2596. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division,

Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Promulgation of State Implementation Plan Revisions; Infrastructure Requirements for the 1997 and 2006 PM<sub>2.5</sub> National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Montana" (FRL No. 9839-2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 29, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2597. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to entering into a Memorandum of Understanding Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Belize Concerning the imposition of import restrictions on categories of archaeological material representing the cultural heritage of Belize from the pre-ceramic, pre-classic, classic, and post-classic periods of the pre-Columbian era through the early and late colonial periods; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2598. 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 "Medicare Program; Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities Prospective Payment System—Update for Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2013 (FY 2014)" (RIN0938-AR63) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2599. 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 "Recognizing Advance Payments for Gift Cards that are Redeemable for Goods and Services from an Unrelated Entity" (Rev. Proc. 2013-29) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 29, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2600. A communication from the General Counsel, Peace Corps, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to a vacancy in the position of Director of the Peace Corps, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 24, 2013; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2601. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "U.S. Department of State, Category Rating Report"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2602. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 13-109); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2603. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to sections 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 13-108); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2604. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to sections 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 13-015); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2605. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis, Department of Homeland Security, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2013; to the

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2606. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "ATF 2013 PACT Act Report"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2607. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for a report entitled "Transforming Today's Vision Into Tomorrow's Reality"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2608. 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 "Patient Access to Records" (RIN2900-AO61) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 25, 2013; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### 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-118. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Maine memorializing the President of the United States and Congress of the United States to adopt the Veterans Remembered Flag in honor of all veterans; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

#### JOINT RESOLUTION

Whereas, there are flags for all branches of the Armed Forces of the United States and there is a flag for prisoners of war and those missing in action, but there is no flag to honor the millions of former military personnel who have served our nation; and

Whereas, a flag is a symbol of recognition for a group or an ideal, and veterans compose a group, certainly represent an ideal and surely deserve their own symbol; and

Whereas, the estimated 20,400,000 veterans, affiliated and unaffiliated with veterans' organizations, who have served in our nation's military compose a significant portion of our nation's population; and

Whereas, there is now a flag that has been designed and created to honor the veterans of the United States called the Veterans Remembered Flag, and displaying and flying a Veterans Remembered Flag would honor the lives of millions of individuals who have served our country in times of war, peace and national crisis; and

Whereas, a Veterans Remembered Flag would memorialize and honor past, present and future veterans and provide an enduring symbol to support tomorrow's veterans today; and

Whereas, displaying and flying a Veterans Remembered Flag would fill the need for a flag honoring all veterans who have served in our nation's armed forces; and

Whereas, the symbolism of this unique flag's design would be all-inclusive, would pay respect to all branches of the military and to the history of our nation and would honor those who have lived, and died, serving our nation; and

Whereas, the design of the flag honors the founding of our nation through the 13 stars that emanate from the hoist of the flag and lead to the large red star that represents our nation and the five branches of our nation's military, the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, the Marines and the Coast Guard; and

Whereas, the white star on the flag symbolizes veterans' dedication to service, the blue star on the flag honors all the men and women who have served in our nation's military and the central gold star on the flag memorializes those who have fallen defending our nation; and

Whereas, the blue stripe that bears the title of the flag honors the loyalty of veterans to our nation, flag and government, and the green field on the flag represents the hallowed ground where fallen veterans rest eternally; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That We, your Memorialists, request that the President of the United States and the United States Congress work together to support adoption of the Veterans Remembered Flag to honor our nation's veterans; and be it further

*Resolved*, That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Honorable Barack H. Obama, President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and to each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

POM-119. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts memorializing the federal government of the United States to prioritize distribution of veterans' benefits; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### RESOLUTION

Whereas, the members of the Armed Forces of the United States, including active duty members of the Massachusetts National Guard, have honorably and with great distinction served their country and have earned the right to be welcomed home with all honors and benefits prescribed by law by a grateful nation; and

Whereas, the words of our first president, George Washington, are a reminder of the importance of honoring promises made to our veterans and their families, when he said, "the willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation"; and

Whereas, veterans' benefits must be delivered in a timely fashion out of respect for the significant sacrifice and valiant service of those to whom such benefits are owed, especially given the fact that today's veterans urgently need jobs, health care, housing, education and training in order to successfully re-enter civilian life; and

Whereas, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs is reported to be unable to keep up with a torrent of benefits claims, and the backlog leaves many service members waiting for well over a year after first filing their forms, according to a report from the Center for Investigative Reporting; and

Whereas, according to the center's report, the average wait time for veterans benefits is 273 days, and that veterans filing their first claim, including those who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, wait nearly two months longer, between 316 and 327 days, and in some major population centers wait up to twice as long—642 days in New York, 619 days in Los Angeles and 542 days in Chicago; and

Whereas, the ranks of veterans waiting more than a year for their benefits grew from 11,000 in 2009 to 245,000 in December 2012, an increase of more than 2,000 per cent, and the Veterans Administration is predicting that the situation will get worse, as the number of veterans waiting on the Department to process their claims is expected to reach 1 million by the end of March, 2013; Now, therefore, be it