

EC-4222. A communication from the Counsel, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Home Mortgage Disclosure (Regulation C): Adjustment to Asset-Size Exemption Threshold" (12 CFR Part 1003) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 3, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4223. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removal of Certain References to Credit Ratings Under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934" (RIN3235-AL14) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 27, 2013; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4224. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Prohibitions and Restrictions on Proprietary Trading and Certain Interests In and Relationships With, Hedge Funds and Private Equity Funds" (RIN3235-AL07) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 27, 2013; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. LEVIN for the Committee on Armed Services.

* Jessica Garfola Wright, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

* Jo Ann Rooney, of Massachusetts, to be Under Secretary of the Navy.

* Jamie Michael Morin, of Michigan, to be Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation, Department of Defense.

* Frank G. Klotz, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Nuclear Security.

By Mr. LEAHY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Robert L. Hobbs, of Texas, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Texas for the term of four years.

Gary Blankinship, of Texas, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Texas for the term of four years.

Amos Rojas, Jr., of Florida, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Florida for the term of four years.

Peter C. Tobin, of Ohio, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Ohio for a term of four years.

Kevin W. Techau, of Iowa, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Iowa for the term of four years.

Andrew Mark Luger, of Minnesota, to be United States Attorney for the District of Minnesota for the term of four years.

* Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

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

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first

and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota):

S. 1899. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a consumer renewable credit for a utility that sells renewable power, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself and Mr. HATCH):

S. 1900. A bill to establish congressional trade negotiating objectives and enhanced consultation requirements for trade negotiations, to provide for consideration of trade agreements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. CORKER):

S. 1901. A bill to authorize the President to extend the term of the nuclear energy agreement with the Republic of Korea until March 19, 2016; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. JOHANNES, Mr. COBURN, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. MORAN, Mr. HATCH, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. SCOTT, and Mr. BURR):

S. 1902. A bill to require notification of individuals of breaches of personally identifiable information through Exchanges under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WARNER:

S. 1903. A bill to provide greater fee disclosures for consumers who have prepaid cards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 1904. A bill to amend the eligibility requirements for funding under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. 1905. A bill to provide direction to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency regarding the establishment of standards for emissions of any greenhouse gas from fossil fuel-fired electric utility generating units, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 1906. A bill to establish the Office of Net Assessment within the Department of Defense; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. KIRK (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. MORAN, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 1907. A bill to amend a provision of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1965 regarding prohibitions on investments in certain funds to clarify that such provision shall not be construed to require the divestiture of certain collateralized debt obligations backed by trust-preferred securities or debt securities of collateralized loan obligations; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Mr. VITTER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BURR, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. JOHANNES):

S. 1908. A bill to allow reciprocity for the carrying of certain concealed firearms; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 1909. A bill to expand opportunity through greater choice in education, and for

other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 1910. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Pat Summitt, in recognition of her remarkable career as an unparalleled figure in women's team sports, and for her courage in speaking out openly and courageously about her battle with Alzheimer's; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SCOTT (for himself, Mr. BURR, and Mr. COBURN):

S. 1911. A bill to reform and strengthen the workforce investment system of the Nation to put Americans back to work and make the United States more competitive in the 21st century, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mr. WICKER):

S. 1912. A bill to clarify that certain banking entities are not required to divest from collateralized debt obligations backed by trust preferred securities under the Volcker Rule; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 41

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 41, a bill to provide a permanent deduction for State and local general sales taxes.

S. 127

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 127, a bill to provide a permanent deduction for State and local general sales taxes.

S. 217

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 217, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require the Secretary of Education to collect information from coeducational elementary schools and secondary schools on such schools' athletic programs, and for other purposes.

S. 946

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 946, a bill to prohibit taxpayer funded abortions, and for other purposes.

S. 1174

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1174, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the 65th Infantry Regiment, known as the Borinqueneers.

S. 1306

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1306, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 in order to improve environmental literacy to better prepare students for postsecondary education and careers, and for other purposes.

S. 1383

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1383, a bill to provide subsidized employment for unemployed, low-income adults, provide summer employment and year-round employment opportunities for low-income youth, and carry out work-related and educational strategies and activities of demonstrated effectiveness, and for other purposes.

S. 1406

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1406, a bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to designate additional unlawful acts under the Act, strengthen penalties for violations of the Act, improve Department of Agriculture enforcement of the Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1410

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1410, a bill to focus limited Federal resources on the most serious offenders.

S. 1431

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1431, a bill to permanently extend the Internet Tax Freedom Act.

S. 1590

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1590, a bill to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to require transparency in the operation of American Health Benefit Exchanges.

S. 1719

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1719, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the poison center national toll-free number, national media campaign, and grant program, and for other purposes.

S. 1733

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1733, a bill to stop exploitation through trafficking.

S. 1737

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1737, a bill to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage and to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend increased expensing limitations and the treatment of certain real property as section 179 property.

S. 1798

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) and the Senator from

Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 1798, a bill to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not counted as full-time employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

S. 1846

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1846, a bill to delay the implementation of certain provisions of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012, and for other purposes.

S. 1848

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1848, a bill to amend section 1303(b)(3) of Public Law 111-148 concerning the notice requirements regarding the extent of health plan coverage of abortion and abortion premium surcharges.

S. 1881

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1881, a bill to expand sanctions imposed with respect to Iran and to impose additional sanctions with respect to Iran, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1881, *supra*.

S. RES. 317

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 317, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on the continuing relationship between the United States and Georgia.

AMENDMENT NO. 2603

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2603 intended to be proposed to S. 1845, a bill to provide for the extension of certain unemployment benefits, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2608

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2608 intended to be proposed to S. 1845, a bill to provide for the extension of certain unemployment benefits, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2613

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2613 intended to be proposed to S. 1845, a bill to provide for the extension of certain unemployment benefits, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2626

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the names of the Senator from Arkansas

(Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2626 intended to be proposed to S. 1845, a bill to provide for the extension of certain unemployment benefits, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself and Mr. HATCH):

S. 1900. A bill to establish congressional trade negotiating objectives and enhanced consultation requirements for trade negotiations, to provide for consideration of trade agreements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, 52 years ago, in 1962, President John Kennedy signed the Trade Expansion Act into law. At the signing he spoke about the importance of trade to the United States and its partners abroad, on how it helps secure our preeminence in a global economy.

Here is what he said:

We now have the means to make certain that we build our strength together and that we can maintain this preeminence.

His words still ring true today. International trade is a cornerstone of our economy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, my friend from Montana is absolutely right. International trade is crucial to America's economy. Last year exports supported 9.8 million American jobs, including 25 percent of all manufacturing jobs.

Jobs created through trade are good jobs. On average, U.S. plants that export overseas pay their workers up to 18 percent more than nonexporting plants. They increase employment 2 to 4 percent faster than nonexporting plants. But we can do even better.

More than 95 percent of the world's population and 80 percent of the world's purchasing power is outside of the United States. To succeed in today's world, our farmers, ranchers, and job creators must be able to fairly access the world market.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. BAUCUS. I hope everyone listened to my good friend's words. He made very important points about statistics that I think most Americans are unaware of, and if they would think about it more, they would realize the importance of trade.

We export so much more now. Exporting is such a large percent of our economy and offers such good-paying jobs that, frankly, I am perplexed more Americans don't want to work harder to get trade agreements passed so we can export more and get more good-paying jobs in America.

I must say that today we have a bold plan to strengthen our trade ties with