

The continued exchange of knowledge and coordination of work in large scale infrastructure projects in China and around the globe help to better connect people within and between countries and is of tremendous benefit, both for the countries where these infrastructure projects take place but also for U.S. global leadership in engineering consultation and design.

CHELBI is to be commended for 30 years of productive work—and I would like to express my continued support for initiatives undertaken by the venture and the benefits that such cooperation and coordination provides to both the United States and China.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:28 p.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 bill, without amendment:

S. 2040. An act to exchange trust and fee land to resolve land disputes created by the realignment of the Blackfoot River along the boundary of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2366. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of World War I.

H.R. 2790. An act to authorize private non-profit organizations to administer permanent housing rental assistance provided through the Continuum of Care Program under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3240. An act to instruct the Comptroller General of the United States to study the impact of Regulation D, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3572. An act to revise the boundaries of certain John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System units.

H.R. 4200. An act to amend the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to prevent duplicative regulation of advisers of small business investment companies.

H.R. 4329. An act to reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4569. An act to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to make certain improvements to form 10-K and regulation S-K, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5050. An act to repeal the Act of May 31, 1918, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5471. An act to amend the Commodity Exchange Act and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to specify how clearing requirements apply to certain affiliate transactions, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5629. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to strengthen the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5714. An act to permit commercial applicators of pesticides to create, retain, submit, and convey pesticide application-related records, reports, data, and other information in electronic form.

H.R. 5739. An act to amend the Social Security Act to provide for the termination of social security benefits for individuals who participated in Nazi persecution, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 6:10 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 bill:

H.R. 2203. An act to provide for the award of a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Jack Nicklaus, in recognition of his service to the Nation in promoting excellence, good sportsmanship, and philanthropy.

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. 2790. An act to authorize private non-profit organizations to administer permanent housing rental assistance provided through the Continuum of Care Program under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 3240. An act to instruct the Comptroller General of the United States to study the impact of Regulation D, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 4200. An act to amend the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to prevent duplicative regulation of advisers of small business investment companies; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 4329. An act to reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 4569. An act to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to make certain improvements to form 10-K and regulation S-K, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 5471. An act to amend the Commodity Exchange Act and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to specify how clearing requirements apply to certain affiliate transactions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 5629. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to strengthen the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 5714. An act to permit commercial applicators of pesticides to create, retain, submit, and convey pesticide application-related records, reports, data, and other information in electronic form; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2970. A bill to reform procedures for determinations to proceed to trial by court-martial for certain offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, 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-7966. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Burma that was declared in Executive Order 13047 of May 20, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7967. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the stabilization of Iraq that was declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7968. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of a national emergency declared in Executive Order 13222 with respect to the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7969. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulation Systems Compliance and Integrity" (RIN3235-AL43) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 24, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7970. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-426, "Wage Theft Prevention Act of 2014"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7971. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Requests" (5 CFR Part 1630 and 5 CFR Part 1631) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 24, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7972. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Federal Student Loan Repayment Program Calendar Year 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7973. A communication from the Acting Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Chairman's Semiannual Report on Final Action Resulting from Audit Reports, Inspection Reports, and Evaluation Reports for the period from April 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7974. A communication from the Treasurer, National Gallery of Art, transmitting,

pursuant to law, the Gallery's Performance and Accountability Report for the year ended September 30, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7975. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-78; Small Entity Compliance Guide" (FAC 2005-78) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7976. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Technical Amendments" (FAC 2005-78) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7977. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Year Format" ((RIN9000-AM53) (FAC 2005-78)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7978. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation: Streamlining Claims Processing" ((RIN9000-AM83) (FAC 2005-78)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7979. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Incorporating Section K in Contracts" ((RIN9000-AM78) (FAC 2005-78)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7980. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-78; Introduction" (FAC 2005-78) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7981. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Higher-Level Contract Quality Requirements" ((RIN9000-AM65) (FAC 2005-78)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7982. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory

Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Marine Mammals; Subsistence Taking of Northern Fur Seals; St. George Island, Alaska" (RIN0648-BD12) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 24, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7983. 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's Redesignation Request and Associated Maintenance Plan of the West Virginia Portion of the Martinsburg-Hagerstown, WV-MD Nonattainment Area for the 1997 Annual Fine Particulate Matter Standard" (FRL No. 9919-65-Region 3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7984. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rulemaking to Amend Dates in Federal Implementation Plans Addressing Interstate Transport of Ozone and Fine Particulate Matter" ((RIN2060-AS40) (FRL No. 9919-71-OAR)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7985. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule: 2014 Revisions and Confidentiality Determinations for Petroleum and Natural Gas Systems; Final Rule" ((RIN2060-AR96) (FRL No. 9918-95-OAR)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7986. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants; Delegation of Authority to Texas" (FRL No. 9919-74-Region 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7987. 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 Iowa; 2014 Iowa State Implementation Plan" (FRL No. 9919-87-Region 7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7988. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Availability of Data on Allocations of Cross-State Air Pollution Rule Allowances to Existing Electricity Generating Units" (FRL No. 9919-91-OAR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7989. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmit-

ting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Indiana; CFR Update" (FRL No. 9919-83-Region 5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7990. 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; Allegheny County's Adoption of Control Techniques Guidelines for Four Industry Categories for Control of Volatile Organic Compound Emissions" (FRL No. 9919-66-Region 3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7991. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Hazardous Waste Management System; Identification and Listing of Hazardous Waste; Final Exclusion" (FRL No. 9919-72-Region 7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7992. 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 "Balanced System for Measuring Organizational and Employee Performance Within the Internal Revenue Service" ((RIN1545-BL89) (TD 9703)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7993. 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 "Applicable Federal Rates—December 2014" (Rev. Rul. 2014-31) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7994. 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 "Minimum Essential Coverage and Other Rules Regarding the Shared Responsibility Payment for Individuals" ((RIN1545-BL91) (TD 9705)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7995. 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 "Revenue Procedure Providing Indexing Under Section 36B and Section 5000A (2016)" (Rev. Proc. 2014-62) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7996. 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 "Individual Shared Responsibility Payment Hardship Exemptions that May Be Claimed on a Federal Income Tax Return Without Obtaining a Hardship Exemption Certification from the Marketplace" (Notice 2014-76) received during

adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7997. A communication from the Acting Chief Management Officer, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 24, 2014; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7998. A communication from the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Paying Benefits" (29 CFR Part 4022) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 24, 2014; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7999. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Drug Enforcement Agency, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Exemption From Registration for Persons Authorized Under U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission or Agreement State Medical Use Licenses or Permits and Administering the Drug Product DaTscan" (RIN1117-AB38) (Docket No. DEA-394) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 25, 2014; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-8000. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Mail or Telephone Order Merchandise Rule" (RIN3084-AB07) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 24, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8001. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska Management Area" (RIN0648-XD590) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 24, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8002. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska Management Area" (RIN0648-XD589) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 24, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8003. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fraser River Sockeye Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Orders" (RIN0648-XD548) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 24, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. SCHUMER for the Committee on Rules and Administration.

*Matthew Vincent Masterson, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Election Assistance Commission for a term expiring December 12, 2017.

*Christy A. McCormick, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Election Assistance Commission for a term expiring December 12, 2015.

By Mr. LEAHY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

*Sarah R. Saldana, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

*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.

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 Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. 2971. A bill to promote energy efficiency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. CARPER):

S. 2972. A bill to require all equestrian helmets manufactured or sold in the United States to meet a minimum safety standard, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PAUL:

S.J. Res. 46. A joint resolution to declare that a state of war exists between the organization referring to itself as the Islamic State and the Government and the people of the United States, and to make provisions to prosecute the same; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. KING):

S. Res. 593. A resolution designating December 13, 2014, as "Wreaths Across America Day"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 714

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 714, a bill to impose certain limitations on consent decrees and settlement agreements by agencies that require the agencies to take regulatory action in accordance with the terms thereof, and for other purposes.

S. 1011

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1011, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of Boys Town, and for other purposes.

S. 1038

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1038, a bill to eliminate racial profiling by law enforcement, and for other purposes.

S. 1040

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1040, a bill to provide for the award of a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Jack Nicklaus, in recognition of his service to the Nation in promoting excellence, good sportsmanship, and philanthropy.

S. 1323

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1323, a bill to address the continued threat posed by dangerous synthetic drugs by amending the Controlled Substances Act relating to controlled substance analogues.

S. 1921

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1921, a bill to require a Federal agency to include language in certain educational and advertising materials indicating that such materials are produced and disseminated at taxpayer expense.

S. 2694

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2694, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to extend the application of the Medicare payment rate floor to primary care services furnished under Medicaid and to apply the rate floor to additional providers of primary care services.

S. 2714

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2714, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of World War I.

S. 2723

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2723, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to qualify homeless youth and veterans who are full-time students for purposes of the low income housing tax credit.

S. 2762

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2762, a bill to prevent future propane shortages, and for other purposes.

S. 2930

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2930, a bill to direct the Secretary of