

fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

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-1835. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "n-Butyl benzoate; Exemptions from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9927-65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1836. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Aluminum sulfate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9927-66) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1837. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Alkyl (c8-20) Polyglucoside Esters; Exemptions from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9927-19) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1838. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Michael T. Linington, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1839. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 101st Annual Report of the Federal Reserve Board covering operations for calendar year 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1840. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the status of construction and operations of the mixed oxide fuel fabrication facility (MOX facility) at the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site in South Carolina; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1841. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances" ((RIN2070-AB27) (FRL No. 9927-67)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1842. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District, Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District" (FRL No. 9928-07-Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1843. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division,

Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clean Water Rule: Definition of 'Waters of the United States'" ((RIN2040-AF30) (FRL No. 9927-20-OW)) and economic analysis of the EPA-Army Clean Water Rule, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1844. 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 Kansas; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2010 Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standard" (FRL No. 9928-59-Region 7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1845. 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 Missouri, Construction Permits Required" (FRL No. 9928-60-Region 7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1846. 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; 2011 Lead Base Year Emissions Inventory" (FRL No. 9928-68-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1847. 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; Michigan; Part 3 Rules" (FRL No. 9928-35-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1848. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Biomass Fuel-Burning Equipment Standards" (FRL No. 9928-65-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1849. A joint communication from the Chairman and the General Counsel, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report for the period of October 1, 2014 through March 31, 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1850. A communication from the Acting Inspector General of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2014 through March 31, 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1851. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2014 through March 31, 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1852. A communication from the Director, Policy and Planning Analysis, Office of

Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Employees Health Benefits Program: Subrogation and Reimbursement Recovery" (RIN3206-AN14) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1853. A communication from the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Management Response for the period from October 1, 2014 through March 31, 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1854. A communication from the Deputy Inspector General, Office of Inspector General, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of the Interior's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2014 through March 31, 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1855. 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 "Penalty Relief Program—Late Annual Reporting for Non-Title I Retirement Plans ('One-Participant Plans' and Certain Foreign Plans)" (Rev. Proc. 2015-32) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2015; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1856. 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 "Capital Gain Distributions of Regulated Investment Companies" (Notice 2015-41) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2015; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1857. 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 "Request for Comments Regarding New Financial Accounting Standards Board and International Accounting Standards" (Notice 2015-40) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2015; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1858. 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 "Update to Method Change Guidance" (Rev. Proc. 2015-33) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2015; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1859. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of Sunset Date for Attorney Advisor Program" (RIN0960-AH83) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2015; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1860. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of Effective Date for Temporary Pilot Program Setting the Time and Place for a Hearing Before an Administrative Law Judge" (RIN0960-AH67) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2015; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1861. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled

“Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Less Than 60 Feet (18.3 meters) Length Overall Using Jig or Hook-and-Line Gear in the Bogoslov Pacific Cod Exemption Area in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XD886) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1862. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Inseason Adjustment to the 2015 Gulf of Alaska Pollock Seasonal Adjustments” (RIN0648-XD845) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1863. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher/Processors Using Hook-and-Line Gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XD876) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1864. 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 “Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan; Trawl Rationalization Program; Catch Monitor Program; Observer Program” (RIN0648-BD30) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1865. 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 “Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan; Trawl Rationalization Program; Midwater Trawl Fishery Season Date Change” (RIN0648-BE72) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1866. 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 “Fisheries Off West Coast States; West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Management Reference Point Updates for Three Stocks of Pacific Salmon” (RIN0648-BE79) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1867. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; 2015 Commercial Accountability Measure and Closure for Bluefin Tilefish in the South Atlantic Region” (RIN0648-XD869) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 3, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and

were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-33. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Washington urging the United States Congress to support the conversion of the 81st Armored Brigade Combat Team of the Washington National Guard into a Stryker Brigade Combat Team with brigade units stationed in Washington, Oregon, and California; to the Committee on Armed Services.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8008

Whereas, The opportunity exists to add a second Stryker Brigade Combat Team to the Army National Guard's force structure, and to locate this Brigade on the west coast; and

Whereas, There are a variety of practical and strategic reasons which make the 81st Armored Brigade Combat Team a logical candidate for conversion; and

Whereas, A Stryker Brigade Combat Team stationed on the west coast will strengthen our nation's defense by maintaining Stryker capacity focused on the Asia-Pacific Region, enhance Regular Army/Army National Guard partnership, and provide a key domestic response capability; and

Whereas, Transitioning the 81st Armored Brigade Combat Team to a Stryker Brigade Combat Team strategically places Strykers in Washington, Oregon, and California, and will save taxpayers thirty million dollars over the course of an army force generation cycle; and

Whereas, The 81st Armored Brigade Combat Team is headquartered at Camp Murray, Washington, located just across the street from Joint Base Lewis-McChord, which is the United States Army's Stryker Center of Excellence and is within convoy range of the Yakima Training Center; and

Whereas, The extensive Stryker infrastructure available at Joint Base Lewis-McChord and the Yakima Training Center represents a great advantage in leveraging shared resources; and

Whereas, Furthermore, this places the Stryker Brigade Combat Team equipment sets brought back from overseas contingencies into mission-ready use, and available for overseas and domestic contingency response; and

Whereas, Strykers will also give the governors of Washington, Oregon, and California a fast, durable, and effective asset to save lives, protect property, maintain peace, and ensure the continuity of government in times of emergency;

Now, therefore, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that as you consider force structure balance in this era of constrained resources, coupled with the tactical, strategic, and domestic needs of our nation, you will support the conversion of the 81st Armored Brigade Combat Team of the Washington National Guard into a Stryker Brigade Combat Team with brigade units stationed in Washington, Oregon, and California.

Be it resolved, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States, General Frank J. Grass, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of Washington.

POM-34. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Washington urging the United States Congress to expedite appropriation of funds, for Columbia River Basin dreissenid efforts, to significantly enhance monitoring and prevention efforts and to implement the intent of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8013

Whereas, Maintaining a healthy suite of economic, environmental, and social ecosystem services in aquatic systems is integral to the quality of life in the State of Washington; and

Whereas, Healthy aquatic habitats provide clean drinking water, flood control, transportation, recreation, purification of human and industrial wastes, power generation, habitat for native plants and animals, production of fish and other foods, marketable goods, and cultural benefits; and

Whereas, Aquatic invasive species, including Dreissenids (quagga mussels (*Dreissena rostriformis bugensis*) and zebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*)), are invasive species that cause irreparable ecological damage to many waters in the United States; and

Whereas, Dreissenids have not yet been detected in the Pacific Northwest. The estimated annual cost to address established populations of dreissenids in the Pacific Northwest economic region is almost five hundred million dollars annually; and

Whereas, The Water Resources Reform and Development Act was signed in June 2014. It authorizes twenty million dollars for Columbia River Basin dreissenid efforts through the Secretary of the Army;

Now, therefore, Your Memorialists respectfully request that Congress expedite appropriation of these funds to significantly enhance monitoring and prevention efforts and to implement the intent of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act.

Be it resolved; That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States, Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Department of the Interior, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of Washington.

POM-35. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Nevada urging the United States Congress to amend the Migratory Bird Treaty Act or take any other appropriate action to ensure that the common raven is not a protected species under the Act; to the Committee on Environmental and Public Works.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2

Whereas, The greater sage grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*) is a species of bird that inhabits much of the sagebrush habitat in Nevada as well as other western states; and

Whereas, The United States Fish and Wildlife Service has determined that the greater sage grouse is warranted for listing as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, 16 U.S.C. §§1531 et seq.; and

Whereas, Through the enactment of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 15, File Number 48, Statutes of Nevada 2005, at page 3022, the members of the 73rd Session of the Nevada Legislature found that the listing of the greater sage grouse as an endangered or threatened species would have a devastatingly negative impact on Nevada's land development, land use, water use, mining, recreational activities and local economies; and

Whereas, The desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) is a species of tortoise that inhabits the desert habitat of the southwestern United States, including the Mojave desert region of southern Nevada; and

Whereas, The desert tortoise is listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, 16 U.S.C. §§1531 et seq.; and

Whereas, The common raven (*Corvus corax*) is a species of bird that inhabits Nevada and much of the western United States, Mexico, Canada, Europe and Asia; and