

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 which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:33 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, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 7. An act to prohibit taxpayer funded abortions.

The message also announced that pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1024(a), and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Joint Economic Committee: Mr. AMASH of Michigan, Mr. PAULSEN of Minnesota, Mr. HANNA of New York, Mr. SCHWEIKERT of Arizona, and Mr. GROTHMAN of Wisconsin.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 7. An act to prohibit taxpayer funded abortions; 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-371. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "OMB Final Sequestration Report to the President and Congress for Fiscal Year 2015"; to the Special Committee on Aging; Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Appropriations; Armed Services; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; the Budget; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Energy and Natural Resources; Environment and Public Works; Select Committee on Ethics; Finance; Foreign Relations; Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Indian Affairs; Select Committee on Intelligence; the Judiciary; Rules and Administration; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; and Veterans' Affairs.

EC-372. A communication from the Executive Analyst (Political), Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary for Children and Families (Family Support), Department of Health and Human Services, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-373. A communication from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, trans-

mitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Connect America Fund, ETC Annual Reports and Certifications, Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 160(c) from Obsolete ILEC Regulatory Obligations that Inhibit Deployment of Next-Generation Networks" ((RIN3060-AF85) (FCC 14-190)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 21, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-374. A communication from the Acting Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rural Call Completion" ((RIN3060-AJ89) (FCC 14-175)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 21, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-375. A communication from the Associate Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modernizing the E-rate Program for Schools and Libraries, Connect America Fund" ((RIN3060-AF85) (FCC 14-189)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 21, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-376. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2014-0567)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-377. 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 Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Quota Transfer" (RIN0648-XD656) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-378. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Framework Action to Modify the Commercial Annual Catch/Limit Annual Catch Target Regulations for Three Individual Fishing Quota Species Complexes" (RIN0648-BE23) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-379. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Transshipment, Port Inspection, and Vessel Identification" (RIN0648-BE12) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-380. 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; Inseason Adjustment to the 2015 Gulf of Alaska Pollock and Pacific Cod Total Allowable Catch Amounts" (RIN0648-XD688) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-381. A communication from the Chief of the Recovery and State Grants Branch, Fish

and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Status for the Mexican Wolf" (RIN1018-AY00) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-382. A communication from the Chief of the Recovery and State Grants Branch, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Revision to the Regulations for the Nonessential Experimental Population of the Mexican Wolf" (RIN1018-AY46) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-383. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Listing Branch, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Determination of Threatened Status for the Western Distinct Population Segment of the Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*)" (RIN1018-AY53) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-384. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Foreign Species Branch, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing the Straight-Horned Markhor as Threatened With a Rule Under Section 4(d) of the ESA" (RIN1018-AY42) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-385. A communication from the Wildlife Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Hunting; Late Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds" (RIN1018-AZ80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-386. A communication from the Wildlife Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Hunting; Final Frameworks for Late-Season Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations" (RIN1018-AZ80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-387. A communication from the Wildlife Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2014-15 Late Season" (RIN1018-AZ80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-388. A communication from the Chief of the Endangered Species Listing Branch, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for Gunnison Sagegrouse" (RIN1018-AX71) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-389. A communication from the Chief of the Endangered Species Listing Branch, Fish

and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Status for Gunnison Sage-grouse" (RIN1018-AZ20) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. Res. 39. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 250. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit threats against former Vice Presidents and members of their families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 251. A bill to aid and support pediatric involvement in reading and education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 252. A bill to prohibit the consideration of any bill by Congress unless a statement on tax transparency is provided in the bill; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. HELLER:

S. 253. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to consolidate the reporting obligations of the Federal Communications Commission in order to improve congressional oversight and reduce reporting burdens; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. SCOTT):

S. 254. A bill to lower health premiums and increase choice for small businesses; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 255. A bill to restore the integrity of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. Res. 39. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. TESTER, Mr. CARPER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. KING):

S. Res. 40. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding efforts by the

United States and others to prevent Iran from developing a nuclear weapon; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Ms. HEITKAMP):

S. Res. 41. A resolution congratulating the North Dakota State University football team for winning the 2014 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Subdivision title; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 11

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 11, a bill to protect the separation of powers in the Constitution of the United States by ensuring that the President takes care that the laws be faithfully executed, and for other purposes.

S. 48

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) were added as cosponsors of S. 48, a bill to prohibit discrimination against the unborn on the basis of sex or gender, and for other purposes.

S. 73

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. 73, a bill to prohibit the Federal Government from mandating, incentivizing, or coercing States to adopt the Common Core State Standards or any other specific academic standards, instructional content, curricula, assessments, or programs of instruction.

S. 85

At the request of Mr. BURR, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of S. 85, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish a simplified income-driven repayment plan, and for other purposes.

S. 108

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) were added as cosponsors of S. 108, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve access for students to Federal grants and loans to help pay for postsecondary, graduate, and professional educational opportunities, and for other purposes.

S. 143

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 143, a bill to allow for improvements to the United States Merchant Marine Academy and for other purposes.

S. 158

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from West Vir-

ginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 158, a bill to authorize health insurance issuers to continue to offer for sale current group health insurance coverage in satisfaction of the minimum essential health insurance coverage requirement, and for other purposes.

S. 165

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 165, a bill to extend and enhance prohibitions and limitations with respect to the transfer or release of individuals detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and for other purposes.

S. 167

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 167, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for the conduct of annual evaluations of mental health care and suicide prevention programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to require a pilot program on loan repayment for psychiatrists who agree to serve in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 168

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) were added as cosponsors of S. 168, a bill to codify and modify regulatory requirements of Federal agencies.

S. 178

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. 178, a bill to provide justice for the victims of trafficking.

S. 183

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 183, a bill to repeal the annual fee on health insurance providers enacted by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

S. 200

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 200, a bill to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to provide for macroeconomic analysis of the impact of major revenue legislation.

S. 203

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 203, a bill to restore Americans' individual liberty by striking the Federal mandate to purchase insurance.

S. 207

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota