

EC-1288. A communication from the Acting Secretary of the Air Force, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of and Average Procurement Unit Cost (APUC) breach; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1289. A communication from the Secretary, Judicial Conference of the United States, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1290. A communication from the Secretary, Judicial Conference of the United States, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1291. A communication from the Chairman, Office of General Counsel, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Rules and Explanation and Justification on Political Party Committees Donating Funds to Certain Tax-Exempt Organizations and Political Organizations" received on March 14, 2005; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-1292. A communication from the Chairman, Office of General Counsel, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Filing Documents by Priority Mail, Express Mail, and Overnight Delivery Service" received on March 14, 2005; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-1293. A communication from the Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, the report of the Office's objection to the Government Accountability Office's (GAO) finding of violations of the Anti-Deficiency Act; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LUGAR for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

*John Thomas Schieffer, of Texas, to be Ambassador to Japan.

(The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Nominee: John Thomas Schieffer.

Post: Ambassador to Japan.

Contributions, amount, date, and donee:

1. Self: \$1,000.00, 8/2/00, Martin Frost Campaign Committee; \$2,000.00, 6/14/04, Bush-Cheney '04 Inc.

2. Spouse: Susanne S. Schieffer: \$2,000.00, 6/14/04, Bush-Cheney '04 Inc.

3. Children and Spouses: Paul Robert Schieffer: none.

4. Parents: Gladys Payne Schieffer—deceased; John E. Schieffer—deceased.

5. Grandparents: Florence Payne—deceased; Worth Payne—deceased; Janette Schieffer—deceased; Emmitt Schieffer—deceased.

6. Brothers and Spouses: Bob L. Schieffer, none; Patricia P. Schieffer, none.

7. Sisters and Spouses: Sharon Mayes, none; Roger Mayes, none.

Howard J. Krongard, of New Jersey, to be Inspector General, Department of State.

*David B. Balton, of the District of Columbia, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and Fisheries.

*Joseph R. DeTrant, of Virginia, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of

service as Special Envoy for the Six Party Talks.

*John B. Ballinger, of Virginia, to be Legal Adviser of the Department of State.

*R. Nicholas Burns, of Massachusetts, to be an Under Secretary of State (Political Affairs).

*C. David Welch, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs).

*Christopher R. Hill, of Rhode Island, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (East Asian and Pacific Affairs).

*Rudolph E. Boschwitz, of Minnesota, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America on the Human Rights Commission of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, for the Committee on Foreign Relations I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Foreign Service nominations beginning with Walter E. North and ending with Robert J. Wilson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 24, 2005.

Foreign Service nominations beginning with Peter Fernandez and ending with Ross G. Kreamer, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 24, 2005.

Foreign Service nominations beginning with George Ruffner and ending with William Zarit, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 8, 2005.

*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 Mr. CONRAD (for himself and Mr. KYL):

S. 621. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the 15-year recovery period for the depreciation of certain leasehold improvements; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 622. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296) to provide for the protection of voluntarily furnished confidential information, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 623. A bill to direct the Secretary of Interior to convey certain land held in trust for the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah to the City of Richfield, Utah, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. BAYH:

S. 624. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to protect the financial condition of members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces who are ordered to long-term active duty in support of a contingency operation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 625. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a \$1,000 refundable credit for individuals who are bona fide volunteer members of volunteer firefighting and emergency medical service organizations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for himself and Mrs. HUTCHISON):

S. 626. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to diabetes self management training by designating certified diabetes educators who are recognized by a nationally recognized certifying body and who meet the same quality standards set forth for other providers of diabetes self management training, as certified providers for purposes of outpatient diabetes self-management training services under part B of the medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. KYL, Mr. SMITH, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. KERRY):

S. 627. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the research credit, to increase the rates of the alternative incremental credit, and to provide an alternative simplified credit for qualified research expenses; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LUGAR (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. BUNNING):

S. 628. A bill to provide for increased planning and funding for health promotion programs of the Department of Health and Human Services; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself and Mr. KYL):

S. 629. A bill to amend chapter 97 of title 18, United States Code, relating to protecting against attacks on railroads and other mass transportation systems; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 630. A bill to establish procedures for the acknowledgment of Indian tribes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 631. A bill to provide grants to ensure full and fair participation in certain decisionmaking processes of the Bureau of Indian Affairs; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. DODD):

S.J. Res. 7. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to equal rights for men and women; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COCHRAN (for himself, Mr. FRIST, and Mr. LEAHY):

S.J. Res. 8. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of Shirley Ann Jackson as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. COCHRAN (for himself, Mr. FRIST, and Mr. LEAHY):

S.J. Res. 9. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of Robert P. Kogod as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the

Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. ALLEN (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. BAYH, and Mr. SMITH):

S. Res. 82. A resolution urging the European Union to add Hezbollah to the European Union's wide-ranging list of terrorist organizations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 21

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 21, a bill to provide for homeland security grant coordination and simplification, and for other purposes.

S. 65

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 65, a bill to amend the age restrictions for pilots.

S. 183

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 183, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide families of disabled children with the opportunity to purchase coverage under the medicaid program for such children, and for other purposes.

S. 185

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 185, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for the reduction of certain Survivor Benefit Plan annuities by the amount of dependency and indemnity compensation and to modify the effective date for paid-up coverage under the Survivor Benefit Plan.

S. 333

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 333, a bill to hold the current regime in Iran accountable for its threatening behavior and to support a transition to democracy in Iran.

S. 338

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 338, a bill to provide for the establishment of a Bipartisan Commission on Medicaid.

S. 365

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 365, a bill to amend the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 to au-

thorize appropriations to provide assistance for domestic and foreign centers and programs for the treatment of victims of torture, and for other purposes.

S. 370

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) were added as cosponsors of S. 370, a bill to preserve and protect the free choice of individual employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, or to refrain from such activities.

S. 397

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 397, a bill to prohibit civil liability actions from being brought or continued against manufacturers, distributors, dealers, or importers of firearms or ammunition for damages, injunctive or other relief resulting from the misuse of their products by others.

S. 438

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 438, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 512

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 512, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to classify automatic fire sprinkler systems as 5-year property for purposes of depreciation.

S. 521

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) were added as cosponsors of S. 521, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish, promote, and support a comprehensive prevention, research, and medical management referral program for hepatitis C virus infection.

S. 523

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 523, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to rename the death gratuity payable for deaths of members of the Armed Forces as fallen hero compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 539

At the request of Mr. MARTINEZ, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) were added as cosponsors of S. 539, a bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide the protections of habeas corpus for certain incapacitated individuals whose life is in jeopardy, and for other purposes.

S. 544

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the name of the Senator from Louisiana

(Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 544, a bill to amend title IX of the Public Health Service Act to provide for the improvement of patient safety and to reduce the incidence of events that adversely affect patient safety.

S. 619

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 619, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. CON. RES. 17

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 17, a concurrent resolution calling on the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to assess the potential effectiveness of and requirements for a NATO-enforced no-fly zone in the Darfur region of Sudan.

S. RES. 40

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 40, a resolution supporting the goals and ideas of National Time Out Day to promote the adoption of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations' universal protocol for preventing errors in the operating room.

AMENDMENT NO. 143

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 143 proposed to S. Con. Res. 18, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2006 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2005 and 2007 through 2010.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself and Mr. KYL):

S. 621. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the 15-year recovery period for the depreciation of certain leasehold improvements; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation to make permanent the 15-year depreciation period for leasehold improvements that was enacted on a temporary basis as part of the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004. I am pleased to be joined in this effort by my Finance Committee colleague, Senator KYL.

Leasehold improvements are the alterations to leased space made by a building owner as part of the lease agreement with a tenant. In actual commercial use, leasehold improvements typically last as long as the lease—an average of less than 10 years.