

throughout our State. He has been a tireless advocate for the population served by East River, and deeply engaged in discussions of energy and economic development policy for decades. As he has worked with me and my staff over the years, his input has always been appreciated and valued. He leaves behind an undeniable legacy of thoughtful and progressive leadership.

Jeff's work has left a mark on many facets of energy policy. Under his tenure as General Manager, East River has received national recognition, being named the 2013 Wind Energy Cooperative of the Year by the Energy Department. He undertook the daunting task of establishing a load-management system, the largest in the world at the time of its implementation. He also looked out for the unique interests of rural South Dakota in discussions of hydropower access and in helping the ethanol industry gain a foothold.

It is also important to note the vital economic development work Jeff has been involved in through the Rural Electric Economic Development, REED, Fund. The REED Fund has been crucial for the establishment or expansion of many South Dakota businesses and his work in this area has facilitated an improved rural economy.

He has been active in public service in his personal time, as well, using his expertise to make continued contributions to his community and our state. This service includes serving as Chair of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Power and Water Resources Committee and Board President of the South Dakota Wind Energy Association, among other commitments.

Beyond his commendable career, I also take this opportunity to thank Jeff, and his wife Trudi for their years of friendship to me and Barbara. It was also a pleasure having Jeff and Trudi's son, Erik, serve as a valuable member of my staff for many years.

Though he will be missed at East River, I know that Jeff will continue to be engaged in policymaking and service projects. Once again, I am pleased to recognize Jeff for his many years of service to the people of South Dakota and applaud him for his exemplary career. ●

#### AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN STUDY

● Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues an important accomplishment achieved by the American Institute For Foreign Study, AIFS, based in Stamford, CT. In 2014, AIFS will be celebrating its 50th year of providing unique cultural and educational opportunities to young people around the globe through its mission—"we bring the world together". Through its study and travel abroad, high school exchange, camp counselor, au pair, and gifted education programs, young people from diverse backgrounds have

interacted with others from different cultures, gaining a better understanding of their values and ideas.

Since its inception, AIFS has provided this educational opportunity to over 1.5 million people. In fact, over 800,000 American high school or college aged students have broadened their horizons by traveling abroad in structured educational programs. Whether it is through faculty-led educational travel programs or college semester/summer study abroad programs, young Americans have gained unique insights into a world that is rapidly shrinking.

Mr. President, I congratulate the leadership of AIFS for its tireless pursuit of its goal of achieving a greater global understanding. Working closely with the U.S. Department of State, AIFS' programs have positively changed the way their participants view the world as well as their place within it. ●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

#### 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 12:42 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3590. An act to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3964. An act to address certain water-related concerns in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

S. 1996. A bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 3590. An act to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3964. An act to address certain water-related concerns in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley, 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-4560. A communication from the Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to competitions initiated or conducted in fiscal year 2013; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4561. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Improvement Act of 2012 (IPERIA); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4562. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Inspector General, Office of Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 31, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4563. A communication from the Acting Director, National Science Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the Foundation's fiscal year 2013 Agency Financial Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4564. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, reports entitled, "Audit of the Office of the People's Counsel Agency Fund for Fiscal Year 2009," "Audit of the Office of the People's Counsel Agency Fund for Fiscal Year 2010," "Audit of the Office of the People's Counsel Agency Fund for Fiscal Year 2011," and "Audit of the Office of the People's Counsel Agency Fund for Fiscal Year 2012"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4565. A communication from the Board Members, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Railroad Retirement Board's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2013, including the Office of Inspector General's Auditor's Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4566. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-266, "Closing of a Portion of the Public Alley in Square 5452, S.O. 12-03541, Act of 2014"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4567. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-267, "Microstamping Implementation Temporary Amendment Act of 2014"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4568. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-272, "Public Charter School Historic Preservation Amendment Act of 2014"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4569. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-265, "Minimum Wage Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.