

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

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 10:10 a.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. 4061. An act to amend the Financial Stability Act of 2010 to improve the transparency of the Financial Stability Oversight Council, to improve the SIFI designation process, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4293. An act to reform the Comprehensive Capital Analysis and Review process, the Dodd-Frank Act Stress Test process, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 4061. An act to amend the Financial Stability Act of 2010 to improve the transparency of the Financial Stability Oversight Council, to improve the SIFI designation process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 4293. An act to reform the Comprehensive Capital Analysis and Review process, the Dodd-Frank Act Stress Test process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following joint resolution was discharged by petition, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 802(c), and placed on the calendar:

S.J. Res. 57. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection relating to "Indirect Auto Lending and Compliance with the Equal Credit Opportunity Act".

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 2667. A bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to provide for State and Tribal regulation of hemp production, and for other purposes.

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-191. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Washington urging the United States Congress to pass and

the President of the United States to sign legislation reforming the harbor maintenance tax; to the Committee on Finance.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8008

Whereas, The federal harbor maintenance tax is assessed on the value of goods being shipped into United States ports; and

Whereas, The harbor maintenance tax is not collected on transpacific cargo shipped to the United States via rail or roads from ports in Mexico and Canada; and

Whereas, The ability to move transpacific cargo through Canadian ports and avoid paying the harbor maintenance tax is an incentive to divert cargo away from United States ports; and

Whereas, The federal maritime commission inquiry into the harbor maintenance tax found that up to half of United States bound containers coming into Canada's west coast ports could revert to using United States west coast ports if United States importers were relieved from paying the tax; and

Whereas, Current United States law does not require the revenues raised through the harbor maintenance tax to be fully spent on harbor maintenance related investments, collections have far exceeded fund appropriation and surplus collections will grow to over nine billion dollars this year; and

Whereas, Revenue raised through the harbor maintenance tax pays for dredging and other maintenance costs, with significant amounts being spent for dredging at east coast, Gulf, and Columbia River ports; and

Whereas, Certain deep water ports on the west coast that require no or little dredging, including the new Northwest Seaport Alliance consisting of the ports of Seattle and Tacoma, receive just over a penny on every dollar of harbor maintenance tax paid by shippers who use their ports; and

Whereas, The Columbia river channel is critical to maintain global trade and the port of Vancouver USA serves as the largest wheat export gateway in the nation; and

Whereas, With the recent widening of the Panama Canal and potential addition of a canal in Nicaragua, Washington ports face increasing competition for maritime goods bound for the United States; and

Whereas, Washington ports are ready to compete on a level playing field to efficiently move goods to market; Now, therefore, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that:

(1) Congress pass and the president sign legislation reforming the harbor maintenance tax; and

(2) Such legislation ensures that United States tax policy does not disadvantage United States ports and maritime cargo, strives to have all navigation channels including the Columbia River be fully maintained, and provides greater equity for harbor maintenance tax donor ports through expanded uses of the harbor maintenance revenues to meet all Northwest port needs.

Be it resolved, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable Donald Trump, President of the United States, 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-192. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urging the United States Congress to amend the Gun Control Act of 1968 to protect the constitutional rights of medical cannabis users; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE RESOLUTION 253

Whereas, In 1968, the Congress of the United States passed the Gun Control Act of 1968 (Public Law 90-618, 82 Stat. 1213) to regulate the firearms industry and firearms owners; and

Whereas, In 1970, the Congress of the United States passed the Controlled Substances Act (Public Law 91-513, 84 Stat. 1236), which designates cannabis in the most restrictive category as a Schedule I drug; and

Whereas, In 1993, the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act (Public Law 103-159, 107 Stat. 1536) amended the Gun Control Act of 1968 by restricting individuals who use controlled substances from owning firearms and ammunition; and

Whereas, The Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives has issued guidance on restricting individuals who use cannabis from owning firearms and ammunition; and

Whereas, Section 102 of the act of April 17, 2016 (P.L. 84, No. 16), known as the Medical Marijuana Act, states that "Scientific evidence suggests that medical marijuana is one potential therapy that may mitigate suffering in some patients and also enhance quality of life"; and

Whereas, The Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States guarantees "the right of the people to keep and bear arms"; and

Whereas, The Fifth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States guarantees that no person shall "be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law"; and

Whereas, The Tenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States provides: "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people"; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress of the United States to amend the Gun Control Act of 1968 to protect the constitutional rights of medical cannabis users; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

POM-193. A report from the Housing Authority of the City of High Point, North Carolina entitled "Housing Authority of the City of High Point 2017 Annual Report"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

POM-194. A resolution adopted by the Township Council of Berkeley, New Jersey, memorializing their opposition to offshore oil and gas exploration and drilling activities that would affect the coast of New Jersey, and calling upon the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management to withdraw New Jersey and the entire Atlantic Ocean from consideration for the offshore oil and gas exploration, development, or drilling; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-195. A resolution adopted by the Mayor and City Commission of the City of Miami Beach, Florida, memorializing their opposition to the proposal to dramatically expand domestic oil and gas production by increasing offshore drilling leases off Florida's Atlantic and Gulf coasts, as well as along both the east and west coasts of the continental United States; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-196. A resolution adopted by the Mayor and City Commission of the City of Miami Beach, Florida, memorializing their opposition to the Administration's decision to end temporary protected status for Salvadoran immigrants in the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-197. A resolution adopted by the Common Council of East Chicago, Indiana memorializing its opposition to the President of the United States' rescission of