

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:07 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House insists upon its amendments to the bill (S.1) to curb the practice of imposing unfunded Federal mandates on States and local governments; to strengthen the partnership between the Federal Government and State, local, and tribal governments; to end the imposition, in the absence of full consideration by Congress, of Federal mandates on State, local, and tribal governments without adequate funding, in a manner that may displace other essential governmental priorities; and to ensure that the Federal Government pays the costs incurred by those governments in complying with certain requirements under Federal statutes and regulations; and for other purposes, and asks a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints Mr. CLINGER, Mr. DREIER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. DAVIS, Mr. CONDIT, Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois, Mr. TOWNS, and Mr. MOAKLEY as the managers of the conference on the part of the House.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-341. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 10-348 adopted by the Council on December 6, 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-342. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 10-349 adopted by the Council on December 6, 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-343. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 10-350 adopted by the Council on December 6, 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-344. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 10-351 adopted by the Council on December 6, 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-345. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 10-352 adopted by the Council on December 6, 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-346. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 10-353 adopted by the Council on December 6, 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-347. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 10-354 adopted by the Council on December 6, 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-348. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 10-355 adopted by the Council on December 6, 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-349. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 10-356 adopted by the Council on December 6, 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-350. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 10-357 adopted by the Council on December 6, 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-351. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 10-358 adopted by the Council on December 6, 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-352. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 10-359 adopted by the Council on December 6, 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-353. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 10-360 adopted by the Council on December 6, 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-354. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 10-361 adopted by the Council on December 6, 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-355. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 10-365 adopted by the Council on December 6, 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-356. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 10-367 adopted by the Council on December 6, 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-357. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 10-368 adopted by the Council on December 6, 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-358. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 10-369 adopted by the Council on December 6, 1994; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LUGAR, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, without amendment:

S. 178. A bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to extend the authorization for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 104-7).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

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

S. 351. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the credit for increasing research activities; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PRESSLER:

S. 352. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish a comprehensive program for conserving and managing wetlands and waters of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SIMON:

S. 353. A bill to clarify the circumstances under which a senior circuit court judge may cast a vote in a case heard en banc; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BREAU (for himself, Mr. JOHNSTON, Mr. SIMON, and Mr. BUMPERS):

S. 354. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives to encourage the preservation of low-income housing; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ABRAHAM:

S. 355. A bill to provide that the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall include an estimate of Federal retirement benefits for each Member of Congress in their semiannual reports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. SHELBY (for himself and Mr. COVERDELL):

S. 356. A bill to amend title 4, United States Code, to declare English as the official language of the Government of the United States; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

S. 351. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the credit for increasing research activities; to the Committee on Finance.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES LEGISLATION

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I am pleased today to join with my friends and colleagues, Senator MAX BAUCUS, and Representatives NANCY JOHNSON and ROBERT MATSUI in the House, in introducing legislation that would extend permanently the tax credit for increasing research activities. The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 temporarily extended this tax credit until June 30, 1995, when it is set to expire.

As the United States is shifting from an industrial based economy to an information and technology based economy, conducting research for tomorrow's products and methods is increasing in importance. In 1981, the Reagan administration and the Congress recognized this need, and the credit for increasing research and experimentation [R&E] activities was first enacted. Unfortunately, due to revenue concerns and uncertainty about its effectiveness, the credit was enacted with a sunset date of December 31, 1985. Since then, the credit has been extended four more times for periods varying from 6 months to 3 years.