very effectively just how much it would be an asset to employees, as well as employers, to have some certainty about their ability to communicate and work together in the workplace.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I thank my distinguished colleague.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mrs. KASSEBAUM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business.

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

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Monday, July 8, 1996, the Federal debt stood at $5,154,104,445,604.38.

On a per capita basis, every man, woman, and child in America owes $19,430.90 as his or her share of that debt.

CABLE INDUSTRY OFFERS SCHOOLS FREE INTERNET ACCESS

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, today, I had the pleasure of participating in the launch of Cable's High-Speed Education Connection, the cable industry's latest contribution to the American educational system and America's children. At the heart of this initiative is a commitment by the cable industry to offer every elementary and secondary school in the country that is passed by cable, basic high-speed Internet access via cable modems—free of charge.

For years, the computer industry has offered greatly discounted pricing on hardware and software to schools, universities, teachers, and students. This same industry is arguably both the most successful and the least regulated in the United States.

As chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, one of my primary goals in authoring the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was to apply this competitive formula to the telecommunications industry. I am convinced it is a formula for success. This formula creates a world in which different telecommunications companies can compete with each other in the delivery of new services to American consumers.

I was especially interested in breaking up the local exchange monopolies and encouraging new entrants to provide alternative telephone services and television programming. I congratulate the cable industry for rapidly taking the lead in demonstrating how this newly competitive environment accelerates the provision to students and teachers of access to the latest and best educational technologies.

What will be the result? Elementary and secondary schools will be wired for cable. They also will be equipped with modems maximizing the delivery of high-speed digital services. These developments very positively impact the future of learning—including the development of distance learning—which particularly helps rural States like South Dakota. In fact, I understand that among the first cable markets targeted for these new services will be Rapid City, SD. These wired schools will expose young generations to some of the best of cable technology. They will create sophisticated users of the next generation of cable information services. They will help create masters of the information age.

So, what we witness here is not the result of Government's decision as to which technology should be mandated for low cost delivery to schools. We witness instead the initial stages of a competition for the loyalty and attention of future adult generations in their decisions about which services best accommodate their needs.

Mr. President, I am pleased that the cable industry is taking the initiative today to provide American schools—free of charge—with high-speed access to the Internet using cable modems. Cable's High-Speed Education Connection builds on the foundation established by Cable in the Classroom, an ongoing multimillion dollar educational project that provides more than 74,000 schools nationwide with free access to cable systems and more than 6,000 hours of commercial-free educational programming each year. The cable industry is to be commended for being a leader in providing educational benefits and network access to the communities it serves.

I encourage other companies and industries to follow the example the cable industry announced today and applaud what likely is only the first step by the cable industry to improve the quality and availability of education technology.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, 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 Committee on Armed Services.

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

REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF OCEAN AND COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, OCEAN SERVICE, NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION FOR FISCAL YEARS 1994 AND 1995—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 157

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to submit the Biennial Report of the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for fiscal years 1994 and 1995. This report is submitted as required by section 316 of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) of 1972, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 1451, et seq.).

The report discusses progress made at the national level in administering the Coastal Zone Management and Estuarine Research Reserve Programs during these years, and spotlights the accomplishments of NOAA's State coastal management and estuarine research reserve program partners under the CZMA.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *July 9, 1996*.

REPORT OF THE CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING FOR FISCAL YEAR 1995—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 158

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (47 U.S.C. 396(i)), I transmit herewith the Annual Report of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) for Fiscal Year 1995 and the Inventory of the Federal Funds Distributed to Public Telecommunications Entities by Federal Departments and Agencies: Fiscal Year 1995.

Since 1967, when the Congress created the Corporation, CPB has overseen the growth and development of quality services for millions of Americans.

This year's report highlights ways the Corporation has helped millions of American families and children gain new learning opportunities through technology. At a time when technology is advancing at a pace that is as daunting as it is exhilarating, it is crucial for all of us to work together to understand and take advantage of these changes.

By continuing to broadcast programs that explore the challenging issues of our time, by working with local communities and schools to introduce more and more children to computers and the Internet, in short, by honoring its commitment to enriching the American spirit, the Corporation is preparing all of us for the 21st century.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *July 9, 1996*.

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–3253. A communication from the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled ''The Tobacco Loan Program,'' received on June 26, 1996; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3254. A communication from the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled ''Spearmint Oil Produced in the Far West,'' received on June 26, 1996; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3255. A communication from the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled ''Sheep Promotion, Research, and Information Program,'' received on June 27, 1996; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3256. A communication from the Director of the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for fiscal year 1995; referred jointly, pursuant to Public Law 97–425, to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–3257. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a Presidential Determination relative to the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3258. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled ''Attacking Financial Institution Fraud''; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3259. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior (Land and Minerals Management), transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to bid acceptance, (RIN1010–AC18) received on June 27, 1996; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–3260. A communication from the Director of the State and Site Identification Center, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule entitled ''National Priorities List for Uncontrolled Hazardous Waste Sites,'' (FRL–5520–2) received on June 20, 1996; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–3261. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule entitled ''Regulation of Fuels and Fuel Additives,'' (RIN2060–AG06) received on June 27, 1996; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–3262. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of four rules entitled ''Requirements for Preparation, Adoption, and Submittal of Implementation Plans,'' (FRL5530–4, 5529–3, 5527–4, 5531–6) received on June 28, 1996; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–3263. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of nine rules entitled ''General Procedures to OPT out of the Reformulated Gasoline Requirements,'' (FRL5528–6, 5363–2, 5358–8, 5372–8, 5369–7, 5358–7, 5382–1, 5381–5, 5381–2) received on June 27, 1996; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–3264. A communication from the Acting Administrator, General Services Administration, transmitting, a report relative to a lease prospectus for the Federal Bureau of Investigation; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–3265. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Land Disposal Restrictions Phase III-Decharacterized Wastewaters, Carbamate Wastes, and Spent Potliners,'' (RIN2050–AD38) received on July 2, 1996; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–3266. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval of State Programs and Delegation of Federal Authorities,'' (FRL5531–3) received June 2, 1996; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–3267. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of an informational copy of a lease prospectus; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–3268. A communication from the Administrator of the Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Uranium purchases for calendar year 1995; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–3269. A communication from the Deputy Associate Director for Compliance, Minerals Management Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to refunds of offshore lease revenues; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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–646. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana; to the Committee on Appropriations.

''HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 31

''Whereas, approximately six hundred ninety-seven thousand United States service members were deployed to the Persian Gulf in the 1990–1991 Operations Desert Storm/Desert Shield conflict; and

''Whereas, while the vast majority of these troops returned home healthy, a significant number of individuals who served in this conflict have reported persistent symptoms that they believe are related to their experience in the war, collectively known as Persian Gulf War syndrome; and

''Whereas, most common among these symptoms are fatigue, joint pain, headache, sleep disturbances, loss of memory, and rash; and

''Whereas, much more serious conditions have also been linked to Gulf War service, such as upper respiratory disease, birth defects in infants born to Gulf War veterans, mild cases of acute diarrhea, and cutaneous and viscerotropic leishmaniasis, causing death in some cases; and

''Whereas, recently, Dr. Howard B. Urnovitz, a research microbiologist from California, testified before the United States House of Representatives Subcommittee on Human Resources and Intergovernmental Relations that there is an underlying problem with the immune response of Persian Gulf War military to the polio vaccine, which suggests that some factor perturbing the antibody response may be inducing this unexpected outcome; and

''Whereas, there is evidence that the exposure of veterans to chemical agents may explain many of the previously inexplicable symptoms that they are plagued with today, for, according to James J. Tuite, III, former director of the U.S. Senate Banking Committee investigating into the arming of Iraq and the health effects of the Persian Gulf War, the Persian Gulf War was the most toxic battlefield in the history of modern warfare, and studies since World War I have shown that individuals exposed to chemical agents and other related poisons have had symptoms similar to those that plague the Gulf War veterans; and

''Whereas, Mr. Tuite further testified that many of the chemical poisons that were detected and confirmed by coalition chemical specialists are known to affect the central nervous and immune systems; and

''Whereas, to provide protection against the lethal effects of chemical warfare nerve agents, troops deployed to the Persian Gulf were issued twenty-one thirty milligram tablets of pyridostigmine bromide (PB), a drug which has been suggested as a cause of this chronic illness in Gulf Veterans; and

''Whereas, a most recent study by Duke University shows that a combination of three chemicals, including PB, used to protect soldiers from insect-borne diseases and nerve-gas poisoning may have caused the symptoms reported by an estimated thirty thousand Gulf War veterans based on a study using chickens, who suffered neurological dysfunction when issued the mixture of the insecticides and the anti-nerve-gas agent; and

''Whereas, the United States Government has responded to the concerns of the failing health of these veterans by creating several projects to help to treat the afflicted veterans and to research the causes of their disease; and

''Whereas, the Department of Defense, headed by Secretary William Perry and Deputy Secretary John White, and in support of President Clinton's commitment to our Persian Gulf troops, has launched an unprecedented effort in researching and treating Gulf War veterans' illnesses; and

''Whereas, such projects include the Comprehensive Clinical Evaluation Program (CCEP), which was initiated in June, 1994, by the Department of Defense to provide in-depth medical examinations to nearly twenty thousand service and family members who are suffering from conditions induced by the Gulf War; and

''Whereas, a Specialized Care Center (SCC) was opened at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in March, 1995, for the intensive treatment of symptomatic Persian Gulf War veterans, and another of these centers is scheduled to open at Wilford Hall Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, in mid-May, 1996; and

''Whereas, ongoing and planned epidemiologic studies by the Department of Defense, Veterans' Affairs, and Health and Human Services further search for answers to these inexplicable symptoms of disease suffered by Gulf War veterans; and

''Whereas, the Clinton administration has also created an advisory committee on Gulf War veterans' illnesses to ensure an independent, open, and comprehensive examination of health concerns related to Gulf War -