

“The Contract Costs Act of 1997”; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1328. A communication from the Regulatory Policy Officer, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to plastic explosives (RIN1512-AB63) received on February 24, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1329. A communication from the Vice President (Government Affairs), National Railroad Passenger Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1330. A communication from the Executive Secretary of the National Security Council, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1331. A communication from the Chief (Regulations Unit), Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Revenue Procedure 97-20 received on March 4, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1332. A communication from the Chief (Regulations Unit), Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Revenue Ruling 97-12 received on March 4, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1333. A communication from the Chief (Regulations Unit), Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Notice 97-16 received on March 4, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1334. A communication from the Chief (Regulations Unit), Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Announcement 97-22 received on March 4, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1335. A communication from the Chief (Regulations Unit), Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Announcement 97-24 received on March 4, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1336. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior (Land and Minerals Management), transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled “Mining Claims Under the General Mining Laws” (RIN1004-AC40) received on February 25, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1337. A communication from the Chair of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules including a rule entitled “Open Access Same-Time Information System” received on March 4, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1338. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the production of nuclear weapons; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1339. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the certification of a proposed approval of a manufacturing license agreement; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1340. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a Presidential Determination relative to suspending restrictions; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1341. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the certification of the proposed issuance of an export license; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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-38. A resolution adopted by the Knoxville City Council relative to the land and water conservation fund; to the Committee on Appropriations.

POM-39. A resolution adopted by the Toledo City Council relative to the Clear Air Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-40. A resolution adopted by House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Delaware; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 11

Whereas, the annual Federal budget has not been balanced since 1969, and the federal public debt is now more than \$5 trillion—or \$20,000 for every man, woman, and child in America; and

Whereas, continued deficit spending demonstrates an unwillingness or inability of both the federal executive and legislative branches to spend no more than available revenues; and

Whereas, fiscal irresponsibility at the federal level is lowering our standard of living, destroying jobs, and endangering economic opportunity now and for the next generation; and

Whereas, the federal government's unlimited ability to borrow raises questions about fundamental principles and responsibilities of government, with potentially profound consequences for the nation and its people, making it an appropriate subject for limitation by the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas, the Constitution of the United States vests the ultimate responsibility to approve or disapprove constitutional amendments with the people, as represented by their elected state legislatures; and opposition by a small minority repeatedly has thwarted the will of the people that a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution should be submitted to the states for ratification; Now, therefore: Be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the 139th General Assembly of the State of Delaware That the Congress of the United States expeditiously pass, and propose to the legislatures of the several states for ratification, an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring, in the absence of a national emergency, that the total of all Federal appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal year may not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for that fiscal year; be it further

Resolved That the Clerk of the House transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, each Member of the Delaware Congressional Delegation, and the Secretary of State and the presiding officers of both Houses of the Legislatures of each of the other States in the Union.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive report of committees was submitted:

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

Federico Peña, of Colorado, to be Secretary of Energy.

(The above nomination was reported with the recommendation that he be

confirmed, subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary:

Merrick B. Garland, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Rose Ochi, of California, to be Director, Community Relations Service, for a term of four years.

Colleen Kollar-Kotelly, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

Lyle Weir Swenson, of South Dakota, to be United States Marshal for the District of South Dakota for the term of four years.

(The above nominations 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 time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. COATS:

S. 409. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for the implementation of systems for rating the specific content of specific television programs; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. D'AMATO (for himself, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. DODD):

S. 410. A bill to extend the effective date of the Investment Advisers Supervision Coordination Act; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. D'AMATO, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, and Mr. SPECTER):

S. 411. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for investment necessary to revitalize communities within the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. COATS:

S. 409. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for the implementation of systems for rating the specific content of specific television programs; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

TV RATING SYSTEM LEGISLATION

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, this past Thursday the Senate Commerce Committee held a hearing on the current television rating system. I want to commend Senator MCCAIN for calling that hearing. It was very instructional for all of us. What was apparent from that hearing is the near universal dissatisfaction with the current Hollywood rating system, the need for immediate change, the utter failure of the industry to understand what parents want in a rating system, and the basic