

Whereas, the improvement in air transportation alternatives has brought to local passengers the benefits of increased competition in the form of competitive fares and a broad array of new service options between these two airports; and

Whereas, the region has also benefited from investments by many new firms in Northern Virginia that have located to this area because of the presence of a major international airport, Washington Dulles International Airport, and the strength and continued viability of competitive air service offerings at both Washington Dulles International Airport and Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport; and

Whereas, the increased business activity has produced substantial economic benefits for the region; and

Whereas, a linchpin of this balanced regional air transportation system is the rule at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport limiting flights to 1,250 miles from the airport; and

Whereas, changes to the perimeter rule would threaten air service to smaller communities within the perimeter than now enjoy convenient access to Northern Virginia by air; and

Whereas, this perimeter rule was enacted as Section 6012 of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Act of 1986; and

Whereas, legislation is being considered in the United States Congress that would provide for exemptions from the perimeter rule; and

Whereas, any change in the current perimeter rule would threaten the benefits now enjoyed by citizens of the region as a result of the balance of services among the regional airports; and

Whereas, maintaining the perimeter rule is critical to the continued effectiveness of the balanced regional air transportation plan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring. That the General Assembly oppose any relaxation of, exemption from, or amendment to Section 6012 of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Act of 1986 or the regulations promulgated pursuant thereto; and, be it

Resolved further. That the Clerk of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the Virginia General Assembly in this matter.

POM-389. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Washington; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4032

Whereas, The people of the State of Washington are facing the impacts of the listing and proposed listings of salmon and steelhead stocks under the federal Endangered Species Act; and

Whereas, These listings represent a serious threat to the continued economic well-being of the people of the State of Washington; and

Whereas, The people of the State of Washington will fully comply with the requirements of the federal Endangered Species Act within its borders and territorial waters; and

Whereas, The salmon and steelhead that spawn in the State of Washington spend most of their life cycle outside of waters controlled by the state; and

Whereas, Considerable threats to the salmon and steelhead of the State of Washington can only be addressed by the intervention of the United States Government; and

Whereas, The success of any conservation plan implemented under the federal Endan-

gered Species Act for listed salmon and steelhead runs in the State of Washington is in doubt without immediate action by the federal government;

Now, therefore, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the United States Government immediately resolve the United States-Canada fishing dispute, enforce the two hundred-mile limit and the ban on high seas drift net fishing, and provide funding for salmon recovery efforts which mitigate the loss of habitat caused by the construction of hydroelectric dams on the Columbia River.

Be it resolved. That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, 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-390. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of West Virginia; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 25

Whereas, Television has become a medium of great importance as a source of information and entertainment to the citizens of West Virginia and the United States; and

Whereas, Cable television sometimes provides the only access to quality television signals in many areas of West Virginia; and

Whereas, Cable television services in West Virginia are not subject to effective competition; and

Whereas, Over the last ten years, despite the efforts of the Congress of the United States and the Legislature of West Virginia, the prices that consumers pay for cable television services have escalated at alarming rates, for out pacing the increase in the costs of other goods or services; and

Whereas, The enormous increases in the costs for subscribers of cable television services is a result of the absence of competition in the industry coupled with inadequate regulation; and

Whereas, It is the duty of government to intervene to protect its citizens from the pricing practices of monopolies: Therefore, be it

Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia. That this legislature respectfully urges the Congress of the United States to address this important issue by enacting comprehensive legislation to create widespread competition within the cable television industry and until such time as competition exists, that the Congress of the United States will pass comprehensive legislation allowing the several states and local franchising authorities to have complete and unfettered power and authority to regulate the rates that cable television companies may charge to the subscribers of cable television service, including charges for any and all tiers of programming; and, be it further

Resolved. This Legislature respectfully urges the Congress of the United States to enact laws requiring cable television companies to permit consumers to select and decline individual channels that they desire to have or not to have, so that consumers are not forced to buy programming that they do not want simply to be able to have the programming that they do want; and, be it further

Resolved. That the Clerk of the House of Delegates be hereby directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and to each member of the West Virginia Delegation of the Congress.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ROTH, from the Committee on Finance, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 2676. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restructure and reform the Internal Revenue Service, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-174).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. SPECTER, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs:

Togo Dennis West, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

(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.)

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 Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN:

S. 1965. A bill to prohibit the publication of identifying information relating to a minor for criminal sexual purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. KOHL):

S. 1966. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study whether the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore should be protected as a wilderness area; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SARBANES:

S. 1967. A bill to provide for mass transportation in national parks and related public lands; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. FORD (for himself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. HOLLINGS, and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 1968. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to implement a pilot program to improve access to the national transportation system for small communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 1969. A bill to provide health benefits for workers and their families; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE):

S. 1970. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to provide assistance in the conservation of neotropical migratory birds; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. HUTCHINSON (for himself, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. BROWNBACK, and Mr. FEINGOLD):