

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12 noon, a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, 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. 2888. An act to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to exempt from the minimum wage recordkeeping and overtime compensation requirements certain specialized employees.

H.R. 3494. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to violent sex crimes against children, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 2888. An act to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to exempt from the minimum wage recordkeeping and overtime compensation requirements certain specialized employees; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

H.R. 3494. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to violent sex crimes against children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The following bill, previously received from the House of Representatives for the concurrence of the Senate, was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1023. An act to provide for compassionate payments with regard to individuals with blood-clotting disorders, such as hemophilia, who contracted human immunodeficiency virus due to contaminated antihemophilic factor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Labor and Human 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-460. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Colorado; ordered to lie on the table.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 98-005

Whereas, legislation has been introduced in the United States House of Representatives (H.R. 2625) and the United States Senate (S. 1297) to rename the Washington National Airport as the "Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport"; and

Whereas, this federal legislation is intended to honor one of the greatest and most loved presidents of the United States; and

Whereas, president Ronald Reagan left the United States and the world a legacy of prosperity and freedom; and

Whereas, naming the gateway to the nation's capital after President Ronald Reagan is a fitting tribute to his contributions to our nation and to the world; and

Whereas, this dedication should be completed in honor of President Reagan's eighty-seventh birthday on February 6, 1998; Be it

Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-first General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein: That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly, encourage the President and the Congress of the United States to enact

legislation to rename the Washington National Airport as the "Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport".

Be it further resolved That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Vice-President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Colorado delegation to the Congress of the United States.

POM-461. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; to the Committee on Appropriations.

RESOLUTIONS

Whereas, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, conceived in 1964 as a Federal-State partnership program, was created to expand the Nation's park and recreation system through funds received from off-shore oil leasing fees; and

Whereas, since 1995, the Land and Water Conservation Fund has not been funded, thereby denying States the opportunity to provide recreational facilities for families; and

Whereas, this lack of funding has hampered the States ability to effectively protect its valuable natural resources; and

Whereas, over \$127,000,000 could have been leveraged through the Land and Water Conservation Fund for the States of Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont had the stateside funding been available; and

Whereas, the reinstatement of this funding will directly affect the quality of life we can provide to our citizens and the protection we can give to our natural resources; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Massachusetts House of Representatives urges the Congress of the United States to reinstate full stateside funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund to give States the means necessary to preserve their natural resources and open space from urban centers to coastal zones; and be it further

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded by the clerk of the House of Representatives to the presiding officer of each branch of Congress and to the Members thereof from this Commonwealth.

POM-462. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Michigan; to the Committee on Appropriations.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 172

Whereas, our country is strongly committed to equality of opportunity. An important government body working to put this commitment into action is the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), the nation's leading civil rights enforcement agency; and

Whereas, the EEOC currently has a backlog of 65,000 cases of discrimination to investigate to pursue justice for individual citizens victimized by unfair and illegal practices. The EEOC needs to direct its resources to these individuals, rather than to the pursuit of trying to find new instances of possible problems. It is much more prudent to handle specific cases of discrimination than to direct energies to test employers by using decoy job applicants to look for discriminatory behavior; and

Whereas, the administration's recommendation of increased spending for the EEOC is appropriate if the increased funds are targeted to address the backlog of discrimination cases that need to be investigated. The men and women victimized by discrimination deserve the protection of the EEOC and should not be made to wait longer

while resources are directed to less productive activities; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, that we memorialize the Congress of the United States to increase funding to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to handle the backlog of individual cases; and be it further

Resolved, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-463. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Alaska; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLVE NO. 56

Whereas overcapitalization of fish harvesting capacity in the Bering Sea has resulted in highly compressed, derby-style fisheries; and

Whereas overcapitalized fisheries typically lead to excessive exploitation of a fishery resource, often resulting in a precipitous decrease in the economic yield of the fishery resource; and

Whereas the State of Alaska values sustainable fishery management principles, which include minimizing bycatch and waste, maximizing utilization of the fishery resources harvested, minimizing adverse effects of fishing gear on fish habitat, and maximizing economic returns on the public fishery resource for the benefit of Alaska communities and the citizens of the United States on the whole; and

Whereas Senator Ted Stevens of Alaska has, with the cosponsorship of Senators Murkowski, Breaux, and Hollings, introduced S. 1221, "American Fisheries Act"; and

Whereas S. 1221 would effectively limit fishing capacity in the Bering Sea fishing fleet through vessel size limitations and ownership requirements; and

Whereas S. 1221 would limit the maximum length, tonnage, and shaft horsepower of vessels engaging in domestic fisheries in the United States navigable waters and exclusive economic zone; and

Whereas S. 1221 would require that at least 75 percent of the controlling interest of a vessel engaged in the fisheries in the United States navigable waters and exclusive economic zone be owned by citizens of the United States; and

Whereas S. 1221 would correct a loophole in the Commercial Fishing Industry Vessel Anti-Reflagging Act of 1987 that allowed vessels that were rebuilt in foreign shipyards to enter the fisheries off Alaska; and

Whereas S. 1221 would permanently prohibit federal loan guarantees for any vessel intended for use as a fishing vessel that does not meet size, tonnage, horsepower, and domestic ownership criteria; and

Whereas S. 1221 would effectively promote further Americanization of the fisheries of the United States;

Be it resolved, That the Alaska State Legislature supports those provisions of S. 1221, the "American Fisheries Act," that would reduce the fishing capacity of the Bering Sea fishing fleet and promote the Americanization of the fisheries of the United States; and be it

Further Resolved, That the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the Congress to pass S. 1221.

Copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Al Gore, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Strom Thurmond, President Pro Tempore of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; and to the