

EC-5870. A communication from the Deputy Secretary, Office of Mergers and Acquisitions, Division of Corporation Finance, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulation of Takeovers and Security Holder Communications—(Regulation M-A)", received October 26, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5871. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Missouri Regulatory Program", received October 26, 1999; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-5872. A communication from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the denial of safeguards information; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5873. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans Tennessee; Approval of Source Specific Revisions to the Nonregulatory Portion of the Tennessee SIP Regarding Emission Limits for Particulate Matter and Volatile Organic Compounds" (FRL #6465-1), received October 25, 1999; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5874. A communication from the Acting Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Determination of Threatened Status for the Bull Trout in the Coterminous United States" (RIN1018-AF01), received October 25, 1999; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5875. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Cooperative Threat Reduction Act, a report relative to the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation and Ukraine; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5876. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of Student Financial Assistance, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Student Assistance General Provisions (Cohort Default Rates)" (RIN1845-AA04), received October 25, 1999; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5877. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of Student Financial Assistance, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program (Lenders and Guaranty Agencies)" (RIN1845-AA04), received October 25, 1999; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5878. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of Student Financial Assistance, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Regulations—Institutional Eligibility under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as Amended and Student Assistance General Provisions" (RIN1845-AA08), received October 25, 1999; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5879. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of Student Financial Assistance, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Regula-

tions—Student Assistance General Provisions" (RIN1845-AA03), received October 25, 1999; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5880. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of Student Financial Assistance, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Perkins Loan Program" (RIN1845-AA05), received October 25, 1999; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5881. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of Student Financial Assistance, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Family Education Loan Program and William D. Ford Direct Loan Program" (RIN1845-AA00), received October 25, 1999; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5882. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, a report entitled "Entry and Competition in the U.S. Airline Industry: Issues and Opportunities"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5883. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments; FM Broadcast Stations; Princeton and Elk River, MN" (MM Docket No. 98-208; RM-9396), received October 25, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5884. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments; FM Broadcast Stations; Cal-Nev-Ari, Boulder City and Las Vegas, NV" (MM Docket No. 93-279; DA-99-2115), received October 25, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5885. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments; FM Broadcast Stations; Mount Olive and Staunton, IL," (MM Docket No. 99-167; RM 9391), received October 25, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5886. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments; FM Broadcast Stations; Fremont and Holton, MI," (MM Docket No. 98-180; RM 9365), received October 25, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5887. A communication from the Acting Assistant Chief Counsel, Office of Motor Carrier Safety, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Motor Carrier Safety Regulations" (RIN2125-AE70), received October 25, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5888. A communication from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety/Security Zone Regulations; Mile 94.0 to Mile 96.0, Lower Mississippi River, Above Head of Passes (COTP New Orleans-99-027)" (RIN2115-AA97) (1999-0067), received October 25, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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 and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 1798. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide enhanced protection for investors and innovators, protect patent terms, reduce patent litigation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 1799. A bill for the relief of Sergio Lozano; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRAHAM:

S. 1800. A bill to amend the Food Stamp Act of 1977 to improve onsite inspections of State food stamp programs, to provide grants to develop community partnerships and innovative outreach strategies for food stamp and related programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MOYNIHAN:

S. 1801. A bill to provide for the identification, collection, and review for declassification of records and materials that are of extraordinary public interest to the people of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1802. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on instant print film; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROBB (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REID, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 1803. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend permanently and expand the research tax credit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MCCAIN:

S. 1804. A bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Science Technology and the Director of the National Science Foundation, to establish a program for increasing the United States's scientific, technology, and mathematical resources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. JEFFORDS):

S. 1805. A bill to restore food stamp benefits for aliens, to provide States with flexibility in administering the food stamp vehicle allowance, to index the excess shelter expense deduction to inflation, to authorize additional appropriations to purchase and make available additional commodities under the emergency food assistance program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. HOLLINGS, and Mr. CLELAND):

S. 1806. A bill to authorize the payment of a gratuity to certain members of the Armed Forces who served at Bataan and Corregidor during World War II, or the surviving spouses of such members, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SANTORUM (for himself and Mr. SPECTER):

S. 1807. A bill to provide for increased access to airports in the United Kingdom by United States air carriers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SPECTER (for himself and Mr. BIDEN):

S. 1808. A bill to reauthorize and improve the drug court grant program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. FRIST, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. REED, Mr. DODD, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 1809. A bill to improve service systems for individuals with developmental disabilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. KERREY, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. SARBANES):

S. 1810. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify and improve veterans' claims and appellate procedures; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 1811. A bill for the relief of Sophia Shiklivsky and her husband Vasili Chidivski; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WARNER:

S. 1812. A bill to establish a commission on a nuclear testing treaty, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. FRIST, Mr. JEFFORDS, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 1813. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide additional support for and to expand clinical research programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SMITH of Oregon (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. MACK, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. HELMS, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BUNNING, and Mr. VOINOVICH):

S. 1814. A bill to establish a system of registries of temporary agricultural workers to provide for a sufficient supply of such workers and to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to streamline procedures for the admission and extension of stay of non-immigrant agricultural workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. SMITH of Oregon):

S. 1815. A bill to provide for the adjustment of status of certain aliens who previously performed agricultural work in the United States to that of aliens who are lawfully admitted to the United States to perform that work; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. Res. 207. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding fair access to Japanese telecommunications facilities and services; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. MOYNIHAN):

S. Con. Res. 62. A concurrent resolution recognizing and honoring the heroic efforts of the Air National Guard's 109th Airlift Wing and its rescue of Dr. Jerri Nielsen from the South Pole; to the Committee on Armed Services.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 1798. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide enhanced protection for investors and innovators, protect patent terms, reduce patent litigation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

THE AMERICAN INVENTORS PROTECTION ACT OF 1999

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I am pleased to rise today, along with the Ranking Member on the Judiciary Committee, Senator LEAHY, to introduce the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999. Simply put, this legislation reflects several years of discussions and consensus-building efforts in the Senate and the House, and represents the most important and most comprehensive reforms to our nation's patent system in nearly half a century. As we prepare to enter a new millennium built on high-tech growth, the Internet, and electronic commerce, in which American competitiveness will depend on the strength of the patent system and the protections it affords, this legislation could not be more timely.

The last time the Patent Act underwent a significant update was in 1952. Since then, our Nation has experienced an unprecedented explosion of technology growth and a tremendous expansion of the global market for the fruits of American ingenuity. Yet our patent laws have remained largely unchanged in the face of the new demands engendered by these developments. This legislation—which many of my colleagues will recognize as a compromise version of the Omnibus Patent Act passed by the Judiciary Committee with near unanimity more than 2 years ago—will effect targeted changes to the patent code to equip the patent system to meet the challenges of new technology and new markets as we approach the new millennium, while at the same time promoting American competitiveness and ensuring adequate protection for American innovators, both at home and abroad.

As many of my colleagues know, this legislation is the product of several years of discussion and extensive efforts to reach agreement on a responsible package of patent reforms. The Senate made significant progress toward consensus during the last Congress when several key compromises were reached in the Judiciary Committee to strengthen the bill's protections for small businesses and independent inventors and to preserve America's competitive edge in the face of increasing global competition. I was pleased this year to see those efforts continued in the House, where the supporters and former opponents of the bill agreed to sit down and work through their differences to produce a constructive patent reform bill. The result is H.r. 1907, which has 59 cospon-

sors in the House—including the most ardent opponents of prior reform measures—and was passed in the House by a 376-43 vote.

In many ways, the House-passed "American Inventors Protection Act" builds upon the compromises reached in the Senate during the last Congress. For example, the widespread agreement on 18-month publication of patent applicants is centered around the Senate compromise that allowed inventors to avoid disclosure of their applications by not filing their application abroad, where 18-month publication is now the rule. Similarly, estoppel provisions similar to those agreed to in the Senate form a key component on the broad-based agreement on patent reexamination reform. I am pleased to see these compromises preserved and to see that the House has built upon them to reach the sort of broad consensus on patent reform that I have long advocated.

The bill Senator LEAHY and I are introducing today in the Senate preserves these important compromises and adds to them a number of important provisions. For example, our bill includes a title not in the House bill to reduce patent fees for only the second time in history (the first time fees were reduced was last year in a bill Senator LEAHY and I ushered through the Senate), to ensure that trademark fees are spent only for trademark-related operations, and to require a study of alternative fee structures to encourage maximum participation by the American inventor community. Our bill also adds important provisions to enhance protections for our national security by preventing disclosure of sensitive and strategic patent-related information and by helping to identify national security positions at the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) and obtain appropriate security clearances for PTO employees. The bill also prohibits the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks from entering into an agreement to exchange U.S. patent data with certain foreign countries without explicit authorization from the Secretary of Commerce. Also in our bill is a requirement that GAO conduct a study on patents issued for methods of doing or conducting business, which have been the subject of a 75 percent increase in applications at the PTO/

Like the House bill, our legislation will achieve a number of important substantive patent reforms, consistent with the principles of protecting American inventors, our national competitiveness, and the integrity of our patent system.

First, the bill provides inventors with enhanced protections against invention promotion scams by creating a private right of action for inventors harmed by deceptive and fraudulent practices and by requiring invention promoters to disclose certain information in writing prior to entering into a contract for invention promotion services. An inventor who is harmed by any