

March 31, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-9204. A communication from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Inspector General for the period October 1, 1999 through March 31, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-9205. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Inspector General for the period October 1, 1999 through March 31, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-9206. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Inspector General for the period October 1, 1999 through March 31, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-9207. A communication from the Chairwoman of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Inspector General for the period October 1, 1999 through March 31, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-9208. A communication from the Executive Director of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Inspector General for the period October 1, 1999 through March 31, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-9209. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Inspector General for the period October 1, 1999 through March 31, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-9210. A communication from the Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of General Accounting Office reports issued or released in April 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-9211. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Performance Plan for fiscal year 2001; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CAMPBELL, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without an amendment:

S. 1967. A bill to make technical corrections to the status of certain land held in trust for the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, to take certain land into trust for that Band, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-307).

By Mr. SHELBY, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2720. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. HUTCHINSON:

S. 2713. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to require States to use Federal highway funds for projects in high priority corridors, and for others; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. JEFFORDS, and Mr. BREAUX):

S. 2714. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a higher purchase price limitation applicable to mortgage subsidy bonds based on median family income; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TORRICELLI:

S. 2715. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to ballistic identification of handguns; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. 2716. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Transportation and the Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Administration from taking action to finalize, implement, or enforce a rule relating to the hours of service of drivers for motor carriers; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 2717. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to gradually increase the estate tax deduction for family-owned business interests; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire:

S. 2718. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives to introduce new technologies to reduce energy consumption in buildings; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Mr. HATCH, and Mr. INOUE):

S. 2719. A bill to provide for business development and trade promotion for Native Americans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. SHELBY:

S. 2720. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. THOMAS (for himself, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. REID, Mr. BREAUX, and Mr. CONRAD):

S. 2721. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the deduction for lobbying expenses in connection with State legislation; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. AKAKA (for himself and Mr. LEVIN):

S. 2722. A bill to authorize the award of the Medal of Honor to Ed W. Freeman, James K. Okubo, and Andrew J. Smith; considered and passed.

By Mr. INHOFE:

S. 2723. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to permit the Governor of a State to waive oxygen content requirement for reformulated gasoline, to encourage development of voluntary standards to prevent and control releases of methyl tertiary butyl ether from underground storage tanks, to establish a program to phase out the use of methyl tertiary butyl ester, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. JEFFORDS:

S. 2724. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Army to carry out an assessment of State, municipal, and private dams in the State of Vermont and to make appropriate modifications to the dams; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KERREY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. JEFFORDS):

S. 2725. A bill to provide for a system of sanctuaries for chimpanzees that have been designated as being no longer needed in research conducted or supported by the Public Health Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BAYH (for himself, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BOND, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. L. CHAFEE, Mr. DODD, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. GORTON, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. GREGG, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KERREY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. THURMOND, and Mr. VOINOVICH):

S.Res. 322. A resolution encouraging and promoting greater involvement of fathers in their children's lives and designating June 18, 2000, as "Responsible Father's Day"; considered and agreed to.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. JEFFORDS, and Mr. BREAUX):

S. 2714. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a higher purchase price limitation applicable to mortgage subsidy bonds based on median family income; to the Committee on Finance.

#### THE HOME OWNERSHIP MADE EASY (HOME) ACT

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I am introducing the Home Ownership Made Easy (HOME) Act, which will expand home ownership opportunities for low- and moderate-income, first-time home buyers.

Providing affordable, fair, and quality housing for all people is important. Home ownership is not only the American Dream, it also increases pride in community, schools, and safety. Too often, however, American workers who make too much money to qualify for public assistance and too little money to afford a home on their own are stuck in the middle. These families are stuck in substandard housing or in neighborhoods that are far from their jobs. Fortunately, in the early 1980's, Congress established the Mortgage Revenue Bond (MRB) program, which allowed state and local governments to issue tax-exempt bonds to finance mortgages at below-market interest rates to first-time home buyers. Unfortunately, as sometimes happens in government programs, administrative barriers have rendered the program less effective in recent years.

The Internal Revenue Service and the Department of Housing and Urban Development have been unable to collect and maintain statistical data on average area purchase prices in all states. In Arkansas for instance, the MRB Program is based on an average area purchase price that was established in 1993. This means that, while housing prices are going up, the