

Gerald Fisher, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

By Mr. HATCH for the Committee on the Judiciary:

Loretta E. Lynch, of New York, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York for the term of four years.

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. FEINGOLD (for himself, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. WELLSTONE):

S. 3128. A bill to establish the Dairy Farmer Viability Commission; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. HELMS:

S. 3129. An original bill to provide for international debt forgiveness and the strengthening of anticorruption measures and accountability at international financial institutions; from the Committee on Foreign Relations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. MACK, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. KYL, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. HELMS, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. WARNER, Mr. INHOFE, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. HUTCHINSON, and Mr. FRIST):

S. 3130. A bill to provide for post-conviction DNA testing, to facilitate the exchange by law enforcement agencies of DNA identification information relating to felony offenders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 3131. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure that the Secretary of Health and Human Services provides appropriate guidance to physicians and other health care providers that are attempting to properly submit claims under the medicare program and to ensure that the Secretary targets truly fraudulent activity for enforcement of medicare billing regulations, rather than inadvertent billing errors; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WARNER:

S. 3132. A bill to expand the boundary of the George Washington Birthplace National Monument, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 3133. A bill to provide compensation to producers for underestimation of wheat protein content; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BAUCUS:

S. 3134. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an income tax credit for certain charitable conservation contributions of land by small farmers and ranchers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CLELAND (for himself and Mr. HAGEL):

S. 3135. A bill to direct the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress to establish a program to collect video and audio recordings of personal histories and testimonials of American war veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 3136. A bill for the relief of Edwardo Reyes, Dianelita Reyes, and their children, Susy Damaris Reyes, Danny Daniel Reyes, and Brandon Neil Reyes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. BYRD, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. ROBB, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LOTT, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. HELMS, Mr. DODD, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. BAYH, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. MILLER, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. MACK, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. KYL, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. GREGG, Mr. REID, and Mr. DOMENICI):

S. 3137. A bill to establish a commission to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the birth of James Madison; read the first time.

By Mr. GRAMS:

S. 3138. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the amount and availability of the child tax credit and make the credit refundable; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 3139. A bill to ensure that no alien is removed, denied a benefit under the Immigration and Nationality Act, or otherwise deprived of liberty, based on evidence that is kept secret from the alien; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. BUNNING):

S. 3140. A bill to transfer administrative jurisdiction over land of the Tennessee Valley Authority within the Daniel Boone National Forest to the Secretary of Agriculture and compensate the Authority for the transfer; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mr. LEAHY, and Ms. MIKULSKI):

S.J. Res. 54. A joint resolution expressing the sense of the Congress with respect to the peace process in Northern Ireland; read the first time.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

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

S. Res. 362. A resolution recognizing and honoring Roberto Clemente as a great humanitarian and an athlete of unfathomable skill; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KERREY:

S. Res. 363. A resolution commending the late Ernest Burgess, M.D., for his service to the Nation and the international community, and expressing the condolences of the Senate to his family on his death; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. INOUE:

S. Con. Res. 139. A concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol grounds for the dedication of the Japanese-American Memorial to Patriotism; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LOTT (for himself, Mr. HELMS, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. KYL, Mrs.

HUTCHINSON, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. BENNETT, and Mr. HUTCHINSON):

S. Con. Res. 140. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding high-level visits by Taiwanese officials to the United States; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. MACK, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. KYL, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. HELMS, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. WARNER, Mr. INHOFE, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. HUTCHINSON, and Mr. FRIST):

S. 3130. A bill to provide for post-conviction DNA testing, to facilitate the exchange by law enforcement agencies of DNA identification information relating to felony offenders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE INTEGRITY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ACT

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, in the last decade, DNA testing has become the most reliable forensic technique for identifying criminals when biological evidence of the crime is recovered. While DNA testing is standard in pre-trial investigations today, the issue of post-conviction DNA testing has emerged in recent years as the technology for testing has improved. Because biological evidence, such as semen or hair from a rape, is often preserved by authorities years after trial, it is possible to submit preserved biological evidence for DNA testing. In cases that were tried before DNA technology existed, and in which biological evidence was preserved after conviction, post-conviction testing is feasible.

While the exact number is subject to dispute, post-conviction DNA testing has exonerated prisoners who were convicted of crimes committed before DNA technology existed. In some of these cases, the post-conviction DNA testing that exonerated a wrongly convicted person led to the apprehension of the actual criminal. In response to these cases, the Senate Judiciary Committee has examined various state post-conviction DNA statutes, held a hearing on post-conviction DNA testing, and sought the expertise of federal and state prosecutors and criminal defense lawyers.

To ensure that post-conviction DNA testing is available in appropriate cases, I, along with Senators LOTT, NICKLES, MACK, MCCAIN, THURMOND, GRASSLEY, KYL, ABRAHAM, DEWINE, SESSIONS, R. SMITH, G. SMITH, COLLINS, FITZGERALD, HELMS, SANTORUM, HAGEL,