

the surface estate to certain land in the State of Wyoming in exchange for certain private land will not result in the removal of the land from operation of the mining laws.

S. 1088. An act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain administrative sites in national forests in the State of Arizona, to convey certain land to the City of Sedona, Arizona for a wastewater treatment facility, and for other purposes.

S. 1211. An act to amend the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act to authorize additional measures to carry out the control of salinity upstream of Imperial Dam in a cost-effective manner.

S. 1218. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to issue to the Landusky School District, without consideration, a patent for the surface and mineral estates of certain lots, and for other purposes.

S. 1275. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to produce and sell products and to sell publications relating to the Hoover Dam, and to deposit revenues generated from the sales into the Colorado River Dam fund.

S. 1367. An act to amend the Act which established the Saint-Gaudens Historic Site, in the State of New Hampshire, by modifying the boundary and for other purposes.

S. 1778. An act to provide for equal exchanges of land around the Cascade Reservoir.

S. 1894. An act to provide for the conveyance of certain land to Park County, Wyoming.

S. 2069. An act to permit the conveyance of certain land in Powell, Wyoming.

S. 2300. An act to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to increase the maximum acreage of Federal leases for coal that may be held by an entity in any 1 State.

S. 2425. An act to authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to participate in the planning, design, and construction of the Bend Feed Canal Pipeline Project, Oregon, and for other purposes.

S. 2872. An act to improve the cause of action for misrepresentation of Indian arts and crafts.

S. 2882. An act to authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to conduct certain feasibility studies to augment water supplies for the Klamath Project, Oregon and California, and for other purposes.

S. 2951. An act to authorize the Commissioner of Reclamation to conduct a study to investigate opportunities to better manage the water resources in the Salmon Creek watershed of the upper Columbia River.

S. 2977. An act to assist in the establishment of an interpretive center and museum in the vicinity of the Diamond Valley Lake in southern California to ensure the protection and interpretation of the paleontology discoveries made at the lake and to develop a trail system for the lake for use by pedestrians and nonmotorized vehicles.

S. 3022. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain irrigation facilities to the Nampa and Meridian Irrigation District.

H.R. 2498. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for recommendations of the Secretary of Health and Human Services regarding the placement of automatic external defibrillators in Federal buildings in order to improve survival rates of individuals who experience cardiac arrest in such buildings, and to establish protections from civil liability arising from the emergency use of the devices.

H.R. 4788. An act to amend the United States Grain Standards Act to extend the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture to collect fees to cover the cost of services performed under the Act, to extend the authorization of appropriations for the Act, and to improve the administration of the Act.

H.R. 4868. An act to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to modify temporarily certain rates of duty, to make other technical amendments to the trade laws, and for other purposes.

At 11:25 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 1670. An act to revise the boundary of Fort Matanzas National Monument, and for other purposes.

S. 1880. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the health of minority individuals.

S. 2020. An act to adjust the boundary of the Natchez Trace Parkway, Mississippi, and for other purposes.

S. 2789. An act to amend the Congressional Award Act to establish a Congressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts Education Board.

S. 3239. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide special immigration status for certain United States international broadcasting employees.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 207. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to make permanent the authority under which comparability allowances may be paid to Government physicians, and to provide that such allowances be treated as part of basic pay for retirement purposes.

H.R. 1653. An act to complete the orderly withdrawal of the NOAA from the civil administration of the Pribilof Islands, Alaska, and to assist in the conservation of coral reefs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2903. An act to reauthorize the Striped Bass Conservation Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4020. An act to authorize the addition of land to Sequoia National Park, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5540. An act to extend for 11 additional months the period for which chapter 12 of title 11 of the United States Code is re-enacted; to provide for additional temporary bankruptcy judges; and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

A message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 782. An act to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to extend authorizations of appropriations for programs under the Act, to modernize programs and services for older individuals, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4864. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to reaffirm and clarify the duty of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to assist claimants for benefits under laws administered by the Secretary, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

At 12:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 122. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes.

At 3:00 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2462) to amend the Organic Act of Guam, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House disagreed to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4846) to establish the National Recording Registry in the Library of Congress to maintain and preserve recordings that are culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 397. Concurrent resolution voicing concern about serious violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in most states of Central Asia, including substantial noncompliance with their Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) commitments on democratization and the holding of free and fair elections.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, November 1, 2000, he had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 501. An act to address resource management issues in Glacier Bay National Park, Alaska.

S. 503. An act designating certain land in the San Isabel National Forest in the State of Colorado as the "Spanish Peaks Wilderness."

S. 610. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management in Washakie County and Big Horn County, Wyoming, to the Westside Irrigation District, Wyoming, and for other purposes.

S. 710. An act to authorize the feasibility study on the preservation of certain Civil War battlefields along the Vicksburg Campaign Trail.

S. 748. An act to improve Native hiring and contracting by the Federal Government within the State of Alaska, and for other purposes.

S. 1030. An act to provide that the conveyance by the Bureau of Land Management of the surface estate to certain land in the State of Wyoming in exchange for certain private land will not result in the removal of the land from operation of the mining laws.

S. 1088. An act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain administrative sites in national forests in the State of Arizona, to convey certain land to the City of Sedona, Arizona for a wastewater treatment facility, and for other purposes.

S. 1211. An act to amend the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act to authorize additional measures to carry out the control of salinity upstream of Imperial Dam in a cost-effective manner.

S. 1218. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to issue to the Landusky School District, without consideration, a patent for the surface and mineral estates of certain lots, and for other purposes.

S. 1275. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to produce and sell products and to sell publications relating to the Hoover Dam, and to deposit revenues generated

from the sales into the Colorado River Dam fund.

S. 1367. An act to amend the Act which established the Saint-Gaudes Historic Site, in the State of New Hampshire, by modifying the boundary and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ROTH, from the Committee on Finance, without amendment:

S. 3267. An original bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to maintain retiree health benefits under the Coal Industry Retiree Health Benefit Act of 1992 and adjust inequities related to the United Mine Workers of America Combined Benefit Fund (Rept. No. 106-512).

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. ROTH:

S. 3267. An original bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to maintain retiree health benefits under the Coal Industry Retiree Health Benefit Act of 1992 and adjust inequities related to the United Mine Workers of America Combined Benefit Fund; from the Committee on Finance; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. SMITH of Oregon:

S. 3268. A bill to amend the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 to improve provisions concerning the recovery of damages for injuries resulting from oil spills; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S.J. Res. 56. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to abolish the electoral college and to provide for the direct popular election of the President and Vice President of the United States; 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. LOTT:

S. Con. Res. 159. A concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

Mr. SMITH of Oregon:

S. 3268. A bill to amend the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 to improve provisions concerning the recovery of damages for injuries resulting from oil spills; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

FISHERMEN AND AQUACULTURE OIL SPILL ASSISTANCE ACT

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, today I am introducing legislation to address concerns raised by a number of my constituents with respect to the Oil

Pollution Act in the aftermath of the New Carissa incident. This legislation, the Fishermen and Aquaculture Oil Spill Assistance Act, is the first step toward ensuring that small businesses, such as the fishermen and shellfish producers in my state, who are impacted by these oil spills, are not victimized a second time by a lengthy claims procedure under the OPA.

For the benefit of my colleagues who are not aware of this incident, the New Carissa was a large wood-chip freighter that ran aground near Coos Bay, Oregon last year and leaked 60,000 gallons of oil. This devastated the coastal environment in that area, and temporarily damaged some of the important oyster beds for which Coos Bay is well-known in the seafood industry. In fact, we still have the ship's stern section sitting off-shore, marring the natural beauty of the Oregon coast.

Over the last several months I have heard from my constituents from that part of the Oregon coast, who are extremely dissatisfied with both the emergency response planning and the claims process under the Oil Pollution Act as it applies to aquaculture producers. With respect to the emergency response plans, the complaint has been that the concerns of shellfish producers are not necessarily taken into account in the development of these plans and that quick action in the early hours of a spill could protect the areas where the oyster beds are present. On the matter of the claims process, the complaint has been that there is little small businesses can do in the immediate term if the responsible party fails to make the interim payments to claimants required under the OPA.

This legislation addresses the concerns by authorizing the President to offer loans to fishermen and aquaculture producers who are mired in the claims process, but have not been receiving the required interim payments. This would help these small, often family-owned, businesses meet their most pressing expenses should the claims procedure become a drawn out affair. Secondly, this legislation calls upon the Secretary of Commerce and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to study the claims process and the emergency response plans to determine if they adequately protect the interests of seafood producers and submit any recommendations to the Congress. Ultimately, my aim is to ensure that future oil spill incidents do not cause the same problems to others that oyster producers in Oregon have suffered following the New Carissa spill.

I am pleased that my friend from the Oregon delegation, Mr. DEFAZIO, intends to introduce a companion measure today in the House of Representatives. Over the upcoming holidays we intend to look over this matter again and reintroduce this legislation, after receiving further feedback from our constituents, early in the 107th Congress.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of this legislation be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3268

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Fishery and Aquaculture Oil Spill Assistance Act".

SEC. 2. INTEREST; PARTIAL PAYMENT OF CLAIMS.

Section 1005 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2705) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(C) LOAN PROGRAM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall establish a loan program to assist injured parties in meeting financial obligations during the claims procedure described in section 1013.

“(2) CONDITION FOR LOAN.—A loan may be awarded under paragraph (1) only to a fisherman or aquaculture producer to whom a responsible party has failed to provide an interim payment under subsection (a).”.

SEC. 3. USES OF THE FUND.

Section 1012(a) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (5)(C), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(6) the making of loans to assist any injured party in paying financial obligations during the claims procedure described in section 1013.”.

SEC. 4. STUDY.

Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall submit to Congress a study that contains—

(1) an assessment of the effectiveness of the claims procedures and emergency response programs under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) concerning claims filed by, and emergency responses carried out to protect the interests of, fishermen and aquaculture producers; and

(2) any legislative or other recommendations to improve the procedures and programs referred to in paragraph (1).

Mr. DURBIN:

S.J. Res. 56. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to abolish the electoral college and to provide for the direct popular election of the President and Vice President of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, earlier this morning I held a press conference with a colleague of mine from the State of Illinois, RAY LAHOOD. RAY LAHOOD is a Congressman from the city of Peoria, and a Republican. It was interesting to see a bipartisan press conference at this point in the congressional session.

Congressman LAHOOD and I agree on an issue which could become supremely important in just a few days. Given the tight Presidential race this year, we have the possibility that the winning candidate for President might not win the popular vote in our country. This