

joint research collaborations with Lawrence Livermore include such innovative projects as photonic probes testing, which is used to instantly detect cancer and save patients from unnecessary biopsies.

The center serves a population of five million people throughout Northern and Central California, Nevada, Arizona and Oregon and cares for about 3,000 newly diagnosed cancer patients each year.

I commend the UC Davis Cancer Center on this impressive achievement, and I extend my confidence that the center will make meaningful contributions to our search for a cure for this devastating disease. ●

PEACHES FROM SOUTH CAROLINA FARMERS

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Madam President, today, peaches from my home State have been delivered to offices throughout the Senate and the U.S. Capitol. Those of us here in Washington can cool off from the summer heat with fresh, juicy peaches, thanks to South Carolina's peach farmers.

For a tiny State, South Carolina is second, only to California, in peach production. This year we planted 16,000 acres, and expect to harvest 160 to 180 million pounds—twice what we harvested last year when cold weather devastated the crop. Because of hot, dry weather this past month, the peaches are slightly smaller, but the small size usually results in a sweeter peach for the consumer. So with all due respect to my colleagues from Georgia, South Carolina is known as the "Tastier Peach State" for good reason.

Earlier this spring, in a bipartisan fashion, this Congress passed a generous farm bill that when times are tough, will help the people who feed us. I voted for it. I did so because farmers are dedicated people who need support they can depend on. I hope as Senators and their staffs feast on these peaches, they think about the farmers who get up early every morning and labor all summer in the heat and humidity to bring us this delicious, nutritious, and satisfying harvest. We are so fortunate to have in this country safe, plentiful, and affordable fresh fruit and vegetables—but this Congress can never take that for granted.

I thank the South Carolina Peach Council, and especially David Winkles and the South Carolina Farm Bureau, for giving the U.S. Senate a taste of South Carolina. And I remind the rest of America to ask for South Carolina peaches at their groceries. ●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages

from the President of the United States submitting a withdrawal and sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 3:34 p.m., 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 bill:

S. 2594. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase silver on the open market when the silver stockpile is depleted, to be used to mint coins.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 4954. An act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a voluntary program for prescription drug coverage under the Medicare Program, to modernize and reform payments and the regulatory structure of the Medicare Program, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-7718. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Hedging Transactions" (RIN1545-AY02) received on June 26, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7719. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Rev. Proc. 97-27 and Rev. Proc. 2002-9" (Rev. Proc. 2002-19) received on June 26, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7720. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rockpile Viticultural Area" (2000R-436P) received on June 26, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7721. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Delegation of Authority" (RIN1512-AC59) received on June 26, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7722. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning emigration laws and policies of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Moldova, The Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7723. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue

Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Waiver of 60-Month Bar on Reconsolidation After Disaffiliation" (Rev. Proc. 2002-32, 2002-20) received on July 3, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7724. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Bureau of Labor Statistics Price Indexes for Department Stores—February 2002" (Rev. Rul. 2002-29) received on July 3, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7725. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Weighted Average Interest Rate Update Notice" (Notice 2002-32) received on July 3, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7726. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Information Reporting for Payments of Interest on Qualified Education Loans; Magnetic Media Filing Requirements for Information Returns" (RIN1545-AW67; TD8992) received on July 3, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7727. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Equity Options with Flexible Terms" (RIN1545-AX66; TD8990) received on June 3, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7728. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Guidance Necessary to Facilitate Electronic Tax Administration" (RIN1545-AY04; REG-107184-00) received on June 3, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7729. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes" (Rev. Proc. 2002-31) received on June 3, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7730. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rev. Proc. 2002-33; Additional First Year Depreciation" (RP-114523-02) received on June 3, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7731. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Appeals Settlement Guidelines: Gaming—Class Life of Floating Gaming Facilities" (UIL 168.20-07) received on June 3, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7732. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Designation by Common Parent of a New Agent for the Consolidated Group" (Rev. Proc. 2002-43, 2002-28) received on June 3, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7733. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revenue Ruling on Accelerated Deductions" (Rev. Rul. 2002-46) received on June 3, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7734. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule