

I applaud the osteopathic medical community for emphasizing patient access issues, so important to my home state of Missouri and the nation.

Take for example, rural health. Many citizens of my home state face limited availability of health care services in their communities. Access to health care can be established only when medical professionals are available to provide quality health care. We must do more to ensure that all Americans have access to timely health care and part of the solution is to place physicians in rural communities. Let's not forget the access to care barriers facing minority populations, children and the elderly.

Over the past few years, medical liability premiums have escalated out of control causing health care quality, access, and cost problems. While some states have passed professional liability insurance (PLI) system reforms, not every state has effective laws in place. The osteopathic medical community recognizes many states face critical PLI system problems.

For more than a century, D.O.s have made a difference in the lives and health of my fellow citizens in Missouri. I am proud to say that the birth of this profession took place in Northwest Missouri. Overall, more than 100 million patient visits are made each year to osteopathic physicians. D.O.s are committed to serving the needs of rural and underserved communities and make up 15 percent of the total physician population in towns of 10,000 or less.

Similar to requirements set for M.D.s, D.O.s must successfully complete four years of medical education at one of the nation's 20 osteopathic medical schools; a one-year internship; and a multi-year residency program. Throughout this education, D.O.s are trained to understand how the musculoskeletal system influences the condition of all other body systems. Many patients want this extra knowledge a part of their health care. Individuals may call (866) 346-3236 to find a D.O. in their community.

In recognition of NOM Week, I would like to congratulate the over 1,700 D.O.s in Missouri, the 616 students at the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, 871 students at the University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine and the 47,000 D.O.s represented by the American Osteopathic Association for their contributions to the good health of the American people.●

#### 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 Sen-

ate messages from the President of the United States submitting a sundry nomination which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:27 p.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, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 556. An act to prevent the use of certain bank instruments for unlawful Internet gambling, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2426. An act to encourage the development and integrated use by the public and private sectors of remote sensing and other geospatial information, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3450. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize and strengthen the health centers program and National Health Services Corps, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3534. An act to provide for the settlement of certain land claims of Cherokee, Choctaw, and Chickasaw Nations to the Arkansas Riverbed in Oklahoma.

H.R. 3802. An act to amend the Education Land Grant Act to require the Secretary of Agriculture to pay the costs of environmental reviews with respect to conveyances under that Act.

H.R. 3813. An act to modify requirements relating to allocation of interest that accrues to the Abandonment Mine Reclamation Fund.

H.R. 4013. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish an Office of Rare Diseases at the National Institutes of Health, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4014. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the development of products for rare diseases.

H.R. 4125. An act to make improvements in the operation and administration of the Federal courts, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4129. An act to amend the Central Utah Project Completion Act to clarify the responsibilities of the Secretary of the Interior with respect to the Central Utah Project, to redirect unexpended budget authority for the Central Utah Project for wastewater treatment and reuse and other purposes, to provide for prepayment of repayment contracts for municipal and industrial water delivery facilities, and to eliminate a deadline for such prepayment.

H.R. 4141. An act to authorize the acquisition by exchange of lands for inclusion in the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, Clark County, Nevada, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4692. An act to amend the Act entitled "An Act to Authorize the Establishment of the Andersonville National Historic Site in the State of Georgia, and for other purposes," to provide for the addition of certain donated lands to the Andersonville National Historic Site.

H.R. 4793. An act to authorize grants through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for mosquito control programs to prevent mosquito-borne diseases.

H.R. 4830. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Southern Campaign of the Revolution Herit-

age Area in South Carolina, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4851. An act to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6910 South Yorktown Avenue in Tulsa, Oklahoma, as the "Robert Wayne Jenkins Station."

H.R. 4874. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to disclaim any Federal interest in lands adjacent to Spirit Lake and Twin Lakes in the State of Idaho resulting from possible omission of lands from an 1880 survey.

H.R. 4944. An act to designate the Cedar Creek Battlefield and Belle Grove National Historical Park as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4968. An act to provide for the exchange of certain lands in Utah.

H.R. 5091. An act to increase the amount of student loan forgiveness available to qualified teachers, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5125. An act to amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish a battlefield acquisition grant program.

H.R. 5303.

H.R. 5460. An act to reauthorize and amend the Federal Water Project Recreation Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5472. An act to extend for 6 months the period for which chapter 12 of title 11 of the United States Code is reenacted.

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

H. Con. Res. 291. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress with respect to the disease endometriosis.

H. Con. Res. 425. Concurrent resolution calling for the full appropriation of the State and tribal shares of the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund.

H. Con. Res. 451. Concurrent resolution recognizing the importance of teaching United States history and civics in elementary and secondary schools, and for other purposes.

H. Con. Res. 484. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding personal safety for children, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bill, with amendments:

S. 434. An act to provide equitable compensation to the Yankton Sioux Tribe of South Dakota and the Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska for the loss of value of certain lands.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following resolution:

H. Res. 566. Resolution stating that the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable Patsy T. Mink, a Representative from the State of Hawaii.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 556. An act to prevent the use of certain bank instruments for unlawful Internet gambling, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 3813. An act to modify requirements relating to allocation of interest that accrues to the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 5091. An act to increase the amount of student loan forgiveness available to qualified teachers, and for other purposes; to the

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 5425. An act to amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish a battlefield acquisition grant program; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 5460. An act to reauthorize and amend the Federal Water Project Recreation Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 3018. A bill amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to enhance beneficiary access to quality health care services under the medicare program, and for other purposes.

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 3450. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize and strengthen the health centers program and the National Health Service Corps, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5472. An act to extend for 6 months the period for which chapter 12 of title 11 of the United States Code is reenacted.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 5534. An act to provide for the settlement of certain land claims of Cherokee, Choctaw, and Chickasaw Nations to the Arkansas Riverbed in Oklahoma.

H.R. 4793. An act to authorize grants through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for mosquito control programs to prevent mosquito-borne diseases.

The following joint resolution was read the first time:

S.J.Res. 46. Joint resolution to authorize the use of United States Armed Forces against Iraq.

#### 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-9219. A communication from the Deputy Director of the Congressional Budget Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Sequestration Update Report for Fiscal Year 2003, referred jointly, pursuant to the order of January 30, 1975 as modified by the order of April 11, 1986, to the Committees on Appropriations; the Budget; Armed Services; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Energy and Natural Resources; Environment and Public Works; Finance; Foreign Relations; Governmental Affairs; the Judiciary; Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; Veterans' Affairs; Select Committee on Intelligence. Indian Affairs; and Rules and Administration.

EC-9220. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the OMB Sequestration Update Report for Fiscal Year 2003, re-

ferred jointly, pursuant to the order of January 30, 1975 as modified by the order of April 11, 1986, to the Committees on Appropriations; the Budget; Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Armed Services; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Energy and Natural Resources; Environment and Public Works; Finance; Foreign Relations; Governmental Affairs; Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; the Judiciary; Rules and Administration; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; Veterans' Affairs; Indian Affairs; and Select Committee on Intelligence.

#### PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-336. A resolution adopted by the Washington State Board of Accountancy relative to the regulation and enforcement of auditor ethical and technical standards; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

POM-337. A resolution adopted by the City Council of the City and County of Honolulu, Hawaii relative to restoring veterans' benefits to Filipino veterans of World War II; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

POM-338. A resolution adopted by the Rockland County Legislature of the State of New York relative to the Medicare Aural Rehabilitation and Hearing Aid Coverage Act of 2001; to the Committee on Finance.

POM-339. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of Rockland County, New York relative to the Training of Closed Captioners Act of 2001 and the Training for Realtime Writers Act of 2002; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

POM-340. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of Rockland County, New York relative to the Helping Children Succeed by Fully Funding the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

POM-341. A resolution adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission relative to the importation of seafood contaminated with antibiotics; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

POM-342. A House joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Maryland relative to HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

POM-343. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico relative to the impact of the military practices of the United States Navy on the environment, natural resources and health on the island municipality of Vieques; to the Committee on Armed Services.

POM-344. A resolution adopted by the State Guard Association of the United States relative to the Selective Service; to the Committee on Armed Services.

POM-345. A resolution adopted by the Council of the Borough of Fairview of the State of New Jersey relative to the Pledge of Allegiance; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-346. A resolution adopted by the Board of Aldermen of Boonton, New Jersey relative to the Pledge of Allegiance; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-347. A resolution adopted by the City Commission of Miami, Florida relative to the Pledge of Allegiance; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-348. A resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County

of Atlantic, Northfield, New Jersey, relative to the Pledge of Allegiance; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-349. A resolution adopted by the Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey relative to the Pledge of Allegiance; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-350. A resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren, Belvidere, New Jersey relative to the Pledge of Allegiance; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-351. A resolution adopted by the Council of the City of Douglasville, Georgia relative to the Pledge of Allegiance; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-352. A resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, California relative to the Pledge of Allegiance; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-353. A resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of Ocean City, New Jersey relative to the Pledge of Allegiance; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BIDEN, from the Committee on Foreign Relations:

Treaty Doc. 106-10 1997 AMENDMENT TO MONTREAL PROTOCOL (Exec. Rept. No. 107-10)

TEXT OF THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION OF ADVICE AND CONSENT:

*Resolved (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein),* That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of the Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, Adopted at Montreal on September 15-17, 1997, by the Ninth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (Treaty Doc. 106-10).

Treaty Doc. 106-32 Amendment to Montreal Protocol ("Beijing Amendment") (Exec. Rept. No. 107-10)

TEXT OF THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION OF ADVICE AND CONSENT:

*Resolved (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein),* That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of the Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, Adopted at Beijing on December 3, 1999, by the Eleventh Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (Treaty Doc. 106-32).

#### 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 Mrs. CLINTON:

S. 3027. A bill to require that certain procedures are followed in Federal buildings when a child is reported missing; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 3028. A bill to provide for a creditors' committee of employee and retiree representatives of a debtor in order to protect pensions of those employees and retirees; to the Committee on the Judiciary.