

EC-1778. A communication from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Seventh Report describing the administration of the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) educational assistance program, received on March 27, 2003; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-1779. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Veterans Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "VA Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program (2900-AL30) (Interim Final Rule)" received on March 27, 2003; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-1780. A communication from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pesticides; Tolerance Exemptions for Active and Inert Ingredients for Use in Antimicrobial Formulations (Food-Surface Sanitizing Solutions): Withdrawal of Direct Final Rule (FRL 7299-4)" received on March 27, 2003; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1781. A communication from the Acting Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "S-Metolachlor; Pesticide Tolerance (FRL7299-8)" received on March 27, 2003; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1782. A communication from the Chief Justice, Supreme Court of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report to Congress of the amendments to the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure that have been adopted by the Supreme Court of the United States, received on March 27, 2003; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1783. A communication from the Chief Justice, Supreme Court of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to the amendments to the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure that have been adopted by the Supreme Court of the United States, received on March 27, 2003; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1784. A communication from the Chief Justice, Supreme Court of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to the amendments to the Federal Rules of Evidence that have been adopted by the Supreme Court of the United States, received on March 27, 2003; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1785. A communication from the Chief Justice, Supreme Court of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to the amendments to the Federal Rule of Civil Procedure, received on March 27, 2003; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1786. A communication from the Chief Financial Officer, Paralyzed Veterans of America, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Audited Financial Statement for the fiscal year 2002; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1787. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to amending section 41.107(c)(1) of Part 22 of the Code of Federal Regulations, received on March 20, 2003; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1788. A communication from the Secretary, Judicial Conference of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a draft bill to create additional Article III judgeships and convert temporary judgeships to permanent judgeships in the U.S. court of appeals and district courts, received on March 26, 2003; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1789. A communication from the Program Manager, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,

Firearms, and Explosives, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of the Safe Explosives Act, Title XI, Subtitle C of Public Law 107-296 (RIN1140-AA00)" received on March 25, 2003; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

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

S. 762. An original bill making supplemental appropriations to support Department of Defense operations in Iraq, Department of Homeland Security, and Related Efforts for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-33).

By Ms. COLLINS, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 380. A bill to amend chapter 83 of title 5, United States Code, to reform the funding of benefits under the Civil Service Retirement System for employees of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of committee was submitted:

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

[Treaty Doc. 106-48 Joint Convention on Safety of Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste Management (Exec. Rept. No. 108-5)]

TEXT OF THE RESOLUTION OF RATIFICATION AS REPORTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Resolved (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein).

SECTION 1. SENATE ADVICE AND CONSENT SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS.

The Senate advises and consents to the ratification of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, done at Vienna on September 5, 1997 (Treaty Document 106-48), subject to the conditions of section 2.

SEC. 2. CONDITIONS.

The advice and consent of the Senate to ratification of the Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management is subject to the following conditions, which shall be binding upon the President:

(I) COMMITMENT TO REQUEST AND REVIEW REPORTS.—Not later than 45 days after the deposit of the United States instrument of ratification, the President shall certify to the appropriate committees of Congress that the United States will:

(A) request copies of all national reports submitted pursuant to Article 32 of the Convention; and

(B) comment in each review meeting held pursuant to Article 30 of the Convention (including each meeting of a subgroup) upon aspects of safety significance in any report submitted pursuant to Article 32 of the Convention by a Contracting Party that is receiving United States financial or technical assistance relating to the improvement of its nuclear and radiological safety and security practices.

(2) COMPLETE REVIEW OF INFORMATION BY THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT.—

(A) UNDERSTANDING.—The United States understands that neither Article 36 nor any

other provision of the Convention shall be construed as limiting the access of the legislative branch of the United States Government to any information relating to the operation of the Convention, including access to information described in Article 36 of the Convention.

(B) PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.—The Senate understands that the confidentiality of information provided by other Contracting Parties that is properly identified as protected pursuant to Article 36 of the Convention will be respected.

(C) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 45 days after the deposit of the United States instrument of ratification, the President shall certify to the appropriate committees of Congress that the Comptroller General of the United States shall be given full and complete access to—

(i) all information in the possession of the United States Government specifically relating to the operation of the Convention that is submitted by any other Contracting Party pursuant to Article 32 of the Convention, including any report or document; and

(ii) information specifically relating to any review or analysis by any department, agency, or other entity of the United States, or any official thereof, undertaken pursuant to Article 30 of the Convention, of any report or document submitted by any other Contracting Party.

(D) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Upon the request of the chairman of either of the appropriate committees of Congress, the President shall submit to the respective committee an unclassified report, and a classified annex as appropriate, detailing—

(i) how the objective of a high level of nuclear and radiological safety and security has been furthered by the operation of the Convention;

(ii) with respect to the operation of the Convention on an Article-by-Article basis—

(I) the situation addressed in the Article of the Convention;

(II) the results achieved under the Convention in implementing the relevant obligation under that Article of the Convention; and

(III) the plans and measures for corrective action on both a national and international level to achieve further progress in implementing the relevant obligation under that Article of the Convention; and

(iii) on a country-by-country basis, for each Contracting Party that is receiving United States financial or technical assistance relating to nuclear or radiological safety or security improvement—

(I) a list of all nuclear facilities within the country, including those installations operating, closed, and planned, and an identification of those nuclear facilities where significant corrective action is found necessary by assessment;

(II) a review of all safety or security assessments performed and the results of those assessments for existing nuclear facilities;

(III) a review of the safety and security of each nuclear facility using facility-specific data and analysis showing trends of safety or security significance and illustrated by particular issues at each facility;

(IV) a review of the position of the country as to the further operation of each nuclear facility in the country;

(V) an evaluation of the adequacy and effectiveness of the national legislative and regulatory framework in place in the country, including an assessment of the licensing system, inspection, assessment, and enforcement procedures governing the safety and security of nuclear facilities;

(VI) a description of the country's on-site and off-site emergency preparedness; and

(VII) the amount of financial and technical assistance relating to nuclear or radiological