

CONGRATULATING RUTH ABBEY

• Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate Ruth Abbey of Malta, MT on her 99th birthday. Ruth is a pillar of her community and an inspiration to many, including her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren. Ruth was a teacher for many years and subsequently served as County Superintendent of Schools.

Ruth is exemplary of our Montana way of life, and I am honored to offer my congratulations on this special occasion.●

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

• Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. On May 1, 2003, Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred in West Chester, OH. On September 11, 2001, a member of the West Chester's Islamic Center was brutally attacked in the mosque's parking lot. After the beating, members of the Islamic Center received a series of physical threats and the mosque was forced to close its doors.

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.●

ART STEPHENSON'S EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

• Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I would like to take this moment to pay tribute to Art Stephenson, former Director of NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center.

Mr. Stephenson joined Marshall in 1998, and has overseen the Center's work on critical NASA initiatives such as development of new reusable launch vehicles, Space Shuttle propulsion, advanced space transportation systems, research in microgravity, and science payload operations aboard the International Space Station, as well as the launch and continuing successful operation of the Chandra X-ray Observatory. Under his guidance the National Space Science Technology Center, a NASA partnership with local universities conducting cutting-edge propulsion research, was established and ground was broken for the critical Propulsion Research Laboratory.

For his exceptional contributions to the space program and the nation, Art Stephenson has been recognized with the NASA Outstanding Leadership

Medal, the NASA Group Achievement Award, and the NASA Exceptional Achievement Medal. In 2001, he was awarded an honorary doctorate by The University of Alabama System and was selected by the American Society for Engineering Management as the 2001 Engineering Manager of the Year. In 2002, he received the Career Achievement Award from the University of Redland, CA. Most recently, he was selected as the 2003 Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Award recipient by the Huntsville, AL, chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. He also received the 2003 Community Service Award from Oakwood College in Huntsville, AL.

The multiple honors and awards Art received are an indication of his devotion to our country and his dedication to NASA. Without question, Art Stephenson is a man of honor and ability, and I would like to add my thanks to those provided by so many others. His work has been given to the success of the NASA programs and he has done so without ever seeking personal gain or glory. I have been extraordinarily impressed with his integrity and commitment to service.

The State of Alabama, NASA, and the nation are immensely proud of Art's service. He will be missed by his colleagues at Marshall Space Flight Center and those at NASA Headquarters. Our Nation owes a great deal to the Stephenson family. Art's vision pushed us all toward the ultimate goal of space exploration. His vision and that goal are both worth noting today, and I am pleased to bring them to the attention of the Senate.●

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 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 RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of January 7, 2003, the Secretary of the Senate, on June 30, 2003, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills and joint resolution:

H.R. 2350. An Act to reauthorize the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant program through fiscal year 2003, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2474. An Act to authorize the Congressional Hunger Center to award Bill Emerson and Mickey Leland Hunger Fellowships for fiscal years 2003 and 2004.

Under the authority of the order of January 7, 2003, as modified on June 27, 2003, the enrolled bills were signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. ALLEN) on June 30, 2003.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:18 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 bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1. 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 the Medicare Program, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction to individuals for amounts contributed to health savings security accounts and health saving accounts, to provide arrangements, and for other purposes.

MEASURES HELD OVER/UNDER RULE

The following resolutions were read, and held over, under the rule.

S. Res. 192. An executive resolution to discharge the David W. McKeague nomination.

S. Res. 193. An executive resolution to discharge the Susan Bieke Neilson nomination.

S. Res. 194. An executive resolution to discharge the Henry W. Saad nomination.

S. Res. 195. An executive resolution to discharge the Richard A. Griffin nomination.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on July 2, 2003, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 858. An act to extend the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, and for other purposes.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. FRIST:

S. Res. 192. An executive resolution to discharge the David W. McKeague nomination; which was ordered to lie over, under the rule.

By Mr. FRIST:

S. Res. 193. An executive resolution to discharge the Susan Bieke Neilson nomination; which was ordered to lie over, under the rule.

By Mr. FRIST:

S. Res. 194. An executive resolution to discharge the Henry W. Saad nomination; which was ordered to lie over, under the rule.

By Mr. FRIST:

S. Res. 195. An executive resolution to discharge the Richard A. Griffin nomination; which was ordered to lie over, under the rule.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 11

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S.

11, a bill to protect patients' access to quality and affordable health care by reducing the effects of excessive liability costs.

S. 98

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 98, a bill to amend the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, and the Revised Statutes of the United States, to prohibit financial holding companies and national banks from engaging, directly or indirectly, in real estate brokerage or real estate management activities, and for other purposes.

S. 227

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 227, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to extend loan forgiveness for certain loans to certified or licensed teachers, to provide for grants that promote teacher certification and licensing, and for other purposes.

S. 247

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 247, a bill to reauthorize the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998, and for other purposes.

S. 537

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 537, a bill to ensure the availability of spectrum to amateur radio operators.

S. 557

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 557, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income amounts received on account of claims based on certain unlawful discrimination and to allow income averaging for backpay and frontpay awards received on account of such claims, and for other purposes.

S. 623

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 623, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal civilian and military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pretax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums.

S. 639

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 639, a bill to designate certain Federal land in the State of Utah as wilderness, and for other purposes.

S. 875

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 875, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an income tax credit for the provision of homeownership and community development, and for other purposes.

S. 894

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 894, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 230th Anniversary of the United States Marine Corps, and to support construction of the Marine Corps Heritage Center.

S. 939

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 939, a bill to amend part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide full Federal funding of such part, to provide an exception to the local maintenance of effort requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 950

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 950, a bill to allow travel between the United States and Cuba.

S. 976

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 976, a bill to provide for the issuance of a coin to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown settlement.

S. 982

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 982, a bill to halt Syrian support for terrorism, end its occupation of Lebanon, stop its development of weapons of mass destruction, cease its illegal importation of Iraqi oil, and hold Syria accountable for its role in the Middle East, and for other purposes.

S. 1010

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1010, a bill to enhance and further research into paralysis and to improve rehabilitation and the quality of life for persons living with paralysis and other physical disabilities.

S. 1023

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 1023, a bill to increase the annual salaries of justices and judges of the United States.

S. 1034

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan

(Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1034, a bill to repeal the sunset date on the assault weapons ban, to ban the importation of large capacity ammunition feeding devices, and for other purposes.

S. 1082

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1082, a bill to provide support for democracy in Iran.

S. 1091

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1091, a bill to provide funding for student loan repayment for public attorneys.

S. 1108

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1108, a bill to establish within the National Park Service the 225th Anniversary of the American Revolution Commemorative Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1245

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1245, a bill to provide for homeland security grant coordination and simplification, and for other purposes.

S. 1252

At the request of Mr. DAYTON, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1252, a bill to provide benefits to domestic partners of Federal employees.

S. 1297

At the request of Mr. TALENT, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1297, a bill to amend title 28, United States Code, with respect to the jurisdiction of Federal courts inferior to the Supreme Court over certain cases and controversies involving the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

S. 1303

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1303, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act and otherwise revise the Medicare Program to reform the method of paying for covered drugs, drug administration services, and chemotherapy support services.

S. 1333

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1333, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the treatment of certain expenses of rural letter carriers.

S. 1368

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE), the Senator from

Nevada (Mr. REID), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1368, a bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr. (posthumously) and his widow Coretta Scott King in recognition of their contributions to the Nation on behalf of the civil rights movement.

S. CON. RES. 21

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 21, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that community inclusion and enhanced lives for individuals with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities is at serious risk because of the crisis in recruiting and retaining direct support professionals, which impedes the availability of a stable, quality direct support workforce.

S. CON. RES. 25

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 25, a concurrent resolution recognizing and honoring America's Jewish community on the occasion of its 350th anniversary, supporting the designation of an "American Jewish History Month", and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 33

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 33, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding scleroderma.

S. CON. RES. 40

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 40, a concurrent resolution designating August 7, 2003, as "National Purple Heart Recognition Day".

S. CON. RES. 45

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 45, a concurrent resolution expressing appreciation to the Government of Kuwait for the medical assistance it provided to Ali Ismaeel Abbas and other children of Iraq and for the additional humanitarian aid provided by the Government and people of Kuwait, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 109

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 109, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate with respect to polio.

S. RES. 140

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator

from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 140, a resolution designating the week of August 10, 2003, as "National Health Center Week".

S. RES. 151

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 151, a resolution eliminating secret Senate holds.

S. RES. 167

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 167, a resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Harley-Davidson Motor Company, which has been a significant part of the social, economic, and cultural heritage of the United States and many other nations and a leading force for product and manufacturing innovation throughout the 20th century.

S. RES. 169

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 169, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States Postal Service should issue a postage stamp commemorating Anne Frank.

INTRODUCED BILLS—CORRECTED TEXT—June 26, 2003

By Mr. GRAHAM of Florida:

S. 1360. A bill to amend section 7105 of title 38, United States Code, to clarify the requirements for notices of disagreement for appellate review of Department of Veterans Affairs activities; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

S. 1360

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

SECTION 1. CLARIFICATION OF NOTICE OF DISAGREEMENT FOR APPELLATE REVIEW OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES.

(a) CLARIFICATION.—Section 7105(b) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(3) A document that meets the requirements of the second sentence of paragraph (1) and the first sentence of paragraph (2) shall be recognized as a notice of disagreement for purposes of this section."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—(1) Except as specifically provided otherwise, paragraph (3) of section 7105(b) of title 38, United States Code (as added by subsection (a) of this section), shall apply to any document—

(A) filed under section 7105 of such title on or after the date of the enactment of this Act; or

(B) filed under section 7105 of such title before the date of the enactment of this Act and not rejected by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs as a notice of disagreement pursuant to section 20.201 of title 38, Code of Federal Regulations, as of that date.

(2) In the case of a document described in paragraph (3) of this subsection, the Secretary shall, upon the request of the claimant or the Secretary's own motion, order the document treated as a notice of disagreement under section 7105 of such title as if the document had not been rejected by the Secretary as a notice of disagreement pursuant to section 20.201 of title 38, Code of Federal Regulations.

(3) A document described in this paragraph is a document that—

(A) was filed as a notice of disagreement under section 7105 of such title during the period beginning on March 15, 2002, and ending on the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(B) was rejected by the Secretary as a notice of disagreement pursuant to section 20.201 of title 38, Code of Federal Regulations.

(4) A document may not be treated as a notice of disagreement under paragraph (2) unless a request for such treatment is filed by the claimant, or a motion is made by the Secretary, not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 192—TO DISCHARGE THE DAVID W. McKEAGUE NOMINATION

Mr. FRIST submitted the following resolution; which was submitted and read:

S. RES. 192

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary is discharged from the further consideration of the nomination of David W. McKeague, of Michigan, to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.

SENATE RESOLUTION 193—TO DISCHARGE THE SUSAN BIEKE NEILSON NOMINATION

Mr. FRIST submitted the following resolution; which was submitted and read:

S. RES. 193

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary is discharged from the further consideration of the nomination of Susan Bieke Neilson, of Michigan, to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.

SENATE RESOLUTION 194—TO DISCHARGE THE HENRY W. SAAD NOMINATION

Mr. FRIST submitted the following resolution; which was submitted and read:

S. RES. 194

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary is discharged from the further consideration of the nomination of Henry W. Saad, of Michigan, to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.

SENATE RESOLUTION 195—TO DISCHARGE THE RICHARD A. GRIFFIN NOMINATION

Mr. FRIST submitted the following resolution; which was submitted and read:

S. RES. 195

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary is discharged from the further consideration of the nomination of Richard A. Griffin, of Michigan, to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED & PROPOSED

SA 1134. Mr. FRIST proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1, To amend title XVIII