

notion of taxing some aspect of the Internet and the tax applied to the telephone a century ago; and

Whereas, The federal excise tax on telephone services provides an example of poor public policy. This tax is regressive in that all taxpayers, regardless of ability to do so, pay the same rate even though a phone is a necessity of modern life. Unlike other federal excise taxes, the telephone tax is not an attempt to reduce public use of a product like tobacco or alcohol that can be harmful and is not needed. In addition, the money raised from this excise tax does not go to any specific purpose related to telecommunications; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to repeal the federal excise tax on telephone and other communications services; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-240. A resolution from the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Michigan international border crossings; to the Committee on Finance.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 149

Whereas, The events of September 11, 2001, have shattered the illusion that past practices are adequate when it comes to security issues. One of the most important elements of security for our state is the need for stronger and more thorough measures at Michigan's international points of entry. While some people have long called for increased resources at border crossings, there is a little disputing the significance of this now; and

Whereas, Because of its unique and mutually beneficial relationship with Ontario, Michigan includes some of the busiest crossing points along the entire United States-Canada border. In addition to the number of people who cross the border each year, the amount of equipment and goods here far surpasses the traffic in other regions. The importance of free trade to both our countries is reflected in the volume of material that comes into Michigan each day; and

Whereas, Although there may eventually be other ways to heighten security at border crossings with new technologies and other strategies, the most effective, immediate, and practical approach to take is to increase significantly the number of customs agents working at entry points. No single step offers a greater return than putting more trained and dedicated customs agents at our international border crossings. In addition to the added measure of security from better inspections and examinations of people and goods entering the country, the increased staffing would also bring benefits by reducing delays as much as is practical; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to increase the number of customs inspectors at Michigan's international border crossings; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-241. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Pennsylvania relative to prescription drug

benefits to recipients of Medicare; to the Committee on Finance.

SENATE RESOLUTION

Whereas, The United States House of Representatives is about to consider legislation proposed by President Bush that would provide prescription drug benefits to recipients of Medicare; and

Whereas, The proposed legislation utilizes private companies to provide the benefits but does not consider public programs such as PACE and PACENET; and

Whereas, PACE, PACENET and public programs like them in 12 other states have saved millions of dollars in expensive medical procedures which have been prevented or delayed because participants have been kept healthy with their needed prescription medications; and

Whereas, Because the benefits of State programs will likely be more generous than any Federal benefit, low-income seniors will not leave PACE and PACENET, and Pennsylvania will see no savings; and

Whereas, Consequently PACE and PACENET should be recognized as PROVIDERS under any Medicare prescription drug bill passed by the Congress of the United States; and

Whereas, Our seniors would be allowed to continue to use a program they trust while reimbursing PACE and PACENET appropriately; and

Whereas, Protecting seniors' options for coverage so they have real choices is paramount and can lead to significant cost savings and expanded benefits as well as rewarding states that invest in prescription drug coverage; and

Whereas, Congress is urged to include the following language in the proposed legislation:

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, at the option of the State, any person enrolled in a State prescription assistance program or a Section 1115 Medicaid Pharmacy Plus Demonstration Program and eligible for Medicare benefits shall be deemed enrolled in the Medicare prescription program established by this act to the extent of but no more than the benefit amount provided under this act. The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall transfer a sum to each eligible State equivalent to the amount of Federal funds that would have been expended under the program established by this act. The sum shall be transferred once every three months and shall provide funding for prescription services and related administrative expenses for the total number of enrolled individuals in the previous three months. In the case of a State with a Section 1115 Medicaid Pharmacy Plus Demonstration Program, the amount transferred pursuant to this act shall be deducted from the State's Medicaid claim for quarter covered by the transfer; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate urge Congress to consider the PACE and PACENET programs for inclusion in the President's proposed program to provide prescription drug benefits to recipients of Medicare; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. McCAIN, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 1260. A bill to promote the development of the commercial space transportation in-

dustry, to authorize appropriations for the Office of the Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-111).

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 124. A resolution designating September 28, 2003, as "National Good Neighbor Day".

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.

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1301. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit video voyeurism in the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States, and for other purposes.

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Con. Res. 40. A concurrent resolution designating August 7, 2003, as "National Purple Heart Recognition Day".

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, for the Committee on Foreign Relations I report favorably the following nomination list which was printed in the RECORD on the date indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that this nomination lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

*Foreign Service nominations beginning James M. Cunningham and ending Howard M. Krawitz, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on June 25, 2003.

By Mr. HATCH for the Committee on the Judiciary.

James O. Browning of New Mexico, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico.

H. Brent McKnight, of North Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of North Carolina.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

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. ENSIGN:

S. 1450. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide additional choice regarding unused health benefits in cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements; to the Committee on Finance.