

In 1989, Retha met with 10 Westminster couples to explore the possibility of how they might help homeless families get off the street and into adequate housing. To that end, Retha founded the Samaritans. From case management to furniture to mentoring, the Samaritans stand ready to provide support for the year or so that a homeless family needs to become stabilized.

At Christmastime, Retha embodies the true spirit of the holidays. Each year, Retha organizes and oversees Westminster's yearly program to distribute Christmas food and gift baskets to nearly 200 clients of the social services agencies of greater Wilmington.

Retha has not only brought financial assistance through her work in these various programs, but she has served as a spiritual leader as well. She has been an ear to the lonely and a person to pray with through the hard times. She has given each of these people who have come to her dignity and hope.

Through Retha's tireless efforts, she has made a profound difference in the lives of thousands of Delawareans. Upon her retirement, she leaves behind a legacy of commitment to public service for future generations to follow. I thank her for the friendship that many of us are privileged to share with Retha and for the inspiration that she provides through a lifetime of caring. On behalf of all Delawareans, I congratulate her on a truly remarkable and distinguished career and extend to her my very best wishes for every success in the future. I wish her and her family only the very best in all that lies ahead.●

#### 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.)

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2389. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to prohibit the unlawful acquisition and use of confidential customer proprietary network information, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 109-253).

By Mr. WARNER, from the Committee on Armed Services, without amendment:

S. 2766. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 109-254).

S. 2767. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 2768. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military construction, and for other purposes.

S. 2769. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for defense activities of the Department of Energy, and for other purposes.

#### 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. DODD (for himself and Mr. SMITH):

S. 2765. A bill to provide assistance to improve the health of newborns, children, and mothers in developing countries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. WARNER:

S. 2766. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Armed Services; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. WARNER:

S. 2767. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Armed Services; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. WARNER:

S. 2768. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military construction, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Armed Services; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. WARNER:

S. 2769. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for defense activities of the Department of Energy, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Armed Services; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. McCAIN (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 2770. A bill to impose sanctions on certain officials of Uzbekistan responsible for the Andijan massacre; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 2771. A bill to increase the types of Federal housing assistance available to individuals and households in response to a major disaster, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. DEWINE, and Mr. AKAKA):

S. 2772. A bill to provide for innovation in health care through State initiatives that expand coverage and access and improve

quality and efficiency in the health care system; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 2773. A bill to require the Federal Government to purchase fuel efficient automobiles, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. COLEMAN (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. CRAIG):

S. Res. 471. A resolution recognizing that, during National Foster Care Month, the leaders of the Federal, State, and local governments should provide leadership to improve the care given to children in foster care programs; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 185

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 185, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for the reduction of certain Survivor Benefit Plan annuities by the amount of dependency and indemnity compensation and to modify the effective date for paid-up coverage under the Survivor Benefit Plan.

S. 401

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 401, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide individuals with disabilities and older Americans with equal access to community-based attendant services and supports, and for other purposes.

S. 713

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 713, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for collegiate housing and infrastructure grants.

S. 722

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 722, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce the tax on beer to its pre-1991 level.

S. 1278

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1278, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide a mechanism for United States citizens and lawful permanent residents to sponsor their permanent partners for residence in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1537

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr.