

other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 5074. An act to amend the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 to provide for continued payment of railroad retirement annuities by the Department of the Treasury, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 5121. An act to modernize and update the National Housing Act and enable the Federal Housing Administration to use risk-based pricing to more effectively reach underserved borrowers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 5852. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance emergency communications at the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

The following concurrent resolutions were read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 145. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress in support of a national bike month and in appreciation of cyclists and others for promoting bicycle safety and the benefits of cycling; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H. Con. Res. 235. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that States should require candidates for driver's licenses to demonstrate an ability to exercise greatly increased caution when driving in the proximity of a potentially visually impaired individual; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H. Con. Res. 384. Concurrent resolution recognizing and honoring the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, the first intercollegiate Greek-letter fraternity established for African Americans; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H. Con. Res. 449. Concurrent resolution commemorating the 60th anniversary of the historic 1946 season of Major League Baseball Hall of Fame member Bob Feller and his return from military service to the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, July 26, 2006, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 310. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Newlans Project Headquarters and Maintenance Yard Facility to the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District in the State of Nevada.

#### 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-412. A Senate Joint Memorial adopted by the Colorado General Assembly relative to recognition of NASA's space exploration vision; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 06-002

Whereas, since its inception in 1958, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has accomplished many great scientific and technological feats, in addition to advancing humankind's knowledge of the earth and the universe; and

Whereas, Colorado, a leader in the aerospace industry, is home to more than 300

aerospace companies, has over 157,000 direct and indirect employees supported by the aerospace industry, and ranks third in the nation in private aerospace absolute employment; and

Whereas, Colorado is home to Air Force Space Command with facilities at Peterson, Schriever, and Buckley Air Force bases as well as the operational home to the Air Force Satellite Control Network and the Global Positioning System (GPS), for accurate navigation, position determination, and timing; and

Whereas, Colorado is also home to Northern Command, and the Army Space Battle Lab, each providing the Department of Defense with leading space technologies and homeland security, aiding in the protection of America from terrorists; and

Whereas, Colorado is home to world-class aerospace companies such as Lockheed Martin Space Systems, Ball Aerospace, Northrop Grumman, Boeing, Raytheon, and hundreds of small and mid-sized companies; and

Whereas, Colorado is home to world-class institutions of higher learning that continue to keep Colorado premier among the states with the most high-tech workers per capita and many astronauts, including the first Native American astronaut, and are the recipients of millions of dollars of federal government space research science and engineering grants and contracts; and

Whereas, Colorado is home to the Space Foundation, where the Aerospace Industry meets and focuses on 21st century education and the economic growth and strength of a broad range of space enterprises; and

Whereas, the desire to explore is part of America's character, and history has shown that space exploration benefits all humankind through new technologies for everyday application, new jobs across the entire economic enterprise, economic contributions through new markets and commercial products, education and inspiration, United States leadership, increased security, and a legacy for future generations; and

Whereas, a Space Exploration Vision has been articulated to affirm the United States' commitment to human space exploration and to give NASA a new focus and clear objectives, including long-term human and robotic programs to explore the solar system and a return to the moon that will ultimately enable future exploration of Mars and other destinations; and

Whereas, the Space Exploration Vision began with NASA returning the space shuttle to safe flight, with the chief purpose of completing assembly on the International Space Station, in addition to developing a new crew exploration vehicle to explore beyond earth's orbit to other worlds; and

Whereas, the Space Exploration Vision has the potential to drive innovation, development, and advancement in the aerospace and other high-technology industries across the nation and in the state of Colorado; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-fifth General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein, That the General Assembly of the State of Colorado hereby strongly encourages all members of the United States Congress to support the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Space Exploration Vision to enable the United States and the State of Colorado to remain leaders in the exploration and development of space; and be it further*

*Resolved, That copies of this Joint Memorial be sent to George W. Bush, President of the United States; Dick Cheney, Vice President of the United States; the members of Colorado's Congressional delegation; and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Administrator.*

POM-413. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Texas relative to enacting a free trade agreement between the United States and Taiwan; to the Committee on Finance.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 720

Whereas, Taiwan is Texas' fifth-largest foreign market, and the agriculture and manufacturing sectors of the Texas economy, most notably the computer and electronic products, chemicals, and machinery industries, would benefit significantly if the United States enacted a free trade agreement with Taiwan; and

Whereas, a free trade agreement between the United States and Taiwan would substantially reduce or eliminate most import quotas, duties, and other trade barriers and expand market opportunities for manufactured goods and agricultural products from Texas and the entire United States; and

Whereas, the United States has completed or is in the process of negotiating free trade agreements with several countries and regions; reasons for pursuing a free trade agreement with Taiwan include its status as the United States' eighth-largest trading partner, its robust economy, and its long-standing educational and cultural ties with the United States; and

Whereas, Taiwan was admitted to the World Trade Organization on January 1, 2001; a free trade agreement between the United States and Taiwan would extend the coverage of World Trade Organization agreements to products, sectors, and conditions of trade that are now not adequately covered, and it would provide a platform to address issues such as Taiwan's 15.2 percent average tariff rate on agricultural imports from the United States; and

Whereas, Public Law 107-210, the Trade Act of 2002, gives the president the authority to enter into trade agreements with foreign countries whenever the president determines that one or more existing duties or other import restrictions of any foreign country or the United States are unduly burdening and restricting the foreign trade of the United States; and

Whereas, President George W. Bush, speaking before the historic signing of the United States-Australia Free Trade Agreement in 2004, emphasized that he supports free and open trade because "it has the power to create new wealth for whole nations and new opportunities for millions of people" and "has a record of creating jobs, raising living standards, and lowering consumer prices"; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, Hereby respectfully encourage the president of the United States to extend the benefits of free trade by enacting a free trade agreement between the United States and Taiwan; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That the secretary of the senate forward official copies of this Resolution to the president of the United States, to the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate of the United States Congress, and to all the members of the Texas delegation to the congress.*

POM-414. A Senate Joint Resolution adopted by the Colorado General Assembly relative to the condemnation of the Chinese government's persecution of practitioners of Falun Gong; to the Committee on Foreign Relations

#### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 06-027

Whereas, Falun Gong is a peaceful spiritual movement that originated in the People's Republic of China and has grown rapidly worldwide, including thousands of practitioners in the United States; and

Whereas, Falun Gong encourages its practitioners to cultivate "truthfulness, compassion, and forbearance"; and