

range of activities to help Congress effectively move into the Digital Age, including recommendations on Web site design and managing Internet communications.

I can speak directly to the terrific work that Rick has done over the years because for more than a decade he has played a critical role in helping me and my staff manage the challenges and take advantage of opportunities we have in representing the people of Wisconsin here in the Senate. That assistance has taken a wide variety of forms, ranging from multiday all-staff retreats, to staff surveys and analysis, to individual staff assessment and advice. He has helped us design annual evaluations, improve our salary and bonus structure, design our Web site, improve our mail system, and—perhaps most importantly—step back and assess our environment regularly to be sure we are doing our best for the people of Wisconsin.

Rick's efforts on behalf of our office reflect the amazing dedication and commitment that he has brought to every task over the years. There is never any question too small—or any hour too late—for him to make himself available to offer advice. His thoughtful analysis has been critical to many decisions I have made over the years, and I am grateful for his assistance at many key junctures in my career. I know that my office operates much more efficiently and effectively today thanks to his advice over the years.

Beyond his work with my office, I would also like to honor Rick for his dedication in continuing and dramatically expanding the work of CMF. Non-profit organizations are a bit like restaurants—many of them open every year, but few of them last. Ultimately, those that survive do so as a result of the tireless dedication of a very small group of people, and in the case of CMF, Rick has helped them not only survive but to thrive and grow. During his tenure, the budget for CMF has more than quadrupled, while the staff has doubled and the work done for Congress has grown exponentially. As I mentioned earlier, Rick and CMF have undertaken a wide range of activities on behalf of Congress. Ultimately, Rick and CMF have a “whatever it takes” attitude, and we in Congress have been the beneficiaries of that intensity, creativity, and dedication.

In conclusion, I would like to honor Rick for his tireless dedication to assisting Senators, Congressmen, staff, and the entire institution of the Congress in our efforts to better serve the American people. We are grateful for all of his hard work over the years, and we look forward to working with him again in the future.●

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill and joint resolution were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.J. Res. 20. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2007, and for other purposes.

S. 470. A bill to express the sense of Congress on Iraq.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-577. A communication from the Director, Office of Human Resources Management, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's report on category rating; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-578. A communication from the Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to employees who were assigned to congressional committees during fiscal year 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-579. A communication from the Insurance Policy Division, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Federal Employees Health Benefits: Payment of Premiums for Periods of Leave Without Pay or Insufficient Pay” (RIN3206-AG66) received on January 31, 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BIDEN, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. Res. 64. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. DORGAN for the Committee on Indian Affairs.

*Carl Joseph Artman, of Colorado, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

*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.

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. HAGEL (for himself and Mr. NELSON of Nebraska):

S. 471. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Interior to convey to The Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail and Visitor Center Foundation, Inc. certain Federal land associated with the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail in Nebraska, to be used as an historical interpretive site along the trail; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ALLARD (for himself and Mr. SALAZAR):

S. 472. A bill to authorize a major medical facility project for the Department of Veterans Affairs at Denver, Colorado; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 473. A bill to improve the prohibitions on money laundering, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 474. A bill to award a congressional gold medal to Michael Ellis DeBaKey, M.D.; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DOMENICI (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. 475. A bill to increase the number of Deputy United States Marshals that investigate immigration crimes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. SESSIONS):

S. 476. A bill to amend chapter 3 of title 28, United States Code, to provide for 11 circuit judges on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself and Mr. CRAIG):

S. 477. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land and improvements of the Gooding Division of the Minidoka Project, Idaho; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. FEINGOLD):

S. 478. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to replace the Federal Election Commission with Federal Election Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SMITH, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. THUNE, Mr. KERRY, Mr. BROWNBACK, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 479. A bill to reduce the incidence of suicide among veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. KOHL (for himself, Mr. HATCH, and Mr. SPECTER):

S. 480. A bill to amend the Antitrust Modernization Commission Act of 2002, to extend the term of the Antitrust Modernization Commission and to make a technical correction; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. THUNE):

S. 481. A bill to recruit and retain more qualified individuals to teach in Tribal Colleges or Universities; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. CHAMBLISS:

S. 482. A bill for the relief of Charles Nyaga; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CHAMBLISS:

S. 483. A bill for the relief of Salah Naji Sujaa; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ENZI (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 484. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to improve drug safety and oversight, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 485. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to establish an economy-wide global warming pollution emission cap-and-trade program to assist the economy in transitioning to new clean energy technologies, to protect employees and affected communities, to protect