day’s group boasts a wide variety of members from carpenters to investors, from manufacturers to grocers. NSBA truly represents the diversity of our Nation’s small businesses. As chairman of the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I work with NSBA’s members in my State and across the Nation, welcoming their insights and unique perspective.

I find it important to note that today’s small business owners struggle with some of the same issues that plagued Mr. Emery in 1937, and many new issues. From access to capital to health care, we will continue to work with small businesses as they strive to maintain and grow their firms—and as they make a significant contribution to our economy. Through the efforts of advocacy groups like the NSBA working with us to pass legislation, we have been able to assist thousands of determined small business owners like Mr. Emery. The tireless work of the NSBA is testament to the resolve and spirit with which small business owners and I am gratified that the current organization leads the charge on many important issues. I invite the Senate to join me in honoring NSBA and its distinguished history of nonpartisan work on behalf of small businesses.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1257. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to provide shareholders with an advisory vote on executive compensation.

H.R. 1498. An act to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to advance pay and travel projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Speaker removes Mr. Price of North Carolina, a conference and appoints Ms. Kilpatrick of Michigan, to fill the vacancy thereon, on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendmen

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d and the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group: Mr. McCaul of Texas, Mr. Weller of Illinois, Mr. Dreier of California, Mr. Mack of Florida, and Mr. Fortuno of Puerto Rico.

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d, clause 10 of rule 1, and the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group: Mr. Manzullo of Illinois, Mr. McCotter of Michigan, Mr. Stearns of Florida, Mr. English of Pennsylvania, and Mr. Brown of South Carolina.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 3:10 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:


H.R. 1130. An act to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to extend the authority to withhold from public availability a financial disclosure report filed by an individual who is a judicial officer or judicial employee, to the extent necessary to protect the safety of the individual or a family member of that individual, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 865. An act to grant rights-of-way for electric transmission lines over certain Native allotments in the State of Alaska; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1297. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to provide shareholders with an advisory vote on executive compensation; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred to the appropriate committees:

EC-1993, A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Army that is identified as being case number 04-07; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-1994, A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Donald J. Wettem, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1995, A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Albert M. Calland III, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1996, A communication from the Chief of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Final Flood Elevation Determination” (72 FR 17978) on April 18, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.