

crops, and provide better insurance programs. One of Williams' most storied accomplishments was getting the average farmer involved in the leadership and policy development process, most notably by developing the National Cotton Council's Producer Steering Committee. To this day, the Steering Committee continues to ensure producers have an active voice on policy issues. He never underestimated the knowledge and influence carried by the producer. Farmers all over Arkansas appreciated that and never forgot the respect he gave their opinions.

Cecil Williams took each event in stride and persevered with leadership and optimism. His ability to develop and foster leadership among the producer ranks was and still is an impressive feat. His relentless defense of agriculture, and the years he spent cultivating active and knowledgeable producers in Arkansas will be long remembered by those whose lives he touched through his tireless devotion. I am always proud to see Arkansas farmers when they make their way to Washington or when I am traveling the state. These are, without a doubt in my mind, the best farmers in America thanks to the leadership of people like Cecil Williams.

During his lifetime, Williams always led by example and stayed true to his cause; rarely will you find such a noble and grounded leader. This was a man who could see the big picture and still thoroughly understand the components needed on the ground. He believed firmly in what he represented and remained active in production agriculture and the legislative arena up until his last days.

Arkansas agriculture has suffered a great loss with the passing of Cecil Williams, but we will continue to remember this great man and benefit from his foresight and leadership. During his lifetime, Cecil Williams saw the passage of numerous farm bills and agricultural laws. From his active role in production agriculture and agricultural policy, he was also able to see the consequences of both good and bad farm policy. As Congress works on drafting the 2007 farm bill, let us not forget the legacy Cecil Williams left behind and take heed from the wisdom of his decades of experience.

I pay my tribute to this legend of Arkansas agriculture and express my greatest condolences to his family. He will be missed.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, 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.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:15 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1591) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes.

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 521. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse and customhouse located at 515 West First Street in Duluth, Minnesota, as the "Gerald W. Heaney Federal Building and United States Courthouse and Customhouse".

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 11:18 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1681. An act to amend the Congressional Charter of The American National Red Cross to modernize its governance structure, to enhance the ability of the board of governors of The American National Red Cross to support the critical mission of The American National Red Cross in the 21st century, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

At 1:32 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. 249. An act to restore the prohibition on the commercial sale and slaughter of wild free-roaming horses and burros.

H.R. 493. An act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of genetic information with respect to health insurance and employment.

H.R. 1332. An act to improve the access to capital programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1678. An act to amend the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 to authorize appropriations to provide assistance for domestic and foreign programs and centers for the treatment of victims of torture, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 7. Concurrent resolution calling on the League of Arab States and each Member State individually to acknowledge the genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan and to step up their efforts to stop the genocide in Darfur.

H. Con. Res. 68. Concurrent resolution honoring the life and accomplishments of Gian Carlo Menotti and recognizing the success of the Spoleto Festival USA in Charleston, South Carolina, which he founded.

H. Con. Res. 121. Concurrent resolution recognizing the benefits and importance of school-based music education, 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. 249. An act to restore the prohibition on the commercial sale and slaughter of wild free-roaming horses and burros; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1678. An act to amend the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 to authorize appropriations to provide assistance for domestic and foreign programs and centers for the treatment of victims of torture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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

H. Con. Res. 7. Calling on the League of Arab States and each Member State individually to acknowledge the genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan and to step up their efforts to stop the genocide in Darfur; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H. Con. Res. 121. Concurrent resolution recognizing the benefits and importance of school-based music education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 493. An act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of genetic information with respect to health insurance and employment.

#### 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-1702. A communication from the Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Administration's implementation of actions recommended to streamline the certification process for airplane seats and restraint systems; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1703. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's annual report covering the fiscal year from October 1, 2005, through September 30, 2006; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1704. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removal of Two Chemical Substances from Preliminary