APPOINTMENTS

The Acting President pro tempore. The Chair, pursuant to Executive Order 12131, as amended and extended, reappoints and appoints the following Members to the President’s Export Council: Reappointment: the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. Dorgan); Appointment: the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Brown) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. Stabenow).

MEASURE PLACED ON CALENDAR—H. RES. 1332

Mr. Reid. Mr. President, I understand that H.R. 1332 is at the desk and due for a second reading.

The Acting President pro tempore. The majority leader is correct.

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A bill (H.R. 1332) to improve the access to information, public financial, and public records; and to amend title 53, United States Code, to establish the Congressionals’ Office of Public Financial Disclosure.

Mr. Reid. Mr. President, I object to any further proceedings at this time.

The Acting President pro tempore. Objection is heard.

The bill will be placed on the calendar.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE ON EFFORTS TO CONTROL GUN VIOLENCE IN GUATEMALA

Mr. Reid. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from consideration of S. Res. 155 and that the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The Acting President pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A resolution (S. Res. 155) expressing the sense of the Senate on efforts to control violence and strengthen the rule of law in Guatemala.

Whereas, no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

The Acting President pro tempore, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the Record as if read.

The Acting President pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 155) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to. The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows: S. Res. 155

Whereas warring parties in Guatemala ended a 36-year internal armed conflict with a peace agreement in 1996, but the country has since faced alarming levels of violence, organized crime, and impunity;

Whereas the alleged involvement of senior officials of the National Civilian Police in the murder of three Salvadoran parliamentarians and their driver, and the subsequent killing of four of the police officers while in custody underscored the need to purge and strengthen law enforcement and judicial institutions in Guatemala;

Whereas high-level officials of the Government of Guatemala have acknowledged the infiltration of organized criminal networks into the state apparatus and the difficulty of combating these networks when they are deeply entrenched in public institutions;

Whereas, in its 2006 Country Report on Human Rights Practices in Guatemala, the Department of State noted that police corruption was a serious problem in Guatemala and that there were credible allegations of involvement by individual police officers in criminal activity, including rapes, killings, and kidnappings;

Whereas, in its most recent report on Guatemala, the Western Hemisphere High Commissioner for Human Rights notes that impunity continues to undermine the credibility of the justice system in Guatemala and that the justice system is still too weak to confront organized crime and its powerful structures; and

Whereas, the Government of Guatemala and the United Nations signed an agreement on December 12, 2006, to establish the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala (Comisión Internacional Contra la Impunidad en Guatemala—CICIG), to assist local authorities in investigating and dismantling the illegal security groups and clandestine organizations that continue to operate in Guatemala; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) it is the sense of the Senate that the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala is an innovative mechanism to support local efforts to confront the entrenched and dangerous problem posed by illegal armed groups and clandestine security organizations in Guatemala and their infiltration into state institutions;

(2) the Senate commends the Government of Guatemala, local civil society organizations, and the United Nations for such a creative effort;

(3) the Senate encourages the Guatemalan Congress to pass necessary legislation required to implement the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala and other pending legislation needed to fulfill the 1996 peace accord;

(4) the Senate calls on the Government of Guatemala and all sectors of society in Guatemala to unrestrainedly support the investigation and prosecution of illegal armed groups and clandestine security organizations; and

(5) the Senate reiterates its commitment to support the Government of Guatemala in its efforts to strengthen the rule of law in that country, including the dismantling of the clandestine groups, the purging of the police and judicial institutions, and the implementation of key justice and police reforms.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY FOOTBALL PROGRAM

Mr. Reid. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 181.

The Acting President pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 181) was agreed to.

The preamble agreed to. The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows: S. Res. 181

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry, originally of Cheraw, South Carolina, coached football at the United States Air Force Academy for 27 years, 23 of which as head coach;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry is the winningest head coach of any United States service academy with a record of 169–109–1;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry has amassed a 35–11 record against the United States Military Academy and the United States Naval Academy, and led the U.S. Air Force Academy to 14 of its 16 Commander-in-Chief Trophy titles;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry led his Air Force teams to 3 conference championships and 12 bowl games;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry has been recognized numerous times for his coaching success, including selection as National Coach of the Year for 1985; selection 3 times as Western Athletic Conference Coach of the Year; induction into the South Carolina Sports Hall of Fame; induction into the Colorado Springs Sports Hall of Fame; induction into the Independence Bowl Hall of Fame; the 2000 State Farm Coach of Distinction honor; an honorary doctorate of humanities from Wofford College; service as president of the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA); and service as Chairman of the AFCA ethics committee;

Whereas, Fisher DeBerry has acted as a pillar of the Colorado Springs, Colorado, community during the past 27 years through his active involvement and volunteerism with local church, charity, and community organizations;

Whereas, in 2004 Fisher DeBerry founded the Fisher DeBerry Foundation, which is dedicated to the support and education of single mothers and their children, as well as other charitable causes; whereas, Fisher DeBerry has served as a positive influence and role model to numerous future Air Force officers, including one 375 players; whereas, he had a graduation success rate of 91.6 percent among his players; and producing 19 All-American players,
HONORING THE LIFE OF JACK VALENTI

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 182.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 182) honoring the life of Jack Valenti.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

THE PASSING OF MR. JACK VALENTI

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I wish to honor my good friend Jack Valenti, who passed away last week on April 26. Throughout his life, Jack Valenti wore several hats, including that of a soldier, a dedicated public servant, and a pioneer in the film industry.

Jack was born on September 5, 1921, in Houston, Texas, and was the grandson of Sicilian immigrants. At age 15, he became the youngest high school graduate in the history of the city of Houston and began a career as an office boy with Exxon Oil.

Jack served honorably in the Army Air Corps during World War II, flying in 51 separate combat missions as pilot of the B-25 attack bomber with the 12th Air Force in Italy. He obtained the rank of lieutenant and received multiple decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with four clusters, and the European Theater Ribbon with four battle stars.

After serving in the war, Jack attended college at the University of Houston, doing all his undergraduate work at night as he worked during the day. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in 1946 and later became the University of Houston’s first graduate ever to be admitted to Harvard Business School. He received an MBA from Harvard in 1948.

In the intervening years, Jack held many positions in this town, but in 1966 Jack resigned from a top position in the White House to become only the third president of the Motion Picture Association of America, MPAA. He held this, his most famous position, for 38 years before retiring in 2004.

As president of MPAA, Jack arbitrated one of the most famous developments the film industry has ever come face to face with—the Home Video and piracy dispute. The ratings “G”, “PG”, “PG-13”, and “R” have become staples, not only in the movie-going practices of every American but also in our Nation’s cultural consciousness. However, more important to the voluntary film rating system is the clichéd image associated with these ratings is the real assistance that this system has provided to parents and families in evaluating the appropriateness of various movies. Indeed, the MPAA rating system pioneered by Jack Valenti has become a prime example of the effectiveness of industry self-regulation without government intervention, and I am very grateful for Jack’s work in this area even when many in his industry fought him along the way.

In addition to pioneering the rating system, Jack Valenti also worked to advance the film industry into the 21st century. Indeed, during his tenure at the MPAA, he presided over unprecedented change in the worldwide film industry, including the advancement of the digital era. I remember having several conversations with Jack as the film industry struggled to deal with the new challenges presented by digital distribution. Together, Jack and I worked tirelessly to balance the competing demands of consumer’s rights and the protection of one of America’s largest exports—entertainment.

With Jack’s help, we were able to refocus the Federal Government’s resources to more effectively protect the creative genius of a great American industry—the film industry. We all know how blatantly some bad actors around the world profited from America’s movies and robbed the United States of jobs. Thanks to Jack’s efforts, we have made great strides in this area and laid the groundwork to allow us to stamp out this criminal activity in the years ahead. Combating the theft and piracy of intellectual property was a real passion for Jack, and I was privileged to work with him in this endeavor.

Mr. President, those of us who knew Jack Valenti personally will always remember him as a charismatic man who was devoted to his family. While his influence on the film industry has been famous and unmistakable, many of us will remember him more for the personal friendship we shared with him. I will miss him greatly.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 182) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

Whereas Jack Valenti was born September 5, 1921, in Houston, Texas, the daughter of Sicilian immigrants, Joe and Josephine Valenti, and was the youngest high school graduate in the city at age 15;

Whereas Jack Valenti married his beloved Mary Margaret in 1962, with whom he had 3 children, John, Alexandra, and Courtenay;

Whereas Jack Valenti joined the United States Army Air Forces in 1942 and flew 51 combat missions as a pilot of a B-25 attack bomber with the 12th Air Force in Italy during World War II, obtained the rank of lieutenant, and received 4 decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with 4 clusters, the Distinguished Unit Citation with one cluster, and the European Theater Ribbon with 4 battle stars;

Whereas Jack Valenti received a B.A. degree from the University of Houston in 1946 after doing all of his undergraduate work at night while working during the day, and became the first University of Houston graduate to be admitted to Harvard Business School;

Whereas, in 1952, Jack Valenti cofounded Weekley and Valenti, an advertising and political consulting agency that worked on Dwight D. Eisenhower’s presidential campaign in Texas, Representative Albert Thom- as’s run for Congress, and John Connally’s campaign for Governor of Texas;

Whereas Jack Valenti met then-Senate Majority Leader Lyndon B. Johnson in 1957, the two became close friends, and Valenti worked on Lyndon Johnson’s presidential campaign during the primary battles of 1960;

Whereas Weekley and Valenti handled press during President John F. Kennedy’s and Vice President Lyndon Johnson’s fateful trip to Dallas, Texas, in November 1963;

Whereas Jack Valenti became the first special assistant hired when Lyndon Johnson ascended to the Presidency;

Whereas Jack Valenti resigned his White House post in 1966 and went on to serve as the president of the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) for the next 38 years;

Whereas Jack Valenti, as president of the MPAA, created the voluntary film rating system that is still in place today, which provides parents with information they can use to determine which movies are appropriate for their children;

Whereas Jack Valenti’s persona and skill cemented to give the motion picture industry a strong and enduring presence in the Nation’s capital, which grew year by year during his nearly 40 tenure at the MPAA;

Whereas Jack Valenti presided over a worldwide change in the motion picture industry, ushered movies into the digital era, championed artists’ rights, and condemned intellectual property theft;

Whereas Jack Valenti authored 5 books, including “A Very Human President”, “Profiles In Courage”, “Speak Up With Confidence”, and in his most recent, “This Time, This Place: My Life in War, the White House, and Hollywood”, and wrote numerous columns for the New York Times, the Washington Post, the Los Angeles Times, Reader’s Digest, Atlantic Monthly, Newsweek, Cox newspapers, and other publications;

Whereas Jack Valenti was awarded France’s highly-prized Legion d’Honneur, the...