

short stories and volunteers at the United Blood Services, Rapid City Boys and Girls Club, National Federation of the Blind, and the Journey Museum.

McKie Automotive Group received the Community Connection Award from the Black Hills Workshop. This award is presented to an organization that has gone above and beyond in their support by providing job opportunities to people with disabilities. McKie Automotive Group currently employs five members of the Black Hills Workshop.

It gives me great pleasure to recognize David Pigott, Tonya Denke, Russell Bruner, Abbi Wells, and McKie Automotive Group and to congratulate them on receiving these well-earned awards and wish them continued success in the years to come.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, 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.)

#### REPORT RELATIVE TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY RELATIVE TO THE ACTIONS AND POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SUDAN AS DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13067 OF NOVEMBER 3, 1997—PM 31

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

The crisis constituted by the actions and policies of the Government of Sudan that led to the declaration of a national emergency in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997, and the expansion of that emergency in Executive Order 13400 of April 26, 2006, and with respect to which additional steps were taken in Executive Order 13412 of October 13, 2006, has not been resolved. These actions and policies are hostile to U.S. interests and pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to Sudan and maintain in force the comprehensive sanctions against Sudan to respond to this threat.

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision I have sent the enclosed notice to the *Federal Register* for publication, stating that the Sudan emergency is to continue in effect beyond November 3, 2007.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, November 1, 2007.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:06 a.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 and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1236. An act to amend title 39, United States Code, to extend the authorization of the United States Postal Service to issue a semipostal to raise funds for breast cancer research.

H.R. 2787. An act to amend the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 to require that weather radios be installed in all manufactured homes manufactured or sold in the United States.

H.R. 3307. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 570 Broadway in Bayonne, New Jersey, as the "Dennis P. Collins Post Office Building".

H.R. 3446. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 202 East Michigan Avenue in Marshall, Michigan, as the "Michael W. Schragg Post Office Building".

H.R. 3867. An act to update and expand the procurement programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

H. J. Res. 58. Joint resolution expressing support for designation of the month of October 2007 as "Country Music Month" and to honor country music for its long history of supporting America's armed forces and its tremendous impact on national patriotism.

At 1:06 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3043) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes; it agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. OBEY, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. DELAURO, Messrs. JACKSON of Illinois, KENNEDY, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. LEE, Messrs. UDALL of New Mexico, HONDA, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Messrs. RYAN of Ohio, MURTHA, EDWARDS, WALSH of New York, REGULA, PETERSON of Pennsylvania, WELDON of Florida, SIMPSON, REHBERG, YOUNG of Florida, WICKER and LEWIS of California as managers of the conference on the part of the House.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 3:07 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. 1808. An act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Augusta, Georgia, as the "Charlie Norwood Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center".

H.R. 2779. An act to recognize the Navy UDT-SEAL Museum in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the official national museum of Navy SEALs and their predecessors.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1236. To amend title 39, United States Code, to extend the authority of the United States Postal Service to issue a semipostal to raise funds for breast cancer research; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2787. An act to amend the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 to require that weather radios be installed in all manufactured homes manufactured or sold in the United States; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 3307. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 570 Broadway in Bayonne, New Jersey, as the "Dennis P. Collins Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3446. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 202 East Michigan Avenue in Marshall, Michigan, as the "Michael W. Schragg Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3867. An act to update and expand the procurement programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H. J. Res. 58. Joint resolution expressing support for designation of the month of October 2007 as "Country Music Month" and to honor country music for its long history of supporting America's armed forces and its tremendous impact on national patriotism; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

S. 2293. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the individual alternative minimum tax, and for other purposes.

S. 2294. A bill to strengthen immigration enforcement and border security and for other purposes.

#### 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-3833. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Indian Tribal Land Acquisition Program Loan Writedowns" (RIN0560-AG87) received on October 26, 2007; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-3834. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, a report relative to the views of the Department on S. 453, the "Deceptive Practices and Voter Intimidation Prevention Act of 2007"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3835. A communication from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Source Tracking of Sealed Sources; Revised Compliance Dates" (RIN3150-AI22) received on October 25, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. DODD, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, without amendment:

S. 2284. An original bill to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, to restore the financial solvency of the flood insurance fund, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 110-214).

S. 2285. An original bill to reauthorize the Federal terrorism risk insurance program, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 110-215).

By Mr. DODD, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1518. A bill to amend the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to reauthorize the Act, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 110-216).

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with amendments:

S. 2168. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to enable increased federal prosecution of identity theft crimes and to allow for restitution to victims of identity theft.

By Mr. DODD, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, without amendment:

S. 2286. An original bill to establish a non-partisan commission on natural catastrophe risk management and insurance, and for other purposes.

### EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

\*Julie L. Myers, of Kansas, to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

\*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. COLEMAN (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 2280. A bill to amend the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 2281. A bill to expand the boundaries of the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 2282. A bill to increase the number of full-time personnel of the Consumer Product Safety Commission assigned to duty stations at United States ports of entry or to inspect overseas production facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CRAPO:

S. 2283. A bill to preserve the use and access of pack and saddle stock animals on public land administered by the National Park Service, and Bureau of Land Management, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, or the Forest Service on which there is a historical tradition of the use of pack and saddle stock animals; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DODD:

S. 2284. An original bill to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, to restore the financial solvency of the flood insurance fund, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. DODD:

S. 2285. An original bill to reauthorize the Federal terrorism risk insurance program, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. DODD:

S. 2286. An original bill to establish a non-partisan commission on natural catastrophe risk management and insurance, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 2287. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the percentage depletion allowance for certain hardrock mines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 2288. A bill to establish portfolio quality standards, improve lender oversight by the Small Business Administration, create economic outcome and performance measurements, strengthen the loan programs under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act and title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. KYL, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CORKER, Mr. COCHRAN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. DOMENICI):

S. 2289. A bill to amend chapter 111 of title 28, United States Code, to limit the duration of Federal consent decrees to which State and local governments are a party, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 2290. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 16731 Santa Ana Avenue in Fontana, Cali-

fornia, as the "Beatrice E. Watson Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. LEVIN):

S. 2291. A bill to enhance citizen access to Government information and services by establishing plain language as the standard style of Government documents issued to the public, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 2292. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002, to establish the Office for Bombing Prevention, to address terrorist explosive threats, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. LOTT (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. KYL, Mr. SMITH, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. HATCH, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. ENSIGN):

S. 2293. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the individual alternative minimum tax, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. KYL (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SPECTER, and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. 2294. A bill to strengthen immigration enforcement and border security and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 2295. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require a voter-verified permanent paper ballot under title III of such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 2296. A bill to provide for improved disclosures by all mortgage lenders at the loan approval and settlement stages of all mortgage loans; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 2297. A bill to require the FCC to conduct an economic study on the impact that low-power FM stations will have on full-power commercial FM stations; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 2298. A bill to prohibit an applicant from obtaining a low-power FM license if an applicant has engaged in any manner in the unlicensed operation of any station in violation of section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 2299. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish an advisory committee to develop recommendations regarding the national aquatic animal health plan developed by the National Aquatic Animal Health Task Force, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

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

S. 2300. A bill to improve the Small Business Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. REID (for Mr. OBAMA):

S.J. Res. 23. A joint resolution clarifying that the use of force against Iran is not authorized by the Authorization for the Use of Military Force Against Iraq, any resolution previously adopted, or any other provision of law; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.