

or graduate students, but Judy has been able to “plant the seeds of learning” in the minds of fourth graders. Those seeds will undoubtedly result in a bright future as these youngsters grow up to pursue their dreams and goals. Many will look fondly to Judy’s great guidance and tutorship.

On the occasion of her retirement, I want to wish Judy all the best. I want to thank her for her tireless work and dedication to the STARBASE program and her commitment to the youth of South Dakota. The legacy of her work will rest in the minds of these young people, for which I thank her for her service on behalf of all South Dakotans, and wish her well in her retirement.●

HONORING COUNCILMAN KEVIN KINGSTON

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I wish to acknowledge Councilman Kevin Kingston, Sr. of Slidell for his dedicated service to the State of Louisiana. I would like to take a few moments to remark on his accomplishments.

Mr. Kingston was born in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, but resided in Slidell since 1979. His nickname was “Kingfish,” and he was truly a man of the people. He owned Kingfish Seafood Market on Pontchartrain Drive and also ran Lil’ Ray’s Seafood Restaurant for 18 years until the 1990s. Mr. Kingston had gusto for life and food; however, it was his service on the City Council that gave him his greatest pleasure. He was elected in 1998 in District D representing west-northwest Slidell and in 2006 was elected to serve as Councilman-at-Large representing the entire city. In the past year, he took a special interest in helping a handful of residents replace their storm-damaged mobile homes. His measure, which passed on the council’s third try in almost 2 years, amended a section in the city’s zoning code that prohibited people from placing new trailers in the city even if the old ones were destroyed by an act of God. A popular public servant and caregiver, he would often pay people’s water and light bills, gestures that displayed his big heart and kind spirit.

Kevin Kingston passed away Thursday, July 3, after a long battle with liver disease that included a liver transplant in 2003. He is survived by not only family members but also the grateful city of Slidell and council who have lost a great man and great leader. Mr. Kingston opened his heart to everyone he came in contact with and his generosity and friendship will be deeply missed.

Thus, today, I honor a fellow Louisianan, Kevin Kingston, Sr., and thank him and his family for his dedicated service to our State and Nation.●

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 and withdrawals which were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:16 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 364. Concurrent resolution recognizing the Significance of National Caribbean-American Heritage Month.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 214(a) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 15344), the Minority Leader reappoints the following member to the Election Assistance Commission Board of Advisors: Mr. Thomas A. Fuentes of Lake Forest, California.

At 2:39 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, 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. 6532. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the Highway Trust Fund balance.

H. R. 6545. An act to require the Director of National Intelligence to conduct a national intelligence assessment on national security and energy security issues.

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

H. Con. Res. 395. Concurrent resolution authorizing the printing of an additional number of copies of the 23rd edition of the pocket version of the United States Constitution.

At 7:25 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 5501) to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2009 through 2013 to provide assistance to foreign countries to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, 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. 5235. An act to establish the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 6532. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the Highway Trust Fund balance; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 6545. An act to require the Director of National Intelligence to conduct a national intelligence assessment on national security and energy security issues; to the Committee on Intelligence.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 364. Concurrent resolution recognizing the Significance of National Caribbean-American Heritage Month; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 3335. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. AKAKA, from the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 2617. A bill to increase, effective as of December 1, 2008, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans (Rept. No. 110-430).

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. GREGG (for himself and Mr. SUNUNU):

S. 3323. A bill to provide weatherization and home heating assistance to low income households, and to provide a heating oil tax credit for middle income households; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself and Mr. COLEMAN):

S. 3324. A bill to provide leadership regarding science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. SPENCER, Mr. BAYH, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 3325. A bill to enhance remedies for violations of intellectual property laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 3326. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants to local education agencies to improve college access; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 3327. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to improve the State plan amendment option for providing home and community-based services under the Medicaid program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 3328. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for a one-year extension of other transaction authority; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SALAZAR:

S. 3329. A bill to amend the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 to expand the category of individuals eligible for compensation, to