

EC-9096. A communication from the Secretary, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General's Semiannual Report for the period of April 1, 2008, through September 30, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-9097. A communication from the Attorney General, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual reports of the Attorney General and the Inspector General for the period of April 1, 2008, through September 30, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-9098. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a management report on the status of audits and the Office of Inspector General's Semiannual Report for the period of April 1, 2008, through September 30, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-9099. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-9100. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Bureau of Prisons' compliance with the privatization requirements of the Revitalization Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-9101. A communication from the Chief of the Regulatory Management Division, Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Special Immigrant and Non-immigrant Religious Workers" (RIN1615-AA16) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2008; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-9102. A communication from the Director of Regulations Management, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Assistance to States in Hiring and Retaining Nurses at State Veterans Homes" (RIN2900-AM26) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2008; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### 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 Ms. SNOWE:

S. 3718. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to suspend the taxation of unemployment compensation for 2 years; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 3719. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to suspend the minimum required pension distribution rules for 2008, 2009, and 2010; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 3720. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to suspend the minimum required pension distribution rules for 2008 and 2009; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BROWNBACK:

S. 3721. A bill to prohibit the use of funds to transfer individuals detained by the United States at Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to the United States Disciplinary

Barracks, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. BENNETT):

S. 3722. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to provide for auditable, independent verification of ballots, to ensure the security of voting systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Ms. CANTWELL:

S. 3723. A bill to establish a framework for coordination and cooperation on energy and environmental issues among the United States, the People's Republic of China, and India, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. ENSIGN):

S. 3724. A bill to direct the Secretary to take land into trust for the Te-moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. Res. 721. A resolution recognizing and honoring the Smith Center High School football team; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. Res. 722. A resolution recognizing January 2, 2009 as "National Advertising Specialty Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. McCONNELL (for himself and Mr. REID):

S. Res. 723. A resolution to permit the collection of clothing, toys, food, and housewares during the holiday season for charitable purposes in Senate buildings; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 893

At the request of Mr. DEMINT, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 893, a bill to allow a State to combine certain funds and enter into a performance agreement with the Secretary of Education to improve the academic achievement of students.

S. 1287

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1287, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an offset against income tax refunds to pay for State judicial debts that are past-due.

S. 2521

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2521, a bill to provide benefits to domestic partners of Federal employees.

S. 2928

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cospon-

sor of S. 2928, a bill to ban bisphenol A in children's products.

S. 3150

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3150, a bill to prohibit the Secretary of Transportation or the Administrator of Federal Aviation Administration from conducting auctions, implementing congestion pricing, limiting airport operations, or charging certain use fees at airports.

S. 3533

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3533, a bill to establish the Daniel Webster Congressional Clerkship Program.

S. 3672

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3672, a bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to improve economic opportunity and development in rural States through highway investment, and for other purposes.

S. 3673

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3673, a bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to improve highway transportation in the United States, including rural and metropolitan areas.

S. 3684

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 3684, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an above-the-line deduction against individual income tax for interest in indebtedness and for State sales and excise taxes with respect to the purchase of certain motor vehicles.

S. 3697

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3697, a bill to amend the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act to require approval by the Congress for certain expenditures for the Troubled Asset Relief Program.

S. 3698

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3698, a bill to prohibit any recipient of emergency Federal economic assistance from using such funds for lobbying expenditures or political contributions, to improve transparency, enhance accountability, encourage responsible corporate governance, and for other purposes.