

retirement of Lieutenant General Michael D. Maples, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-530. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement, Acquisition Policy, and Strategic Sourcing, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Responsible Prospective Contractors" (RIN0750-AG20) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2009; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-531. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement, Acquisition Policy, and Strategic Sourcing, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; List of Firms Owned or Controlled by the Government of a Terrorist Country" (RIN0750-AG22) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2009; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-532. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement, Acquisition Policy, and Strategic Sourcing, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; DoD Law of War Program" (RIN0750-AF82) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2009; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-533. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement, Acquisition Policy, and Strategic Sourcing, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Removal of North Korea from the List of Terrorist Countries" (RIN0750-AG18) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2009; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-534. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Strategies for the Commercialization and Deployment of Greenhouse Gas Intensity Reducing Technologies and Practices"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-535. A communication from the Assistant Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "National Water Quality Inventory: Report to Congress, 2004 Reporting Cycle"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-536. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Priorities List, Final Rule" (RIN2050-AD75) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2009; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-537. A communication from the Deputy Under Secretary for International Affairs, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Progress in Implementing Capacity-Building Provisions under the Labor Chapter of the Dominican Republic—Central America—United States Free Trade Agreement"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-538. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement, Acquisition Policy, and Strategic Sourcing, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; U.S.—International Atomic Energy Agency Additional Protocol" (RIN0750-AF98) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on

January 16, 2009; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-539. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Citizens' Report: FY 2008 Summary of Performance and Financial Results"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-540. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Investment Advice—Participants and Beneficiaries" (RIN1210-AB13) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2009; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-541. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Civil Penalties Under ERISA Section 502(c)(4)" (RIN1210-AB24) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2009; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-542. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Interpretive Bulletin Relating to Exercise of Shareholder Rights" (RIN1210-AB28) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2009; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-543. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Interpretive Bulletin Relating to Investing in Economically Targeted Investments" (RIN1210-AB29) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2009; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-544. A communication from the Director, Office of Counternarcotics Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security and the Deputy Associate Attorney General, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Southwest Border Counternarcotics Strategy due to Congress by April 2009; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-545. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Administration's compliance with the Sunshine Act during calendar year 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-546. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General for Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the Department's competitive sourcing efforts during fiscal year 2008; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

*Timothy F. Geithner, of New York, to be Secretary of the Treasury.

*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. CHAMBLISS (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COBURN, and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 296. A bill to promote freedom, fairness, and economic opportunity by repealing the income tax and other taxes, abolishing the Internal Revenue Service, and enacting a national sales tax to be administered primarily by the States; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida:

S. 297. A bill to amend the Act entitled "An Act authorizing associations of producers of aquatic products" to include persons engaged in the fishery industry as charter boats or recreational fishermen, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. CONRAD, and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. 298. A bill to establish a Financial Markets Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 299. A bill to establish a pilot program in certain United States district courts to encourage enhancement of expertise in patent cases among district judges; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GREGG:

S. 300. A bill to enable the Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information of the Department of Commerce to resume timely processing and distribution of TV converter box coupons by increasing its fiscal authority to make payments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. KOHL, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 301. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to provide for transparency in the relationship between physicians and manufacturers of drugs, devices, biologicals, or medical supplies for which payment is made under Medicare, Medicaid, or SCHIP; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mrs. HUTCHISON):

S. 302. A bill to authorize the International Boundary and Water Commission to reimburse State and local governments for expenses incurred by such governments in designing, constructing, and rehabilitating the Lower Rio Grande Valley Flood Control Project; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. CARPER):

S. 303. A bill to reauthorize and improve the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1999; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. DORGAN:

S. 304. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to stimulate business investment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mrs. BOXER for the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

*Lisa Perez Jackson, of New Jersey, to be Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

*Nancy Helen Sutley, of California, to be a Member of the Council on Environmental Quality.

By Mr. BAUCUS for the Committee on Finance.