

AUBURN LIONS CLUB
COMMEMORATES CHARTER

• Ms. SNOWE. Madam President, today I pay tribute to the Auburn Lions Club which will commemorate the receipt of their charter on November 13th during their magnificent "Charter Night." Although I deeply regret that I am unable to attend in person, I will be there very much in spirit!

I cannot tell this Chamber how inspired and impressed I am by the phenomenal history of the Lions Club and all it has accomplished and exemplifies to this day. For 92 years, the men and women of the Lions Club have been on the front lines of compassion and good will for countless individuals throughout America and the world with their extraordinary commitment to community and humanitarian service that has been the cornerstone of the Lions Club's exceptional mission as well as the impetus behind its founding by Melvin Jones in 1917.

Speaking of the enormous legacy of the legendary Melvin Jones, I want to take a moment to express the profound distinction I felt this past May when I was honored as a Melvin Jones fellow, the most prestigious form of recognition conferred by the Lions Club International Foundation. And I can tell you, receiving that accolade from the Lions Club which I hold in such high esteem as well as from my cousin, Duke Goranites, 1st Vice District Governor of Maine and District Governor-Elect of the Lions Club—who is like a brother to me and is the brother of my wonderful cousin, Georgia Chomas, was truly one of the most gratifying experiences of my life!

And let me just say, Duke has really outdone himself this year! Believe me, we are all well aware of how busy he is these days. His schedule could not be more rigorous as he's traveling around the State, and so I am even more grateful to Duke who not only will emcee the Charter Night event, but has been vital in helping Auburn bring this charter to fruition.

What a truly landmark accomplishment this charter represents—one that is emblematic of the initiative, generosity, and resolve of my hometown of Auburn, ME, where my roots run deep, as well as the enduring purpose of the Lions Club which has a longstanding legacy of contribution on behalf of others in Maine, America, and the world. And let me say, how pleased I was to send an American flag to the Auburn Lions Club that was flown over the U.S. Capitol in honor of this marvelous occasion.

The Auburn Lions Club will be joining the ranks of the largest international service organization in the world which has a presence in more than 200 countries and with 1.3 million members and 45,000 clubs worldwide. They will be committed in word and deed to advancing the Lions Club motto "we serve." And Melvin Jones' time-honored precept that "you can't get very far until you start doing

something for somebody else" will be in good hands in Auburn.

The Auburn Lions Club will not only celebrate their newly acquired charter status but will also install the respective officers, whose leadership throughout the process has been instrumental. In that light, I commend Adam Smith, Auburn chapter president; and Georgia Chomas, vice-president, who coordinated the Charter Night event with Sandy Tassinari. I also commend Celeste Yakawonis, second vice-president, Nicole Andree, treasurer, and Sherry Bonawitz, secretary.

I also convey my immense appreciation for the stewardship and support of Glen Aho, Auburn city manager and charter member of the Auburn Lions Club, as well as to Ron Johnson, international director of the Lions Club, Lewis B. Small, Sr., past international director, and Roger Blackstone, district governor. I also recognize the Gray/New Gloucester Lions Club for their sponsorship of the Auburn Lions Club.

In keeping with the high caliber of individuals who have dedicated their enormous time and talent to this sterling endeavor, I am proud to say, the Auburn Lions Club can already point to community projects its members will be tackling, from addressing challenges confronting Auburn school students with a focus on homeless teens to working with the Lions' statewide effort to raise funds to purchase and install a standby generator for the Good Shepherd Food Bank. The Auburn Lions Club has established a goal of raising \$76,000 to match the Lions Club international grant of \$75,000. To say they will be hitting the ground running is an understatement!

The achievement of this charter is a memorable moment for the Auburn Lions Club, and I have no doubt what is said of Lions Clubs throughout Maine and around the world will be said of the Auburn Lions Club many times over—"whenever we get together, problems get smaller. And communities get better."•

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.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:26 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Ms. Chiappardi, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3962. An act to provide affordable, quality health care for all Americans and reduce the growth in health care spending, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 3962. An act to provide affordable, quality health care for all Americans and reduce the growth in health care spending, 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-3616. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act that was discovered during an audit performed by the Air Force Audit Agency and finalized in their report dated January 30, 2007, and has been assigned Air Force case number 07-07; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-3617. A communication from the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Plans), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Civilian Health Professions Scholarship Program for Mental Health Providers; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3618. A communication from the Secretary, Division of Investment Management, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulation S-AM: Limitations on Affiliate Marketing; Extension of Compliance Date" (RIN3235-AJ24) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 6, 2009; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3619. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the Export Administration Regulations Based on the 2008 Missile Technology Control Regime Plenary Additions" (RIN0694-AE53) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 9, 2009; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3620. A communication from the Director of the Minerals Management Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Estimates of Natural Gas and Oil Reserves, Reserves Growth, and Undiscovered Resources in Federal and State Waters off the Coast of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3621. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Further Extension of Effective Date of Normal Retirement Age Regulations for Governmental Plans" (Notice 2009-86) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 5, 2009; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3622. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch,

Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Section 108 Reduction of Tax Attributes for S Corporations" (RIN1545-BH54) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 5, 2009; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3623. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2009-0198 — 2009-0200); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3624. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-229, "Anacostia Business Improvement District Amendment Act of 2009"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3625. A communication from the Chairman, Board of Trustees, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, transmitting, pursuant to law, a financial report relative to fiscal years 2007 and 2008 in accordance with Section 8G(h) of the Inspector General Act of 1978; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-3626. A communication from the Director of Regulation Policy and Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Presumption of Service Connection for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis" (RIN2900-AN05) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 6, 2009; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3627. A communication from the Secretary of the Senate, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the receipts and expenditures of the Senate for the period from April 1, 2009 through September 30, 2009 received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2009; ordered to lie on the table.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

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

Report to accompany S. 1670, a bill to reform and modernize the limitations on exclusive rights relating to secondary transmissions of certain signals (Rept. No. 111-98).

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. BROWN:

S. 2759. A bill to amend titles II and XVI of the Social Security Act to provide for treatment of disability rated and certified as total by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs as disability for purposes of such titles; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself and Mr. BOND):

S. 2760. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for an increase in the annual amount authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out comprehensive service programs for homeless veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. VITTER, and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. 2761. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the bonus depreciation deduction applicable to the Gulf Opportunity Zone for 2 additional years; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for himself and Mr. BENNET):

S. 2762. A bill to designate certain lands in San Miguel, Ouray, and San Juan Counties, Colorado, as wilderness, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 2763. A bill to terminate the preemption of State and local laws that prohibit or regulate gaming or the operation of bucket shops, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

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

S. 2764. A bill to reauthorize the Satellite Home Viewer Extension and Reauthorization Act of 2004, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. KERRY:

S. 2765. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to authorize loan guarantees for health information technology; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

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

S. 2766. A bill to provide for the coverage of medically necessary food under Federal health programs and private health insurance; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 2767. A bill to provide additional resources and funding for construction and infrastructure improvements at United States land ports of entry, to open additional inspection lanes, to hire more inspectors, and to provide recruitment and retention incentives for United States Customs and Border Protection officers who serve on the Southern Border; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. 2768. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the National Transportation Safety Board for fiscal years 2010 through 2014, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. JOHANNNS, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 2769. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the use of entitlement under Post-9/11 Educational Assistance for the pursuit of apprenticeships and on-job training, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 2770. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to establish a Veterans Business Center program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. DEMINT (for himself, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. COBURN, and Mrs. HUTCHISON):

S.J. Res. 21. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to limiting the number of terms that a Member of Congress may serve to 3 in the House of Representatives and 2 in the Senate; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BURR (for himself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. JOHANNNS):

S. Res. 349. A resolution supporting and encouraging greater support for Veterans Day; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. Res. 350. A resolution recognizing November 14, 2009, as the 49th anniversary of the first day of integrated schools in New Orleans, Louisiana; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. LINCOLN:

S. Res. 351. A resolution designating the week beginning on November 9, 2009, as National School Psychology Week; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. VITTER, Mr. WEBB, Mr. NELSON of Florida, and Mr. LEMIEUX):

S. Res. 352. A resolution encouraging banks and mortgage servicers to work with families affected by contaminated drywall to allow temporary forbearance without penalty on payments on their home mortgages; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. HAGAN (for herself, Mr. JOHANNNS, Mr. BROWN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. TESTER, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. BURRIS, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. DODD):

S. Res. 353. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of "American Education Week"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 21

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 21, a bill to reduce unintended pregnancy, reduce abortions, and improve access to women's health care.

S. 252

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 252, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance the capacity of the Department of Veterans Affairs to recruit and retain nurses and other critical health care professionals, to improve the provision of health care veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 491

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 491, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal civilian and military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pretax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums.

S. 658

At the request of Mr. CASEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 658, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve health care for veterans who live in rural areas, and for other purposes.

S. 753

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 753, a bill to prohibit the manufacture, sale, or distribution in commerce of children's food and beverage containers composed of bisphenol A, and for other purposes.