

rural Kansas farm. In 1976, she was selected as a Farm Bureau leader to represent her district on the State Women's Committee. In 1989, she was elected to the Kansas Farm Bureau Board of Directors, and in 2002 she was elected as vice president of the Kansas Farm Bureau. Edie's career has taken her around the world to convey the importance of agriculture and to share her passion for the special way of life so many Kansans love.

Edie Dahlsten embodies many traits we can all admire—a deep love for the great State of Kansas, gratitude for the many hard-working families who daily provide the food, fuel, and fiber Americans rely on, and the respect of her peers across the nation.

I would now like to ask my colleagues to join us in recognizing Edie for her dedication, passion, and many years of service.●

#### CLOSE UP FOUNDATION

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, today I recognize the Close Up Foundation on the occasion of its 40th anniversary.

The Close Up Foundation has had a widespread impact on teachers and students around the nation, and I applaud their efforts to educate and inspire young people and provide teachers with valuable resources to take back to their classrooms.

Since 1971, the Close Up Foundation has been committed to promoting responsible and informed participation in our republic through experiential education programs that provide students with the knowledge and skills to be involved in our democratic process.

Close Up's partnerships with government agencies, the media, private businesses, and our capital's historic sites provide interactive classrooms to reinforce the links between our history and our current policy debates, giving students a better understanding of the concepts and institutions of America's constitutional government.

Again, I am proud to honor the Close Up Foundation and congratulate them for their many contributions towards educating America's youth.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, 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.)

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 2930. An act to amend the securities laws to provide for registration exemptions for certain crowd-funded securities, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2940. An act to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to eliminate the prohibition against general solicitation as a requirement for a certain exemption under Regulation D.

#### 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-3855. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Importation of Bromeliad Plants in Growing Media From Belgium, Denmark, and the Netherlands" ((RIN0579-AD36)(Docket No. APHIS-2010-0005)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2011; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3856. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Mitchell H. Stevenson, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3857. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Fire-Resistant Fiber for Production of Military Uniforms" ((RIN0750-AH22)(DFARS Case 2011-D021)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2011; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3858. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Simplified Acquisition Threshold for Humanitarian or Peacekeeping Operations" ((RIN0750-AH29)(DFARS Case 2011-D032)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2011; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3859. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Representation Relating to Compensation of Former DoD Officials" ((RIN0750-AG99)(DFARS Case 2010-D020)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2011; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3860. A communication from the Senior Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Office of Financial Stability, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "TARP Conflicts of Interests" (RIN1505-AC05) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3861. A communication from the Chief Counsel of the Fiscal Service, Bureau of Pub-

lic Debt, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Offering of United States Savings Bonds, Series EE; Regulations Governing Definitive United States Savings Bonds, Series EE and HH; Offering of United States Savings Bonds, Series I; Regulations Governing Definitive United States Savings Bonds, Series I; Final Rule" (31 CFR Parts 351, 353, 359, and 360) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3862. 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 "Tribal Economic Development Bonds—Request for Public Comment on Volume Cap Allocation Process and Optional Extension of Deadline to Issue Bonds" (Announcement 2011-71) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2011; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3863. 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 "O'Donnabhain v. Commissioner, 134 T.C. 34 (2010)" (AOD-2011-47) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2011; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3864. 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 "Extending Religious and Family Member FICA and FUTA Exceptions to Disregarded Entities" ((RIN1545-BJ07)(TD 9554)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2011; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3865. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations: Libya and UNSCR 2009" (RIN1400-AC97) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2011; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3866. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations: Filing, Retention, and Return of Export Licenses and Filing of Export Information" (RIN1400-AC91) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2011; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3867. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of Innovation and Improvement, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Priorities, Requirements, and Selection Criteria; Charter Schools Program (CSP) Grants for Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools" (RIN1855-ZA08) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3868. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of Innovation and Improvement, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Promise Neighborhoods Program" (RIN1855-ZA07) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3869. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services,