

small tokens, but they are powerful symbols of true heroism, sacrifice and dedication to service. This medal is presented on behalf of a grateful nation.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:28 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. 1405. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include a notice of disagreement form in any notice of decision issued for the denial of a benefit sought, to improve the supervision of fiduciaries of veterans under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1742. An act to exclude from consideration as income under the United States Housing Act of 1937 payments of pension made under section 1521 of title 38, United States Code, to veterans who are in need of regular aid and attendance, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2011. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a two-year extension of the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education.

H.R. 2189. An act to improve the processing of disability claims by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2481. An act to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs relating to benefits, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3304. An act to authorize and request the President to award the Medal of Honor to Bennie G. Adkins and Donald P. Sloat of the United States Army for acts of valor during the Vietnam Conflict and to authorize the award of the Medal of Honor to certain other veterans who were previously recommended for award of the Medal of Honor.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1405. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include a notice of disagreement form in any notice of decision issued for the denial of a benefit sought, to improve the supervision of fiduciaries of veterans under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 1742. An act to exclude from consideration as income under the United States Housing Act of 1937 payments of pension made under section 1521 of title 38, United States Code, to veterans who are in need of regular aid and attendance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 2011. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a two-year extension of the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 2189. An act to improve the processing of disability claims by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 2481. An act to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Sec-

retary of Veterans Affairs relating to benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 3304. An act to authorize and request the President to award the Medal of Honor to Bennie G. Adkins and Donald P. Sloat of the United States Army for acts of valor during the Vietnam Conflict and to authorize the award of the Medal of Honor to certain other veterans who were previously recommended for award of the Medal of Honor; to the Committee on Armed Services.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1592. A bill to provide for a delay of the individual mandate under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act until the American Health Benefit Exchanges are functioning properly.

#### 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. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 1594. A bill to designate the United States courthouse located at 101 East Pecan Street in Sherman, Texas, as the Paul Brown United States Courthouse; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 1595. A bill to establish a renewable electricity standard, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. TOOMEY:

S. 1596. A bill to require State educational agencies that receive funding under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to have in effect policies and procedures on background checks for school employees; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. BROWN):

S. 1597. A bill to provide for the use of savings promotion raffle products by financial institutions to encourage savings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. SCHUMER, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 1598. A bill to provide a process for ensuring the United States does not default on its obligations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. HELLER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. BEGICH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. TESTER, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 1599. A bill to reform the authorities of the Federal Government to require the production of certain business records, conduct electronic surveillance, use pen registers and trap and trace devices, and use other forms of information gathering for foreign intelligence, counterterrorism, and criminal purposes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr.

HELLER, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. COONS, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. COATS, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. RISCH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 1600. A bill to facilitate the reestablishment of domestic, critical mineral designation, assessment, production, manufacturing, recycling, analysis, forecasting, workforce, education, research, and international capabilities in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Ms. HEITKAMP):

S. 1601. A bill to ensure that certain communities may be granted exceptions for floodproofed residential basements for purposes of determining risk premium rates for flood insurance; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 1602. A bill to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs a national center for the diagnosis, treatment, and research of health conditions of the descendants of veterans exposed to toxic substances during service in the Armed Forces, to provide certain services to those descendants, to establish an advisory board on exposure to toxic substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. LEVIN):

S. 1603. A bill to reaffirm that certain land has been taken into trust for the benefit of the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatami Indians, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S. 1604. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand and enhance eligibility for health care and services through the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 1605. A bill for the relief of Michael G. Faber; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. UDALL of Colorado:

S. 1606. A bill to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs to be constructed at 3141 Centennial Boulevard, Colorado Springs, Colorado, as the "PFC Floyd K. Lindstrom Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 1607. A bill to provide conformity in Native small business opportunities and promote job creation, manufacturing, and American economic recovery; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. SCHATZ:

S. 1608. A bill to authorize appropriations for the SelectUSA Initiative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. BEGICH):

S. 1609. A bill to amend title 14, United States Code, to authorize the Commandant of the United States Coast Guard to lease tidelands and submerged lands under control of the Coast Guard for periods longer than five years; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. ISAKSON, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. VITTER, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. NELSON, Mr. BEGICH, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. FRANKEN):