

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills and joint resolutions were read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated.

H.R. 207. An act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into a land exchange involving the Cleveland National Forest, California, and to require a boundary adjustment for the national forest to reflect the land exchange, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 238. An act to provide for the protection of wild horses within the Ozark National Scenic Riverways and prohibit the removal of such horses; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1163. An act to authorize the exchange of National Park Service land in the Fire Island National Seashore in the State of New York for land in the Village of Patchogue, Suffolk County, New York; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1581. An act to establish a national public works program to provide incentives for the creation of jobs and address the restoration of infrastructure in communities across the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry.

H.R. 1585. An act to expand the boundary of the Modoc National Forest to include lands presently owned by the Bank of California, N.A. Trustee, to facilitate a land exchange with the Forest Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1838. An act to provide for an exchange of lands with the Water Conservancy District of Washington County, Utah; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2437. An act to provide for the exchange of certain lands in Gilpin County, Colorado; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.J. Res. 69. Joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Homer Alfred Neal as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

H.J. Res. 110. Joint resolution providing for the appointment of Howard H. Baker, Jr. as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

H.J. Res. 111. Joint resolution providing for the appointment of Anne D'Harnoncourt as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

H.J. Res. 112. Joint resolution providing for the appointment of Louis Gerstner as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

MEASURE COMMITTED

The following bill was committed as indicated:

H.R. 1833. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to ban partial-birth abortions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on November, 1995 he had presented to the President of the United States, the following enrolled bill:

S. 457. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to update references in

the classification of children for purposes of United States immigration laws.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mrs. KASSEBAUM, from the Committee on Labor and Human Resources:

James Charles Riley, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission for a term of six years expiring August 30, 2000.

Elisabeth Griffith, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the James Madison Memorial Foundation for the remainder of the term expiring September 27, 1996.

Theodore M. Hesburgh, of Indiana, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States Institute of Peace for a term expiring January 19, 1999.

Walter Anderson, of New York, to be a Member of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science for a term expiring July 19, 2000.

C. Richard Allen, of Maryland, to be a Managing Director of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

Louise L. Stevenson, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation for a term expiring November 17, 1999.

Anne H. Lewis, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

Susan Robinson King, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed, subject to the nominees' commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

By Mr. COCHRAN, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, Forestry:

Michael V. Dunn, of Iowa, to be an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.

Michael V. Dunn, of Iowa, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

John David Carlin, of Kansas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed, subject to the nominees' 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 time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BENNETT (for himself, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. HATCH):

S. 1401. A bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to minimize duplication in regulatory programs and to give States exclusive responsibility under approved States program for permitting and enforcement of the provisions of that Act with respect to surface coal mining and reclamation operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. JOHNSTON, and Mr. KEMPTHORNE):

S. 1402. A bill to amend the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Land Withdrawal Act and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. INOUE:

S. 1403. A bill to amend the Organic Act of Guam to provide restitution to the people of Guam who suffered atrocities such as personal injury, forced labor, forced marches, internment, and death during the occupation of Guam in World War II, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. KYL):

S. 1404. A bill to enhance restitution to victims of crime, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FRIST:

S. 1405. A bill to eliminate certain benefits for Members of Congress; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BENNETT (for himself, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. HATCH):

S. 1401. A bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to minimize duplication in regulatory programs and to give States exclusive responsibility under approved States program for permitting and enforcement of the provisions of that act with respect to surface coal mining and reclamation operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

THE SURFACE MINING CONTROL AND RECLAMATION ACT OF 1977 AMENDMENT'S ACT OF 1995

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, today I am introducing legislation in behalf of myself, Senators THOMAS, SIMPSON, WARNER, and HATCH to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977. I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

The Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act [SMCRA] was signed into law by President Carter in the aftermath of the energy crisis, when coal regulation was considered crucial to the success of his national energy program. In 1977, when this legislation was passed, there were more than 6,000 operating coal mines. Today, the number of operating mines has been reduced approximately to half of the 1977 level. The questions which were first raised back then regarding the States' abilities to effectively operate regulatory programs have been satisfactorily answered and now is the time that we should reexamine the role of OSM and the effectiveness of the current law.

When Congress passed SMCRA, it was agreed that the time had arrived for tougher environmental standards for surface mining operations. SMCRA established specific environmental guidelines for surface mines, including requirements for water and soil treatment and remediation as well as reclamation requirements for old and abandoned mines. It also established the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund and the Office of Surface Mining. Most