

international agreements, other than treaties, and background statements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC 1505. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, the report of the texts of international agreements, other than treaties, and background statements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC 1506. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Treasury, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to authorize appropriations to pay for the U.S. capital subscription as part of the eighth general capital increase of the Inter-American Development Bank; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC 1507. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Treasury, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to authorize the U.S. participation in and appropriations for the U.S. contribution to the sixth replenishment of the resources of the Asian Development Bank; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC 1508. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Treasury, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to authorize consent to and authorize appropriations for a U.S. contribution to the Interest Subsidy Account of the successor to the Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility of the International Monetary Fund; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC 1509. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Treasury, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to authorize the U.S. participation in and appropriations for the U.S. contribution to the eleventh replenishment of the resources of the International Development Association; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC 1510. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Treasury, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to authorize the U.S. participation in an increase in authorized capital stock of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and to authorize appropriations to pay for the increase in the U.S. capital subscription; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JEFFORDS, from the Committee on Labor and Human Resources: Alexis M. Herman, of Alabama, to Secretary of Labor.

(The above nomination was reported with the recommendation that she 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 time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. SANTORUM (for himself and Mr. COVERDELL):

S. 563. A bill to limit the civil liability of business entities that donate equipment to nonprofit organizations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 564. A bill to limit the civil liability of business entities providing use of facilities to nonprofit organizations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 565. A bill to limit the civil liability of business entities that make available to a nonprofit organization the use of a motor vehicle or aircraft; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 566. A bill to limit the civil liability of business entities that provide facility tours; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire:

S. 567. A bill to permit revocation by members of the clergy of their exemption from Social Security coverage; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. MACK, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. D'AMATO, and Mr. MOYNIHAN):

S. 568. A bill to make a technical correction to title 28, United States Code, relating to jurisdiction for lawsuits against terrorist states; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. DOMENICI, and Mr. DORGAN):

S. 569. A bill to amend the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. NICKLES (for himself, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. MACK, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. BOND, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. HAGEL, and Mr. THOMAS):

S. 570. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt certain small businesses from the mandatory electronic fund transfer system; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. REID:

S. 571. A bill to establish a uniform poll closing time throughout the continental United States for Presidential general elections; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. BRYAN):

S. Res. 71. A bill to ensure that the Senate is in compliance with the Congressional Accountability Act with respect to permitting a disabled individual access to the Senate floor when that access is required to allow the disabled individual to discharge his or her official duties; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SANTORUM (for himself and Mr. COVERDELL):

S. 563. A bill to limit the civil liability of business entities that donate equipment to nonprofit organizations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 564. A bill to limit the civil liability of business entities providing use of facilities to nonprofit organizations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 565. A bill to limit the civil liability of business entities that make available to a nonprofit organization the use of a motor vehicle or aircraft; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 566. A bill to limit the civil liability of business entities that provide facility tours; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

LEGISLATION TO LIMIT CIVIL LIABILITY OF BUSINESS

● Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I introduce four related pieces of legislation all aimed at increasing donations of goods and services to charities. Collectively called the charity empowerment project, I urge my colleagues to consider cosponsoring these bills.

Over the past 30 years, courts have consistently expanded what constitutes tortious conduct. Regrettably, fault is often not a factor when deciding who should compensate an individual for damages incurred. This has had an impact on charitable giving. Today, individuals and businesses are wary of giving goods, services, and time to charities for fear of frivolous lawsuits.

The charity empowerment project is designed to free up resources for charities by providing legal protections for donors. Generally, these bills raise the tort liability standard for donors, whereby they are liable only in cases of gross negligence, hence eliminating strict liability and returning to a fault based legal standard. By allowing businesses to once again become good Samaritans, I look forward to seeing a massive increase in the donation of goods and services to charities.

Specifically, I am introducing four bills each of which accomplishes one of the following four objectives: First, to limit the civil liability of business entities that donate equipment to nonprofit organizations; second, to limit the civil liability of business entities that provide use of their facilities to nonprofit organizations; third, to limit the civil liability of business entities that provide facility tours; and fourth, to limit the civil liability of business entities that make available to nonprofit organizations the use of motor vehicles or aircraft.

Clearly, where an organization is grossly negligent when providing goods or the use of its facilities to charity, that organization should be fully liable for injuries caused. These bills merely require this to be the standard in cases arising from certain donations to charities.

Last autumn, the Good Samaritan Food Donation Act was passed into law. This law now protects donors of foodstuffs to charities from liability except in cases where the donor was grossly negligent in making the donation. I was proud to join Senator BOND in his successful efforts to pass this act. The bills I introduce today draw from my successful work with Senator BOND last year. Each of these bills is modeled on the legal framework of the Good Samaritan Food Donation Act. I hope my distinguished colleagues who supported the Food Donation Act will help further these efforts by supporting the charity empowerment project.

Mr. President, I wish to note additional efforts by my colleagues to enhance charitable giving. Senator COVERDELL and Senator ASHCROFT have recently introduced legislation which