

EC-2376. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, U.S. Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a proposed license for the export of defense articles under the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2377. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, U.S. Department of State, transmitting pursuant to law, a proposed approval for exports to the United Kingdom under the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2378. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the youth programs of the Family and Youth Services Bureau for fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2379. A communication from the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the valuation of VA's portfolio of loans, notes, and guarantees, and other collateralized debts; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-2380. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on highway signs for the National Highway System; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2381. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, five rules including a rule entitled Tebuconazole (FRL-5849-2, 5838-7, 5718-7, 5720-4, 5725-7) received on June 24, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 231. A bill to establish the National Cave and Karst Research Institute in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-37).

S. 423. A bill to extend the legislative authority for the Board of Regents of Gunston Hall to establish a memorial to honor George Mason (Rept. No. 105-38).

S. 669. A bill to provide for the acquisition of the Plains Railroad Depot at the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site (Rept. No. 105-39).

S. 731. A bill to extend the legislative authority for construction of the National Peace Garden memorial, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-40).

By Mr. THOMPSON, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 173. A bill to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to authorize donation of surplus Federal law enforcement canines to their handlers.

H.R. 680. A bill to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to authorize the transfer to States of surplus personal property for donation to nonprofit providers of necessities to impoverished families and individuals.

S. 307. A bill to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to authorize the transfer to States of surplus personal property for donation to nonprofit providers of assistance to impoverished families and individuals, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CHAFEE, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, without amendment:

S. 833. A bill to designate the Federal building courthouse at Public Square and

Superior Avenue in Cleveland, Ohio, as the "Howard M. Metzbaum United States Courthouse."

By Mr. THOMPSON, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 861. A bill to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to authorize donation of Federal law enforcement canines that are no longer needed for official purposes to individuals with experience handling canines in the performance of law enforcement duties.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. THURMOND, from the Committee on Armed Services:

IN THE ARMY

The following-named officer for appointment in the U.S. Army, to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, United States Code, section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. David J. Kelley, 0000

IN THE ARMY

The following-named officer for appointment in the U.S. Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, United States Code, section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Randolph W. House, 0000

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

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. MURKOWSKI:

S. 964. A bill to direct a property conveyance in the State of California; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. 965. A bill to amend title II of the Hydrogen Future Act of 1996 to extend an authorization contained therein, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BREAUX:

S. 966. A bill to provide legal standards and procedures for suppliers of raw materials and component parts for medical devices and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself and Mr. STEVENS):

S. 967. A bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act to benefit Alaska natives and rural residents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MACK:

S. 968. A bill to provide for special immigrant status for certain aliens working as journalists in Hong Kong; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. D'AMATO (for himself, Mr. CHAFEE, and Mr. TORRICELLI):

S. 969. A bill ordering the preparation of a Government report detailing injustices suffered by Italian Americans during World War II, and a formal acknowledgement of such in-

justices by the President; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself and Mr. BUMPERS):

S. 970. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to exempt certain aliens who work for the Department of Veterans Affairs from the requirement that they work only in areas designated as having a shortage of health-care professionals; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself and Mr. TORRICELLI):

S. 971. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to improve the quality of coastal recreation waters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. COATS, and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 972. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit any deduction for gambling losses; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. CHAFEE):

S. 973. A bill to designate the United States Post Office building located at 551 Kingstown Road in Wakefield, Rhode Island, as the "David B. Champagne Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. REED:

S. 974. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to modify the qualifications for a country to be designated as a visa waiver pilot program country; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S. 964. A bill to direct a property conveyance in the State of California; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

THE WARD VALLEY LAND TRANSFER ACT

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, today I rise to introduce legislation designed to end an impasse that we've endured for far too long—the stalemate over the Ward Valley low-level radioactive waste facility and efforts to implement an important Federal law—the low level radioactive waste policy amendments.

I am doing this today because of documents that have recently come to light under the Freedom of Information Act and due to the continuing differences between the words spoken under oath by a Presidential nominee before my committee and his actions to date.

For more than 10 years, the State of California acting in complete accordance with Federal law and in cooperation with responsible Federal agencies, has been attempting to open a low-level radioactive waste repository at a Mojave Desert site in Ward Valley.

The long, tortured process costing more than \$40 million has included a statewide search resulting in the selection of a virtually unpopulated desert valley; two environmental impact statements under the National Environmental Policy Act; two biological opinions under the Endangered Species Act; and judicial review including the California Supreme Court.