

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

EC-7425. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Drinking Water Tribal Set-Aside Grants Guidance to Applicants", received February 4, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7426. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Guidance or Project Eligibility and Design under the Region IX Tribal Border Infrastructure Program", received February 4, 2000; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7427. A communication from the Acting Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants: Final Rule to List Kneeland Prairie Penny-Cress (*Thaspi californicum*) as Endangered" (RIN1018-AE55), received February 4, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7428. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Civil Works, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a proposed deep draft navigation and ecosystem restoration project for Oakland Harbor, CA; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7429. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Civil Works, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the construction of a flood damage reduction project along the Rio Grande de Manati at Barcelona, PR; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7430. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Closure for Pollock in Statistical Area 610 of the Gulf of Alaska", received February 7, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7431. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska-Closure for Pollock in Statistical Area 620 Outside the Shelikof Strait Conservation Area in the Gulf of Alaska", received February 7, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-400. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Maine relative to the protection and restoration of the Atlantic Salmon; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

#### JOINT RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Federal Government, through the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service, has proposed to list the Atlantic salmon in 8 Maine rivers under the federal Endangered Species Act and has indicated a potential to include additional Maine rivers to the det-

ription of the agriculture, manufacturing, forest products and aquaculture industries of Maine on the basis of limited scientific evidence;

Whereas, Maine is strongly committed to the restoration of the Atlantic salmon to its waters, as demonstrated through the development of a comprehensive and cooperative Salmon Conservation Plan, which was produced over the course of 3 years with input from federal officials, relevant state departments, local conservation groups, affected businesses, farmers and riverside residents; and

Whereas, since the area covered by these 8 rivers and other rivers that may be included in the listing in the future contains 1/3 of the human population of Maine and virtually all of the aquaculture industry, all of Maine will feel the impact of the naming of the Atlantic salmon to the Endangered Species List; and

Whereas, adding the Atlantic salmon to the Endangered Species List in order to help the return of the Atlantic salmon in significant numbers to Maine's waters compromises partnership between Maine and the Federal Government, which has had a history of good faith; and

Whereas, there exist many significant threats to the Atlantic salmon that lie beyond the influence of Maine that also affect the prospects of long-term Atlantic salmon restoration to the rivers of Maine; and

Whereas, Maine is strongly committed to the restoration of the Atlantic salmon to its waters, has committed millions of dollars to its plan to produce this result and feels that the naming of the Atlantic salmon to the Endangered Species List is premature; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That We, your Memorialists, respectfully urge and request that the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt, the Secretary of Commerce William Daley and the Congress of the United States reconsider the intent to include the Atlantic salmon on the Endangered Species List as it would benefit neither the Atlantic salmon nor the people of Maine and allow Maine to continue to execute its own comprehensive plan to restore the Atlantic salmon to its waters; and be it further

*Resolved*, That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, to the Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt, to the Secretary of Commerce William Daley and to each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Special Committee on Aging: Special Report entitled "Developments in Aging: 1997 and 1998" (Rept. 106-229).

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first time and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DODD, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ROBB, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. GRAMM):

S. 2035. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to clarify the application of the Act popularly known as the "Death on the High Seas Act" to aviation incidents; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire:

S. 2036. A bill to make permanent the moratorium on the imposition of taxes on the Internet; read the first time.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. HELMS):

S. 2037. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend the option to use rebased target amounts to all sole community hospitals; to the Committee on Finance.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. MACK, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. FRIST, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. SANTORUM):

S. Res. 253. A resolution to express the Sense of the Senate that the Federal investment in biochemical research should be increased by \$2,700,000,000 in fiscal year 2001; to the Committee on Appropriations.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. HELMS):

S. 2037. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend the option to use rebased target amounts to all sole community hospitals; to the Committee on Finance.

#### SOLE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL FAIR PAYMENT ACT OF 2000

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Sole Community Hospital Fair Payment Act. This legislation will correct an unintended drafting error involving Medicare reimbursements for the Sole Community Hospital program, enacted last year as part of the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Balanced Budget Refinement Act (P.L. 106-113).

Medicare designates Sole Community Hospitals based on factors such as isolated location, weather or travel conditions, or the absence of other hospitals within a 35 road-mile radius. These hospitals are considered the only source of inpatient services that are reasonably available in a geographic area. Sole Community Hospitals are reimbursed for services on either a federal national standardized amount or on a hospital-specific target amount that is based on either updated FY 1982 or updated FY 1987 costs.

Last year, Congress passed legislation updating the federal rate reimbursement level to costs based on Fiscal Year 1996. A drafting error in the bill, however, unintentionally updated the reimbursements for hospitals that are paid on a specific rate—leaving out 327 hospitals across the country that Congress intended to help.