

Wildlife Society, and Award of Merit from the ASCS for helping write and pass the Farm Bill. Mr. Evans has also received the American Motors Conservation Award for his many contributions to the success of the Missouri Conservation Department's coordinated forest habitat management program, and the E. Sydney Stephens Award for his career contributions to Missouri's wildlife resources. I wish to honor and thank him for his hard work and dedication to the preservation of wildlife and the environment.

To people in Missouri, Mr. Evans has always been known as "Ray". His trademark ribbon tie, warm smile and commitment to his neighbors and the land they live on will remain his legacy. On the national scene, Ray has been a tireless advocate of Federal assistance to promote local initiatives. Ray has always understood that conservation is a "public good" and, consequently, the public should help landowners provide that public good. As a practicing farmer, Ray also understands and helps our urban friends understand that farmers are the most committed practitioners of conservation because it is good business and because they want to leave more value to their children and future generations. In other words, they want to leave it better than they found it. It is that understanding that won him the trust of landowners which is a key element to the success with which Ray is associated.

Ray's advocacy has been tireless, both for him and those of us he pursued constantly. With Ray, the "to-do" list is never complete and every success is followed by a new initiative. Recently, after Ray witnessed President Bush signing the 4th consecutive Farm Bill Ray worked on, Ray innocently succeeded in lifting the President's speech and convincing the President to sign it for him. While Ray was a good enough salesman to pull that off, he couldn't get past the staff who have obligations to the National Archives but if anyone deserves a high-level souvenir for his work in conservation, it would be Ray. Nevertheless, I am pleased that Ray got some face time with the Commander-in-Chief out of the deal.

On behalf of many citizens who benefited from his friendship, work, and guidance, I thank Ray and I thank his wife Carole for lending him to us. While I trust he will continue sharing his presence at many conservation-related events, I am pleased that he and Carole will have more time to enjoy time together. I recommend that he take her for long walks in the countryside so they can both appreciate what they have done for the landscape.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

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. BINGAMAN:

S. 2624. A bill to amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act to require a comprehensive strategic plan for the State temporary assistance to needy families program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. MILLER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. INOUE, Mr. REID, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. AKAKA, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. REED, Mr. DODD, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. CARNAHAN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. DAYTON):

S. 2625. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage of outpatient prescription drugs under the medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. WELLSTONE, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. REED):

S. 2626. A bill to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CLELAND:

S. 2627. A bill to protect marine species off the coast of Georgia; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 839

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 839, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase the amount of payment for inpatient hospital services under the medicare program and to freeze the reduction in payments to hospitals for indirect costs of medical education.

S. 1339

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1339, a bill to amend the Bring Them Home Alive Act of 2000 to provide an asylum program with regard to American Persian Gulf War POW/MIAs, and for other purposes.

S. 1678

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas

(Mr. HUTCHINSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1678, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that a member of the uniformed services or the Foreign Service shall be treated as using a principal residence while away from home on qualified official extended duty in determining the exclusion of gain from the sale of such residence.

S. 1785

At the request of Mr. CLELAND, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1785, a bill to urge the President to establish the White House Commission on National Military Appreciation Month, and for other purposes.

S. 2051

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2051, a bill to remove a condition preventing authority for concurrent receipt of military retired pay and veterans' disability compensation from taking affect, and for other purposes.

S. 2059

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2059, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for Alzheimer's disease research and demonstration grants.

S. 2194

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2194, a bill to hold accountable the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 283

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 283, a resolution recognizing the successful completion of democratic elections in the Republic of Colombia.

AMENDMENT NO. 3838

At the request of Mr. ALLEN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3838 proposed to S. 2600, a bill to ensure the continued financial capacity of insurers to provide coverage for risks from terrorism.

At the request of Mr. TORRICELLI, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3838 proposed to S. 2600, supra.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. MILLER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. INOUE, Mr. REID, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms.