

transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "In the Matter of Petition by the United States Department of Transportation for Assignment of an Abbreviated Dialing Code (N11) to Access Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Services Nationwide" (FCC00-256) received on October 20, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4866. A communication from the Deputy Division Chief, Policy and Rules Division, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Parts 2 and 97 of the Commission's Rules to Create a Low Frequency Allocation for the Amateur Radio Service" (FCC03-105) received on October 20, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4867. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Imported Fire Ant; Approved Treatments" (Doc. No. 02-115-2) received on October 20, 2003; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4868. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Change in Disease Status of East Anglia with Regard to Classical Swine Fever" (Doc. No. 00-080-3) received on October 20, 2003; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4869. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Emerald Ash Borer; Quarantine and Regulations" (Doc. No. 02-125-1) received on October 20, 2003; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4870. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Sapote Fruit Fly" (Doc. No. 03-032-3) received on October 20, 2003; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4871. A communication from the Chief, Fee Section, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedule of Application Fees" (FCC02-202) received on October 20, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4872. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Telemarketing Sales Rule Fees" (RIN3084-AA86) received on October 20, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4873. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Rule and Technical Amendment to Amend Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Quota Counting Procedures" (RIN0648-AP65) received on October 20, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4874. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Irish Potatoes Grown in Certain Designated Counties in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon; Increased Assessment Rate" (Doc. No. FV03-945-1 FR) received on October

20, 2003; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4875. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting the report of a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4876. A communication from the Director, Office of Federal Housing and Enterprise Oversight, transmitting the Office's Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2003-2008; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4877. A communication from the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Reclassification of *Lesquerella filiformis* (Missouri Bladderpod) from Endangered to Threatened" (RIN1018-AH59) received on October 20, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4878. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Election of 4-year Ratable Spread of Income from Certain Partnerships or S Corporations" (Rev. Proc. 2003-79) received on October 20, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4879. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Miscellaneous Excise Taxes Collected by Return" (Rev. Proc. 2003-78) received on October 20, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4880. A communication from the Independent Counsel, Office of Independent Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office's 2001 Annual Report; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-4881. A communication from the Chairman, National Endowment for the Humanities, transmitting the Endowment's multi-year strategic plan for the fiscal years 2004 through 2009; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. SPECTER, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1132. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and enhance certain benefits for survivors of veterans, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-169).

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. SCHUMER (for himself and Mrs. CLINTON):

S. 1763. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 Chestnut Street, in Liberty, New York, as the "Ben R. Gerow Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MILLER (for himself and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. 1764. A bill to designate the building located at 493 Auburn Avenue, N.E., in Atlanta, Georgia, as the "John Lewis Civil Rights Institute"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. SESSIONS):

S. 1765. A bill to preserve and protect the free choice of individual employees to form,

join, or assist labor organizations, or to refrain from such activities; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. BURNS, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. DODD):

S. 1766. A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to prohibit the use of certain conservation funding to provide technical assistance under the conservation reserve program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 1767. A bill to prevent corporate auditors from providing tax shelter services to their audit clients; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BUNNING (for himself and Mr. SHELBY):

S. 1768. A bill to extend the national flood insurance program; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BREAUX:

S. 1769. A bill to provide for class action reform, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 1770. A bill to establish a voluntary alternative claims resolution process to reach a settlement of pending class action litigation; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

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

S. 1771. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to permit States to obtain reimbursement under the medicaid program for care or services required under the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act that are provided in a nonpublicly owned or operated institution for mental diseases; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina (for himself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 1772. A bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code to establish a priority for the payment of claims for duties paid to the United States by licensed customs brokers on behalf of the debtor; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Mr. INOUE, Mr. DOMENICI, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. Res. 248. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate concerning the individual Indian money account trust fund lawsuit; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 269

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 269, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to further the conservation of certain wildlife species.

S. 333

At the request of Mr. BREAUX, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 333, a bill to promote elder justice, and for other purposes.

S. 453

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 453, a bill to authorize the

Health Resources and Services Administration and the National Cancer Institute to make grants for model programs to provide to individuals of health disparity populations prevention, early detection, treatment, and appropriate follow-up care services for cancer and chronic diseases, and to make grants regarding patient navigators to assist individuals of health disparity populations in receiving such services.

S. 473

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 473, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify the jurisdiction of the United States over waters of the United States.

S. 572

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 572, a bill to establish a congressional commemorative medal for organ donors and their families.

S. 982

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 982, a bill to halt Syrian support for terrorism, end its occupation of Lebanon, stop its development of weapons of mass destruction, cease its illegal importation of Iraqi oil, and hold Syria accountable for its role in the Middle East, and for other purposes.

S. 985

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 985, a bill to amend the Federal Law Enforcement Pay Reform Act of 1990 to adjust the percentage differentials payable to Federal law enforcement officers in certain high-cost areas, and for other purposes.

S. 1087

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1087, a bill to provide for uterine fibroid research and education, and for other purposes.

S. 1103

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1103, a bill to clarify the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture to prescribe performance standards for the reduction of pathogens in meat, meat products, poultry, and poultry products processed by establishments receiving inspection services and to enforce the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) System requirements, sanitation requirements, and the performance standards.

S. 1222

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as

a cosponsor of S. 1222, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in determining eligibility for payment under the prospective payment system for inpatient rehabilitation facilities, to apply criteria consistent with rehabilitation impairment categories established by the Secretary for purposes of such prospective payment system.

S. 1353

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1353, a bill to establish new special immigrant categories.

S. 1368

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1368, a bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr. (posthumously) and his widow Coretta Scott King in recognition of their contributions to the Nation on behalf of the civil rights movement.

S. 1414

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1414, a bill to restore second amendment rights in the District of Columbia.

S. 1558

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1558, a bill to restore religious freedoms.

S. 1567

At the request of Mr. FITZGERALD, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. NICKLES) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1567, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to improve the financial accountability requirements applicable to the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

S. 1568

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1568, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to simplify certain provisions applicable to real estate investment trusts.

S. 1595

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1595, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow small business employers a credit against income tax with respect to employees who participate in the military reserve components and are called to active duty and with respect to replacement employees and to allow a comparable credit for activated military reservists who are self-employed individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 1612

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1612, a bill to establish a technology, equipment, and information transfer within the Department of Homeland Security.

S. 1628

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) were added as cosponsors of S. 1628, a bill to prescribe the oath of renunciation and allegiance for purposes of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

S. 1637

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1637, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to comply with the World Trade Organization rulings on the FSC/ETI benefit in a manner that preserves jobs and production activities in the United States, to reform and simplify the international taxation rules of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1645

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. CAMPBELL), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1645, a bill to provide for the adjustment of status of certain foreign agricultural workers, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to reform the H-2A worker program under that Act, to provide a stable, legal agricultural workforce, to extend basic legal protections and better working conditions to more workers, and for other purposes.

S. 1666

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1666, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish comprehensive State diabetes control and prevention programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1741

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1741, a bill to provide a site for the National Women's History Museum in the District of Columbia.

S. 1744

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. NICKLES) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. CAMPBELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1744, a bill to prevent abuse of Government credit cards.

S. 1751

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1751, a bill to amend the procedures that apply to consideration of interstate class actions to assure

fairer outcomes for class members and defendants, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1751, *supra*.

S. CON. RES. 21

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 21, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that community inclusion and enhanced lives for individuals with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities is at serious risk because of the crisis in recruiting and retaining direct support professionals, which impedes the availability of a stable, quality direct support workforce.

S. CON. RES. 58

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 58, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress with respect to raising awareness and encouraging prevention of stalking in the United States and supporting the goals and ideals of National Stalking Awareness Month.

S. CON. RES. 72

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 72, a concurrent resolution commemorating the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the United States Cadet Nurse Corps and voicing the appreciation of Congress regarding the service of the members of the United States Cadet Nurse Corps during World War II.

S. CON. RES. 73

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 73, a concurrent resolution expressing the deep concern of Congress regarding the failure of the Islamic Republic of Iran to adhere to its obligations under a safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency and the engagement by Iran in activities that appear to be designed to develop nuclear weapons.

STATEMENT ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. BURNS, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. DODD):

S. 1766. A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to prohibit the use of certain conservation funding to provide technical assistance under the conservation reserve program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today I am pleased to introduce bipartisan legislation with Senators SNOWE, BURNS, JEFFORDS, LAUTENBERG and DODD to restore the conservation funding commitment Congress and the administration made to farmers and ranchers in the 2002 farm bill.

Despite the historic conservation funding levels in the 2002 farm bill, family farmers and ranchers offering to restore wetlands, or offering to change the way they farm to improve air and water quality, continue to be rejected when they seek U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) conservation assistance. Producers are being turned away due to USDA's decision earlier this year to divert \$158.7 million from working lands conservation programs to pay for the cost of administering the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) despite a clear directive in the 2002 farm bill that the USDA use mandatory funds from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) to pay for CRP and WRP technical assistance. In particular, USDA diverted \$107.9 million from the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), \$27.6 from the Farmland and Ranchland Protection Program (FRPP), \$14.6 million from the Grasslands Reserve Program, and \$8.6 million from the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) to pay for CRP and WRP technical assistance.

Although the 2002 farm bill clearly intended USDA to use CCC funds to pay for CRP and WRP technical assistance, USDA continues to ignore Congress's intent. The plain language of the statute and the legislative history, including a relevant colloquy, support this interpretation of the farm bill, and the General Accounting Office (GAO) concurred in a recent memo. I ask unanimous consent the GAO's memo be printed in the RECORD following my remarks.

Our legislation would override USDA's decision and prevent funds from working lands incentive programs like EQIP and WHIP from being diverted to pay for the technical assistance costs of CRP. The House Agriculture Subcommittee on Conservation has already approved similar legislation, H.R. 1907, requiring each program to pay for its own technical assistance needs. Our legislation parallels that effort, by requiring CRP to pay for its own technical assistance needs. Simply put, our amendment would require the Administration to honor the 2002 Farm Bill and mandate that technical assistance for each program is derived from funds provided for that program.

By providing more than \$6.5 billion for working lands programs like EQIP and WHIP in the 2002 farm bill, Congress dramatically increased funds to help farmers manage working lands to produce food and fiber and simultaneously enhance water quality and wildlife habitat. For example, EQIP

helps share the cost of a broad range of land management practices that help the environment, include more efficient use of fertilizers and pesticides, and innovative technologies to store and reuse animal waste. In combination, these working lands programs will provide farmers the tools and incentives they need to help meet our major environmental challenges.

Full funding for working lands incentive programs like EQIP and WHIP is vital to helping farmers and ranchers improve their farm management and meeting America's most pressing environmental challenges. Because 70 percent of the American landscape is private land, farming dramatically affects the health of America's rivers, lakes and bays and the fate of America's rare species. Most rare species depend upon private lands for their survival, and many will become extinct without help from private landowners. When farmers and ranchers take steps to help improve air and water quality or assist rare species, they can face new costs, new risks, or loss of income. Conservation programs help share these costs, underwrite these risks, or offset these losses of income. Unless Congress provides adequate resources for these programs, there is little reason to hope that our farmers and ranchers will be able to help to meet these environmental challenges.

In addition, USDA conservation programs promote regional equity in farm spending. More than 90 percent of USDA spending flows to a handful of large farmers in 15 midwestern and southern States. As a result, many farmers and ranchers who are not eligible for traditional subsidies—including dairy farmers, ranchers, and fruit and vegetable farmers—rely upon conservation programs to boost farm and ranch income and to ease the cost of environmental compliance. Unlike commodity subsidies, conservation payments flow to all farmers and all regions. But the farmers and ranchers who depend upon these programs—farmers and ranchers who already receive a disproportionately small share of USDA funds—have faced a disproportionately large cut in spending this year.

It is time for Congress and the administration to honor the intent of the 2002 farm bill, by fully funding working lands conservation programs. The failure to adequately fund these working lands conservation programs is having a dramatic impact on both farmers and the farm economy and could become worse in future years if Congress does not address this matter. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

There being no objection, the additional material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows: