

2003 PROFESSORS OF THE YEAR

• Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate two Virginians, Dr. Edward Ayers and Dr. Patty Hale, on their recent selection as Professors of the Year. This award, given by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, is a major accomplishment as only four national awards are given out each year. Dr. Ayers was recognized as Outstanding Doctoral and Research College Professor of the Year, and Dr. Hale was recognized as Outstanding Master's University and College Professor of the Year.

While I have not had the pleasure of meeting with these individuals personally, I have reviewed their qualifications. These two individuals, who have dedicated large portions of their lives to higher learning and to educating tomorrow's leaders, are imminently qualified for these awards. How fortunate we are in Virginia to have two such distinguished professors.

Dr. Edward Ayers is a Professor of History and Dean of Arts and Sciences at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA. An expert in Southern history, Dr. Ayers has taught for over 20 years and has authored numerous books. In 2000, he was appointed to the National Council for the Humanities by President Clinton, and in 2002, he was named to the Executive Board of the National Council for History Education. He has also been recognized for excellence in teaching, having received the Arthur Stocker Award for Outstanding Teaching from the ODK Honor Society at U.Va. and the Outstanding Faculty Award from the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia.

In addition, Dr. Ayers has created an innovative online program, the Valley of the South Project, which is a digital archive that allows people from around the world to explore the history of the Civil War. Four million people have visited the Valley of the South Project to explore the issues surrounding the coming, fighting, and aftermath of the Civil War. The Project has also won the critical acclaim of Dr. Ayers' peers, garnering the James Harvey Robinson Prize from the American Historical Association and the E-Lincoln Prize for Best Digital Project.

Dr. Patty Hale is a Professor of Nursing at Lynchburg College, in Lynchburg, VA. At Lynchburg College, she has won several teaching awards, including the State Council of Higher Education Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award.

One of Dr. Hale's most successful ventures has been her collaboration with four of her students on writing two directories of their community's health and social services. These booklets have been distributed free of charge to area residents and health professionals and have enhanced the knowledge and patronage of area health resources.

Her work has earned Dr. Hale great respect and honors in her community,

including the James A. Huston Excellence in Scholarship Award. Dr. Hale is committed to serving those less fortunate and has invested countless hours in forging community relationships to help disadvantaged people in her area. She and her students have started programs to provide health services to residents at several area shelters, clinics, and neighborhood health centers, most of which serve inner city low-income populations.

I commend both Dr. Ayers and Dr. Hales for the excellence in education, and am pleased to recognize them as recipients of Professors of the Year. •

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, 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.)

MEASURES REFERRED ON 10/30/2003

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1720. An act to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out construction projects for the purpose of improving, renovating, establishing, and updating patient care facilities at Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers, to provide by law for the establishment and functions of the Office of Research Oversight in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

The following bill was re-referred to the following committee, by unanimous consent:

S. 139. A bill to provide for a program of scientific research on abrupt climate change, to accelerate the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States by establishing a market-driven system of greenhouse gas tradeable allowances that could be used interchangeably with passenger vehicle fuel economy standard credits, to limited greenhouse gas emissions in the United States and reduce dependence upon foreign oil, and ensure benefits to consumers from the trading in such allowances to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1805. A bill to prohibit civil liability actions from being brought or continued against manufacturers, distributors, dealers, or importers of firearms or ammunition for damages resulting from the misuse of their products by others.

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REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. INHOFE, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1279. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize the President to carry out a program for the protection of the health and safety of residents, workers, volunteers, and others in a disaster area (Rept. No. 108-183).

By Mr. McCAIN, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with amendments and an amendment to the title:

S. 1262. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2004, 2005, and 2006 for certain maritime programs of the Department of Transportation, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-184).

By Mr. GREGG, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1248. A bill to reauthorize the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-185).

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 Ms. CANTWELL:

S. 1812. A bill to amend the Home Owner's Loan Act to clarify the citizenship of Federal savings associations for purposes of Federal court jurisdiction; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DURBIN, and Mrs. CLINTON):

S. 1813. A bill to prohibit profiteering and fraud relating to military action, relief, and reconstruction efforts in Iraq, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOND:

S. 1814. A bill to transfer federal lands between the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. COCHRAN (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. CHAMBLISS, and Mr. CRAPO):

S.J. Res. 22. A joint resolution recognizing the Agricultural Research Service of the Department of Agriculture for 50 years of outstanding service to the Nation through agricultural research; considered and passed.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. Res. 257. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that Congress should