

than the rate of inflation—while continuing to meet education, health care, and other priorities of this Nation. With this spending restraint and continue pro-growth economic policies, we can cut the deficit in half over the next five years.

Finally, this Budget addresses the needs of a great and compassionate Nation, whose values are strong, and whose institutions of hope are enduring. We are helping communities of faith pull the addicted out of dependency. We are lifting children out of a life of despair by making sure they have mentors, and we will continue to press for improvements in our schools, so that no child is left behind. We are extending hope and healing to millions suffering from the global epidemic of AIDS. We will begin to implement the benefits of our Medicare modernization and reform law, which will bring all our seniors coverage for prescription drugs. And we will make health care more affordable and extend the full benefits of our health care system to more Americans who currently have no health insurance.

Meeting these priorities will require hard work, skill, and the resources of a great Nation. Yet America has always risen to new challenges, and has always set new goals. Challenge and change have revealed the true strengths of this Nation and the enterprise of its people. And as 2004 begins, I am confident those gifts will serve us again, until our work is done.

GEORGE W. BUSH,
THE WHITE HOUSE, February 2, 2004.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-6008. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the implementation of the Performance-Based Incentive System; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6009. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Labor's Fiscal Year 2003 Annual Report on Performance and Accountability; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6010. A communication from the Director, Office of Exemption Determinations, Employee Benefits Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Class Exemption for the Release of Claims and Extensions of Credit in Connection with Litigation" (RIN1210-ZA03) received on January 13, 2004; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6011. A communication from the Chairman, National Indian Gaming Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fees" (RIN3141-AA16) received on January 13, 2004; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-6012. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the implementation of machine-readable

passports; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-6013. A communication from the Under Secretary and Director, United States Patent and Trademark Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Changes to Implement the 2002 Inter Partes Reexamination and other Technical Amendments to the Patent Statute" (RIN0561-AB57) received on January 13, 2004; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-6014. A communication from the Director, Regulations Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Exclusions from Income and Net Worth Computations" (RIN2900-AJ52) received on January 13, 2004; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-6015. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District, Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District" (FRL#7607-5) received on January 20, 2004; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6016. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Formaldehyde, polymer with a[bis(1-phenylethyl)phenyl]-w-hydroxypoly(oxy-1,2ethanediy)-; Tolerance Exemption" (FRL#7340-9) received on January 20, 2004; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6017. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Copper (ii) Hydroxide; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL#7341-1) received on January 20, 2004; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6018. A communication from the Chairman, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the fiscal year 2003 Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6019. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Sulfuryl Fluoride; Pesticide Tolerance [Final Rule]" (FRL#7342-1) received on January 20, 2004; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6020. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Lactic Acid, n-Butyl Ester, (S) and Lactic Acid, Ethyl Ester, (S); Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [Final Rule]" (FRL#7338-4) received on January 20, 2004; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6021. A communication from the Secretary, LOCAL Television Loan Guarantee Board, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "7 CFR Part 2200 and 2201, LOCAL Television Loan Guarantee Program" (RIN0572-AB82) received on January 27, 2004; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6022. 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 "Add Yucatan Peninsula to the List of Regions Considered Free of Exotic Newcastle Disease" (Doc. No. 02-036-2) received on January 27, 2004; to

the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6023. A communication from the Chair, United States Access Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Inspector General Act and the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-6024. A communication from the Chair, United States Access Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Inspector General Act and the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-6025. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office's Fiscal Year 2003 Inventory of Commercial Activities; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-6026. A communication from the Executive Director, Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Federal Managers' Fiscal Integrity Act of 1982 and the Inspector General Act of 1988; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

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. DASCHLE (for Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. GRAHAM of Florida, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. DODD, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LOTT, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, and Mr. HAGEL)):

S. 2040. A bill to extend the date for the submittal of the final report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States, to provide additional funding for the Commission, and for other purposes; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

By Mr. MILLER:

S. 2041. A bill to provide that pay for Members of Congress be reduced following any fiscal year in which there is a Federal deficit; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. GRAHAM of Florida:

S. 2042. A bill for the relief of Rocco A. Trecosta of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SPECTER (for himself and Mr. SANTORUM):

S. 2043. A bill to designate a Federal building in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, as the "Ronald Reagan Federal Building"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 2044. A bill for the relief of Alemseghed Mussie Tesfamical; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 2045. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require a voter-verified permanent record or hardcopy under title III of such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. GRAHAM of Florida (for himself and Mr. NELSON of Florida):

S. 2046. A bill to authorize the exchange of certain land in Everglades National Park; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BOND:

S. 2047. A bill to amend the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 to include certain