

work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota this summer.

Kyle is a graduate of Cresbarb High School in Cresbarb, SD, and is currently a senior at South Dakota State University where he is majoring in political science. He is a hard worker and has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I give my thanks to Kyle and wish him continued success in the years to come.

ROBIN RYNO

Mr. President, today I rise to thank Robin Ryno, an intern in my Sioux Falls, SD office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota this summer.

Robin is a graduate of Winner High School in Winner, SD, and is currently attending the University of South Dakota where she is majoring in political science. She is a hard worker and has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I give my thanks to Robin and wish her continued success in the years to come.

REFORMING THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I express my interest in continuing to work on reform of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States.

National security is our priority, but it is vital that we not let overreaction from the Dubai Ports World controversy result in hasty legislation that will choke off foreign direct investment, or "in-sourcing," which is a key contributor to the U.S. economy. In my own State, 87,000 people, or 6 percent of the entire State workforce, are employed by in-sourcing companies. These are good jobs, most frequently in manufacturing, paying 34 percent higher wages on average.

It is understandable that everyone involved with the CFIUS process today is very cautious. Consequently, there are more CFIUS filings. CFIUS is taking extra measures to ensure that every transaction is strenuously scrutinized. Moreover, CFIUS is frequently requiring security commitments from parties with regard to transactions that they would not have given a second thought before.

Without a doubt, some of this is good—the CFIUS process needs to be thorough. But extreme caution, when mixed with amendments to the Exon-Florio statute proposed by S. 3549, may result in substantial bureaucratic friction and delay for the foreign investments that pose no national security risk.

I am concerned that, in the post-Dubai Ports World environment, overburdened CFIUS agencies could be tempted to regularly seek to extend the initial 30-day review to a 60-day period for reasons unrelated to any issues

presented by the transaction under review. This temptation could be even greater given the case-by-case, detailed notifications to Congress that the bill would require CFIUS personnel to provide at every stage of regulatory proceedings. Ultimately, these delays could clog up the CFIUS process, penalize foreign investors, and chill foreign investment, without actually contributing to improved national security.

I also raised this issue during Banking Committee hearings on S. 3549, which passed the Senate last week. Chairman SHELBY pledged to work to address these concerns during markup of the legislation. I look forward to working with him to do so as the bill proceeds to conference. •

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES J. D'AGOSTINO

• Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I recognize the accomplishments of BG James J. D'Agostino, U.S. Air Force, assistant adjutant general for air and deputy commanding general, of the Rhode Island National Guard. General D'Agostino is retiring on August 5, 2006, with over 38 years of active military service in war and peace. I have been pleased to know General D'Agostino for many years.

Brigadier General D'Agostino has served in a variety of field and staff assignments. His military career began in 1967 when he enlisted in the U.S. Army. After completing infantry training, he served with distinction during the Vietnam war in four separate military campaigns. After serving in Vietnam, he was transferred to the Army Reserve and was honorably discharged as a sergeant in 1973.

In 1974, Brigadier General D'Agostino joined the 143rd Civil Engineering Flight of the Rhode Island Air National Guard. Three years later, he graduated from the Air National Guard Academy of Military Science and was commissioned a first lieutenant. Shortly thereafter, he assumed the duties of base civil engineer for the 281st Combat Communications Group in Coventry, RI. Twenty-one years later, in 1999, he was transferred to the U.S. Property and Fiscal Office for Rhode Island as the supervisory logistics management specialist. Within 2 years, Brigadier General D'Agostino was selected to be the fiscal officer for Rhode Island, where he served through September 2005. In October 2005, he transitioned to his current position as the assistant adjutant general for air and deputy commanding general of the Rhode Island National Guard.

You have to cast a very large net to truly capture everything Brigadier General D'Agostino has done to improve the Rhode Island National Guard. I would like to highlight some of his greatest accomplishments. During his 21-year tenure as the only "one

person" base civil engineering officer in the Air National Guard, he completely rebuilt both the Coventry and North Smithfield Air National Guard stations. He planned and effected a comprehensive program of military construction which has since cut operating and maintenance costs by nearly 50 percent. Additionally, he more than tripled the size of the North Smithfield Air National Guard, station, which provided, for the first time, a realistic environment for unit-wide, in-garrison field training. For his outstanding performance he was recognized as Rhode Island's Federal Professional Employee of the Year in 1997.

In 1998, Brigadier General D'Agostino prepared the critical project book for what was at that time the single largest military construction project in the Rhode Island National Guard, the \$16 million C-130J aircraft hanger. Rhode Island's 143rd Airlift Wing was subsequently the first Air Force unit to receive the C-130J and appropriately, they performed superbly as they deployed the first C-130Js during the global war on terrorism in Iraq. Today, that hanger supports the Rhode Island Air National Guard's five C-130J aircraft.

And finally, Brigadier General D'Agostino's has been a critical supporter of energy conservation. While rebuilding Rhode Island's bases, he strictly adhered to using energy efficient air conditioning units, lighting fixtures, and appliances. Additionally, he has implemented various energy conservation programs that further enhance energy efficiency. Between these and other cost saving measures, an estimated reduction of over 50 percent has been achieved in operating and maintenance costs.

While carrying the full load of his professional career, Brigadier General D'Agostino has been affiliated with at least 30 professional and military organizations. He has and continues to serve in many prominent positions, where his work has paralleled his military successes.

Brigadier General D'Agostino, currently serves as the chairman of the board at the Society for Human Advancement through Rehabilitation Engineering Foundation, with which he has been actively involved for over 20 years. The society has enabled hundreds of individuals with disabilities to communicate via custom-made computer systems utilizing voice synthesizers and other specialized equipment.

As a past president of the National Guard Association of Rhode Island, Brigadier General D'Agostino created and still chairs its scholarship awards program, which has awarded almost \$40,000 in scholarships. Additionally, he also served for several years as a trustee for the Rhode Island Air National Guard's McGown-Roberts Scholarship Fund, the primary educational fundraising vehicle for Air National Guard personnel. In 2002, the National Guard Association of the United States

awarded him its coveted Meritorious Service Award for his contributions to his State and Nation.

Brigadier General D'Agostino is surrounded by a wonderful family. Together with his wife of almost 30 years, Frances, he has raised two children, Christopher and Alisa, of which they are very proud. He and Frances have been a remarkable example of husband and wife in service to the Air Force, to the Rhode Island National Guard, and to the Nation. Anyone who has enjoyed their friendship, treasures their company and their kindness.

Through Brigadier General D'Agostino's considerable efforts, the men and women of the Rhode Island National Guard have truly world-class facilities in which to accomplish their critical work. His consistent exceptional performance and exemplary character have secured his reputation as one of Rhode Island's most respected military officers.

The Rhode Island National Guard has never been stronger and more connected to the Army and Air Force. Brigadier General D'Agostino has set the groundwork for current and future Rhode Island National Guard facilities. His dedication to excellence and his unsurpassed devotion to duty, honor, and country have marked his distinguished service over 38 years.●

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF MARRIAGE

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Vert and Doris Voigt and Clayton and Minnie Wittmeier of Avon, SD. The Voigts were married on September 7 while the Wittmeier's were married on August 24, both 50 years ago this year.

The Voigts and Wittmeiers are close neighbors and even closer friends. Both couples were married in the Emmanuel Reformed Church in Springfield, SD, and for many years since have been active in the First Baptist Church in Avon. The Wittmeiers and the Voights have served and continue to serve as a great example of dedication and commitment; both in their marriages and through their friendship.

I would like to offer my congratulations to Vert and Doris Voigt and Clayton and Minnie Wittmeier on their anniversaries and wish them continued happiness in the years to come.●

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.)

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 5684. An act to implement the United States-Oman Free Trade Agreement.

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-7720. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, a report relative to a bill entitled "Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2006"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7721. A communication from the General Counsel, Department of Commerce, transmitting, a report of draft legislation relative to amending the Communications Act of 1934, received on July 26, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7722. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, the report of a draft bill entitled "The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention Act" received on July 16, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7723. A communication from the Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Rule to Implement Essential Fish Habitat and Habitat Areas of Particular Concern Conservation Measures" (RIN0648-AT09) received on July 26, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7724. A communication from the Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Rule to Revise Regulations Regarding Tagged Halibut and Tagged Sablefish" (RIN0648-AR09) received on July 26, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7725. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Specifications and Management Measures; Inseason Adjustments" (I.D.# 062706B) received on July 26, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7726. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Correction to the Guideline Harvest Level Regulations for the Pacific Halibut Charter Sport

Fishery in Waters in and off Alaska" ((RIN0648-AU30)(I.D.# 101501A)) received on July 26, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7727. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of Administrator, received on July 26, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7728. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zones (including 10 regulations beginning with CGD01-06-042)" (RIN1625-AA00) received on July 26, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7729. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone (including 10 regulations beginning with CGD09-06-080)" (RIN1625-AA00) received on July 6, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7730. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List of unclassified agreements 06-139-06-151); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7731. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed retransfer of Major Defense Equipment (MDE) of defense articles or defense services in the amount of \$14,000,000 or more to Gabon; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 3661. A bill to amend section 29 of the International Air Transportation Competition Act of 1979 relating to air transportation to and from Love Field, Texas (Rept. No. 109-317).

By Ms. COLLINS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 4646. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7320 Reseda Boulevard in Reseda, California, as the "Coach John Wooden Post Office Building".

H.R. 4811. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 215 West Industrial Park Road in Harrison, Arkansas, as the "John Paul Hamerschmidt Post Office Building".

H.R. 4962. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Pitcher Street in Utica, New York, as the "Captain George A. Wood Post Office Building".

H.R. 5104. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1750 16th Street South in St. Petersburg, Florida, as the "Morris W. Milton Post Office".

H.R. 5107. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1400 West Jordan Street in Pensacola, Florida, as the "Earl D. Hutto Post Office Building".