

and an economic anchor in New Orleans, with a staff of 125 and annual billings of more than \$75 million. The news media has recognized the agency's famed corporate culture, with New Orleans City Business and Gambit Weekly each naming it one of the top places to work in New Orleans.

In celebration of its 40th anniversary and in an effort to help beautify our city, the agency last week began planting 40 trees in City Park to replace those lost in Katrina. On Friday evening, the agency celebrated its history with all past and present employees at the Audubon Tea Room. I thank the Senate for recognizing this outstanding agency for its commitment to excellence and public service.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:05 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agreed to the report of the committee on conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2669) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 601 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008.

The message also announced that the House passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2786. An act to reauthorize the programs for housing assistance for Native Americans.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message further announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 377. An act to establish a United States-Poland parliamentary youth exchange program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2358. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint and issue coins in commemoration of Native Americans and the important contributions made by Indian tribes and individuals Native Americans to the development of the United States and the history of the United States, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

At 1:30 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1908. An act to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 2786. An act to reauthorize the programs for housing assistance for Native Americans; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 1908. An act to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform.

#### ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, September 10, 2007, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 377. An act to establish a United States-Poland parliamentary youth exchange program, and for other purposes.

#### 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-3059. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Facility; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3060. A communication from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the implementation of the Underground Storage Tank Program in Indian Country; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3061. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a flood damage reduction project in California; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3062. A communication from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Use of Electronic Submissions in Agency Hearings" (RIN3150-AH74) received on September 4, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3063. A communication from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "NRC Size Standards; Revision" (RIN3150-AI15) received on September 4, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3064. A communication from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: TN-68 Revision 1" (RIN3150-AI21) received on September 4, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3065. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, National Wildlife Refuge System, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2007-2008 Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations for the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge" (RIN1018-

AV36) received on September 4, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3066. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Hunting: Final Frameworks for Early Season Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations" (RIN1018-AV12) received on August 27, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3067. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Hunting and Permits: Regulations for Managing Resident Canada Goose Populations" (RIN1018-AV15) received on August 27, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3068. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Hunting: Early Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds in the Contiguous United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands" (RIN1018-AV12) received on August 27, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3069. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Commerce (Economic Development), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the activities of the Economic Development Administration during fiscal years 2005 and 2006; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3070. A communication from the Executive Director for Operations, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's inventory of commercial activities and inherently governmental functions for fiscal year 2006; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3071. A communication from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Commission's Strategic Plan for fiscal years 2007 through 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3072. A communication from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants" (RIN3150-AG24) received on August 27, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3073. A communication from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, draft legislation intended to collect certain fees under the Toxic Substance Control Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3074. A communication from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medical Use of Byproduct Material—Minor Corrections and Clarifications" (RIN3150-AI14) received on August 17, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3075. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the worst forms of child labor; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3076. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Department of