

the history of Vermont and indeed our entire Nation, spoke to a group of rural Vermonters in the remote and sparsely populated northeastern corner of our State. As he spoke about the rugged region of the Green Mountain State he called it “the Northeast Kingdom,” a name which has lasted to this day as the way in which we in our State refer to this region. Today I celebrate the anniversary of this pristine area’s unique and poetic name and to make a few observations about its land and its inhabitants.

The Northeast Kingdom is Vermont at its most strikingly beautiful. Beckoning tourists are the glacial formations of Willoughby and Crystal Lakes, the farmland and forests along the Upper Connecticut River, and the northernmost reaches of the Green Mountains along the Canadian border. Vermont is one of the most rural States in the Nation, and the Northeast Kingdom is our most rural region. While it makes up more than one-fifth of the State’s total geography, it has barely 10 percent of Vermont’s total population. In fact, my first home in Vermont was in the Northeast Kingdom, in the town of Stannard, a town with a population of 200.

As we look for new dawn in this time of economic difficulty, I am reminded of this fiercely independent region of which Senator Aiken spoke so eloquently 60 years ago. The Northeast Kingdom is inhabited by working Americans, solid and proud Vermonters: it is from their hardy spirit, and the spirit of people like them, that our country’s strength has always come. It is my hope that not only will the rugged beauty of the forests and lakes of the Northeast Kingdom survive, but so will that strong and independent spirit that we can turn to as a catalyst for rebuilding our Nation.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, 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 and a withdrawal which were referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### 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-1010. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursu-

ant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1011. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Environmental Impact and Related Procedures” (RIN2132-AA87) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 29, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1012. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A321-131 Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2009-0215)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1013. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Model F.27 Mark 050 Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2009-0214)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1014. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Viking Air Limited Model DHC-7 Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2008-1330)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1015. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Agusta S.p.A. AB139 and AW139 Helicopters” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2009-0170)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1016. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Bell Helicopter Textron Inc. Model 412, 412CF, and 412EP Helicopters” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2009-0169)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1017. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Model EC 155B and EC155B1 Helicopters” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2009-0195)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1018. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Trimble or FreeFlight Systems 2101 I/O Approach Plus Global Positioning System (GPS) Navigation Systems” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2007-28689)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23,

2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1019. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A330 Airplanes, and Model A340-200 and A340-300 Series Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2008-0980)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1020. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Cessna Aircraft Company Models 208 and 208B Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2008-1319)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1021. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier Model CL-600-2B19 (Regional Jet Series 100 & 440) Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2008-1318)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1022. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 737-300, -400, and -500 Series Airplanes” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2008-0671)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1023. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Change of Using Agency for Restricted Area 6320; Matagorda, TX” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2009-0108)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1024. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 777-200 and -300 Series Airplanes Equipped with Rolls-Royce Model RB211-TRENT 800 Series Engines” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2009-0199)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1025. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments” ((Docket No. 30654) (Amendment No. 3310)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1026. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments” ((Docket No. 30655) (Amendment No. 3311)) received in the Office of the