

country. While these comments mark his retirement from the practice of law, I'm confident that he will continue to be a bright light of intellect, humor, and friendship for many years to come in our Nation's Capital.

I ask that the Senate join me in honoring Jim Symington on this occasion of his retirement from the practice of law.●

#### ALASKA LEGISLATURE CENTENNIAL

● Ms. MURKOWSKI, Madam President, I rise today to mark a significant event in Alaska's history as we commemorate the 100th anniversary of the convening of the Alaska State Legislature.

Compared to the States that my colleagues represent, Alaska is a relatively young State, so it is remarkable that our legislature has existed for only 100 years. However, creating our State's legislative body was not an easy process. Secretary of State William H. Seward acquired Alaska from Russia for \$7,200,000 on March 30, 1867. The First Organic Act of 1884 established the District of Alaska and provided us with a Governor and judicial branch but no legislative body to be the people's voice. It was not until after several petitions by Alaskans of all backgrounds that Congress passed the Second Organic Act giving Alaska territorial status and a legislative body. Our first elections were held November 12, 1912. They produced the first of many civil servants who would have the honor to serve in the Alaska Legislature. We did not yet have a capitol building, so eight senators and 16 representatives convened at the Elk's Lodge in Juneau, AK. That year, the first territorial legislature passed 83 laws—laws that began building our State and uniting us as Alaskans.

While Alaska may have been just a territory and seen by many as a vast wilderness separated from the rest of the country, our territorial legislature led the Nation in passing the first law in the Nation giving women the right to vote. This was 1913. The 19th amendment wouldn't be ratified for another 7 long years. The great Nell Scott was the first woman to serve in the first territorial legislature, way before other daughters of this country would. The territorial legislature also led the nation in the civil rights movement as it passed an antidiscrimination bill providing for full and equal enjoyment of public accommodations for all Alaskans. It is noteworthy that before statehood, Alaska's Legislature acted in response to the passionate advocacy of Roy and Elizabeth Peratrovich long before Congress would on Dr. Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks' advocacy. Before a territorial referendum in 1946 that began the legal quest for statehood, the Alaska Legislature had been advocating admission as early as 1913.

This past January, the 28th Session of the Alaska State Legislature convened, consisting of 20 senators and 40

representatives. Under house speaker Mike Chenault, and senate president Charlie Huggins, they continue to provide representation to an estimated 731,449 residents of Alaska. The Alaska Legislature has worked for the past 100 years to give Alaskans the opportunity to enjoy life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and they will continue to do so for the many years to come. I extend my congratulations and heartfelt appreciation to the senators and representatives as well as all support staff to our legislature on this special anniversary.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:18 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, without amendment:

S. 47. An act to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994.

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 6913, and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Co-Chairman.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2761, and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the British-American Interparliamentary Group: Mr. PETRI of Wisconsin, Mr. CRENSHAW of Florida, Mr. LATTI of Ohio, Mr. ADERHOLT of Alabama, and Mr. WHITFIELD of Kentucky.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 3166(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239), and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Congressional Advisory Panel on the Governance of the Nuclear Security Enterprise: Ms. Heather Wilson of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

#### 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-505. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Applicable Federal Rates—March 2013 (corrected)" (Rev. Rul. 2013-7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 26, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-506. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Dual-Use Notice"

(Notice 2013-13) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 13, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-507. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Temporary Shelter for Individuals Displaced by Hurricane Sandy" (Notice 2013-9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 13, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-508. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2013 Census Counts for Sections 42(h) and 146" (Notice 2013-15) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 13, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-509. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "25 Year Average Segment Rates and Adjusted 24-Month Average Segment Rates Used for Pension Funding for Plan Years Beginning in 2013" (Notice 2013-11) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 14, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-510. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Permitted Disparity in Employer-Provided Contributions or Benefits" (Rev. Rul. 2013-2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 14, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-511. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Eurex Deutschland" (Rev. Rul. 2013-5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 14, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-512. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Applicable Federal Rates—March" (Rev. Rul. 2013-7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 20, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-513. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Update to Notice 2000-45" (Rev. Proc. 2013-20) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 20, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-514. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Update of List of Plants, Grown in Commercial Quantities in the United States, Having a Preproductive Period in Excess of Two Years Based on the Nationwide Weighted Average Preproductive Period for Such Plant" (Notice 2013-18) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 20, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-515. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revised Exhibit: