

we will take important steps to improve education nationwide by fixing No Child Left Behind. This is a key vehicle to providing flexibility to States and to families so they can make the choices about education opportunities for their children.

This week I skyped with students at public charter schools across Arkansas. The students said having educational options was important to them because it allows them to be better prepared for their interests beyond high school graduation.

I am proud to support National School Choice Week and the outstanding educational choices that Arkansas offers. When it comes to education, it is important that we get the job done right. Allowing the freedom to choose between educational options for children is one way we can help parents make the best decision for their children's futures. ●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, 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 messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:09 a.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. 351. An act to provide for expedited approval of exportation of natural gas, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 351. An act to provide for expedited approval of exportation of natural gas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### 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-459. A communication from the Acting Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant

to law, the report of a rule entitled "Animal Welfare; Retail Pet Stores and Licensing Exemptions; Technical Amendment" ((RIN0579-AD57) (Docket No. APHIS-2011-0003)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 27, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-460. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Electronic Submission of Technical Reports" ((RIN0750-AI25) (DFARS Case 2014-D001)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 26, 2015; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-461. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Defense Contractors Performing Private Security Functions" ((RIN0750-AI31) (DFARS Case 2014-D008)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 26, 2015; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-462. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Updated Descriptions of Product Service Groups Subject to Trade Agreements" ((RIN0750-AI49) (DFARS Case 2015-D004)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 26, 2015; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-463. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Further Implementation of Trafficking in Persons Policy" ((RIN0750-AH93) (DFARS Case 2013-D007)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 26, 2015; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-464. A communication from the Under Secretary for Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a Foreign Policy Report on the imposition of a license requirement on exports, reexports, and transfers (in-country) to the Crimea region of Ukraine; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-465. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cuba: Providing Support for the Cuban People" (RIN0694-AG42) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-466. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Assessment of Demand Response and Advanced Metering"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-467. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Rule to Revise the Code of Federal Regulations for Species Under the Jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service; Correction" (RIN0648-XC659) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 22, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-468. 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 2015-0001-2015-0003); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-469. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Sulfoxaflor; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions" (FRL No. 9920-45) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 23, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-470. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Extension of the Laboratory and Analytical Use Exemption for Essential Class I Ozone-Depleting Substances" ((RIN2060-AS38) (FRL No. 9921-52-OAR)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 23, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-471. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Promulgation of State Implementation Plan Revisions; Infrastructure Requirements for the 1997 and 2006 PM2.5, 2008 Lead, 2008 Ozone, and 2010 NO2 National Ambient Air Quality Standards; South Dakota" (FRL No. 9922-04-Region 8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 23, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-472. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Partial Exemption of Certain Chemical Substances from Reporting Additional Chemical Data" ((RIN2070-AK01) (FRL No. 9921-56)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 23, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-473. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "New Source Performance Standards and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants; Delegation of Authority to New Mexico" (FRL No. 9921-77-Region 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 23, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-474. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of California; Sacramento Metro Area; Attainment Plan for 1997 8-Hour Ozone Standard" (FRL No. 9921-99-Region 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 23, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-475. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Montana; Revisions to Administrative Rules of Montana - Prevention of Significant Deterioration"