

statements of international agreements, other than treaties; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7425. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Drinking Water Tribal Set-Aside Grants Guidance to Applicants", received February 4, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7426. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Guidance or Project Eligibility and Design under the Region IX Tribal Border Infrastructure Program", received February 4, 2000; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7427. A communication from the Acting Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants: Final Rule to List Kneeland Prairie Penny-Cress (*Thaspi californicum*) as Endangered" (RIN1018-AE55), received February 4, 2000; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7428. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Civil Works, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a proposed deep draft navigation and ecosystem restoration project for Oakland Harbor, CA; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7429. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Civil Works, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the construction of a flood damage reduction project along the Rio Grande de Manati at Barcelona, PR; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7430. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Closure for Pollock in Statistical Area 610 of the Gulf of Alaska", received February 7, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7431. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska-Closure for Pollock in Statistical Area 620 Outside the Shelikof Strait Conservation Area in the Gulf of Alaska", received February 7, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-400. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Maine relative to the protection and restoration of the Atlantic Salmon; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Federal Government, through the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service, has proposed to list the Atlantic salmon in 8 Maine rivers under the federal Endangered Species Act and has indicated a potential to include additional Maine rivers to the det-

ription of the agriculture, manufacturing, forest products and aquaculture industries of Maine on the basis of limited scientific evidence;

Whereas, Maine is strongly committed to the restoration of the Atlantic salmon to its waters, as demonstrated through the development of a comprehensive and cooperative Salmon Conservation Plan, which was produced over the course of 3 years with input from federal officials, relevant state departments, local conservation groups, affected businesses, farmers and riverside residents; and

Whereas, since the area covered by these 8 rivers and other rivers that may be included in the listing in the future contains $\frac{1}{3}$ of the human population of Maine and virtually all of the aquaculture industry, all of Maine will feel the impact of the naming of the Atlantic salmon to the Endangered Species List; and

Whereas, adding the Atlantic salmon to the Endangered Species List in order to help the return of the Atlantic salmon in significant numbers to Maine's waters compromises partnership between Maine and the Federal Government, which has had a history of good faith; and

Whereas, there exist many significant threats to the Atlantic salmon that lie beyond the influence of Maine that also affect the prospects of long-term Atlantic salmon restoration to the rivers of Maine; and

Whereas, Maine is strongly committed to the restoration of the Atlantic salmon to its waters, has committed millions of dollars to its plan to produce this result and feels that the naming of the Atlantic salmon to the Endangered Species List is premature; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That We, your Memorialists, respectfully urge and request that the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt, the Secretary of Commerce William Daley and the Congress of the United States reconsider the intent to include the Atlantic salmon on the Endangered Species List as it would benefit neither the Atlantic salmon nor the people of Maine and allow Maine to continue to execute its own comprehensive plan to restore the Atlantic salmon to its waters; and be it further

Resolved, That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, to the Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt, to the Secretary of Commerce William Daley and to each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Special Committee on Aging: Special Report entitled "Developments in Aging: 1997 and 1998" (Rept. 106-229).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first time and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DODD, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ROBB, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. GRAMM):

S. 2035. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to clarify the application of the Act popularly known as the "Death on the High Seas Act" to aviation incidents; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire:

S. 2036. A bill to make permanent the moratorium on the imposition of taxes on the Internet; read the first time.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. HELMS):

S. 2037. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend the option to use rebased target amounts to all sole community hospitals; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. MACK, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. FRIST, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. SANTORUM):

S. Res. 253. A resolution to express the Sense of the Senate that the Federal investment in biochemical research should be increased by \$2,700,000,000 in fiscal year 2001; to the Committee on Appropriations.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. HELMS):

S. 2037. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend the option to use rebased target amounts to all sole community hospitals; to the Committee on Finance.

SOLE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL FAIR PAYMENT ACT OF 2000

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Sole Community Hospital Fair Payment Act. This legislation will correct an unintended drafting error involving Medicare reimbursements for the Sole Community Hospital program, enacted last year as part of the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Balanced Budget Refinement Act (P.L. 106-113).

Medicare designates Sole Community Hospitals based on factors such as isolated location, weather or travel conditions, or the absence of other hospitals within a 35 road-mile radius. These hospitals are considered the only source of inpatient services that are reasonably available in a geographic area. Sole Community Hospitals are reimbursed for services on either a federal national standardized amount or on a hospital-specific target amount that is based on either updated FY 1982 or updated FY 1987 costs.

Last year, Congress passed legislation updating the federal rate reimbursement level to costs based on Fiscal Year 1996. A drafting error in the bill, however, unintentionally updated the reimbursements for hospitals that are paid on a specific rate—leaving out 327 hospitals across the country that Congress intended to help.

If this error had not been made America's rural hospitals would be expecting an additional \$600 million over five years. Without correction, the error could cost four hospitals just in my state approximately \$2.84 million annually that had been anticipated from this legislation. These hospitals—Mayo Regional Hospital in Dover-Foxcroft, Down East Community Hospital in Machias, Northern Maine Medical Center in Fort Kent, and Rumford Community Hospital in Rumford—are a vital part of their communities and had expected these additional funds.

Small hospitals across the country are facing an increasingly uncertain future, and we cannot afford to lose any more of our rural health care providers. This funding is critical to these small hospitals and the communities they serve. These facilities and the patients they serve should not be penalized for a mistake made by Congress. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation and I urge the Senate to pass this technical correction bill immediately.●

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 285

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 285, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to restore the link between the maximum amount of earnings by blind individuals permitted without demonstrating ability to engage in substantial gainful activity and the exempt amount permitted in determining excess earnings under the earnings test.

S. 290

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 290, a bill to establish an adoption awareness program, and for other purposes.

S. 345

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 345, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to remove the limitation that permits interstate movement of live birds, for the purpose of fighting, to States in which animal fighting is lawful.

S. 861

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 861, a bill to designate certain Federal land in the State of Utah as wilderness, and for other purposes.

S. 1020

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) were added as cosponsors of S. 1020, a bill to amend chapter 1 of title 9, United States Code, to provide for greater fairness in the arbitration process relating to motor vehicle franchise contracts.

S. 1086

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1086, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to waive the income inclusion on a distribution from an individual retirement account to the extent that the distribution is contributed for charitable purposes.

S. 1109

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1109, a bill to conserve global bear populations by prohibiting the importation, exportation, and interstate trade of bear viscera and items, products, or substances containing, or labeled or advertised as containing, bear viscera, and for other purposes.

S. 1446

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. L. CHAFFEE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1446, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an additional advance refunding of bonds originally issued to finance governmental facilities used for essential governmental functions.

S. 1680

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1680, a bill to provide for the improvement of the processing of claims for veterans compensation and pensions, and for other purposes.

S. 1756

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1756, a bill to enhance the ability of the National Laboratories to meet Department of Energy missions and for other purposes.

S. 1941

At the request of Mr. DODD, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1941, a bill to amend the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 to authorize the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide assistance to fire departments and fire prevention organizations for the purpose of protecting the public and firefighting personnel against fire and fire-related hazards.

S. 1946

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1946, a bill to amend the National Environmental Education Act to redesignate that Act as the "John H. Chafee Environmental Education Act," to establish the John H. Chafee Memorial Fellowship Program, to extend the programs under that Act, and for other purposes.

S. 2032

At the request of Mr. MOYNIHAN, the name of the Senator from Michigan

(Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2032, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to address the issue of mother-to-child transmission of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

S. CON. RES. 76

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 76, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding a peaceful resolution of the conflict in the state of Chiapas, Mexico and for other purposes.

S. RES. 87

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. GRAMS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 87, a resolution commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the International Visitors Program.

S. RES. 247

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 247, a resolution commemorating and acknowledging the dedication and sacrifice made by the men and women who have lost their lives while serving as law enforcement officers.

S. RES. 248

At the request of Mr. ROBB, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD), the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER), and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 248, a resolution to designate the week of May 7, 2000, as "National Correctional Officers and Employees Week."

S. RES. 251

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI), the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE), and the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 251, a resolution designating March 25, 2000, as "Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy."