

learn that it was something he “had to do.” For Hal, law enforcement was about more than solving crimes; he recognized the role of the community in deterring criminal activity. To foster that engagement, Hal began mentoring youth as one of Louisiana’s first Drug Abuse Resistance Education—DARE—officers. To this day, that post remains a source of great pride for him.

Hal’s passion for law enforcement and service fueled participation on numerous LSA boards as well as the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice. In 2001, Hal achieved the highest honor awarded to a Louisiana sheriff—president of the LSA. Because of his effectiveness as a leader and continued advocacy for the sheriffs, this part-time role soon became a full-time position. Hal took the helm as executive director in 2004.

As executive director, Hal ensured that the LSA was prepared for the challenges of the 21st century. Some of his initiatives included the promotion of the Sex Offenders Tracking Web-Site, establishing Louisiana as one of the first States to take advantage of this National Precursor Log Exchange, NPLEx, and launching the Louisiana Methamphetamine Task Force, a project I was proud to help Hal accomplish.

During his tenure Hal and his sheriffs were tested in unprecedented ways, but his dedication to agency coordination allowed the sheriffs to utilize their unique role as both law enforcement and first responders throughout the State. This role was particularly clear during both hurricanes Katrina and Rita. As my colleagues know, August 2005 saw the worst natural disaster in the gulf coast’s history. For me, the response to these disasters revealed the depth of Hal’s character. Even under the most difficult of circumstances, he responded calmly, and continued to work for the people of Louisiana. Hal’s unflinching support during these disasters, and his efforts to coordinate with State and local law enforcement made our State’s response measures as effective as those circumstances would permit.

I could go on and on about Hal: from his efforts during other hurricanes to his work during catastrophic oil spills in the Gulf of Mexico. However, I know that I could never fully express what Hal has done for the people of Louisiana. Hal will always be remembered as the reliable voice of fortitude for and on the behalf of the Louisiana sheriffs. We will surely miss him but can take great comfort knowing that his wonderful wife Kathy and five grandchildren will be spending more time with their “Paw Paw.” I wish my friend all the best in his retirement and thank him for his steadfast duty to our great State.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:35 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Mr. Novotny, 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. 793. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 12781 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard in Inverness, California, as the “Specialist Jake Robert Velloza Post Office”.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 27. Concurrent resolution providing for the acceptance of a statue of Gerald R. Ford from the people of Michigan for placement in the United States Capitol.

At 3:54 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 48. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2011, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 30. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 793. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 12781 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard in Inverness, California, as the “Specialist Jake Robert Velloza Post Office”, to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following joint resolution was read the first time:

H.J. Res. 48. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2011, 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-882. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Reporting Certain Post-Enactment Swap Transactions” ((17 CFR Part 44)(RIN3038-AD29)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2011; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-883. 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 Regula-

tion Supplement; Ownership or Control by a Foreign Government” (DFARS Case 2010-D010) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2011; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-884. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Thomas G. Miller, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-885. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of (3) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-886. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of (6) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-887. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Cooperative Threat Reduction Programs; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-888. A communication from the Legal Information Assistant, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Community Reinvestment Act—Community Development” (RIN1550-AB48) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-889. A communication from the Legal Information Assistant, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Personal Transactions in Securities” (RIN1550-AC16) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-890. A communication from the Legal Information Assistant, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Stock Benefit Plans in Mutual-to-Stock Conversions and Mutual Holding Company Structures” (RIN1550-AC07) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-891. A communication from the Legal Information Assistant, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Permissible Activities of Savings and Loan Holding Companies” (RIN1550-AC10) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-892. A communication from the Legal Information Assistant, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Prohibited Service at Savings and Loan Holding Companies” (RIN1550-AC14) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-893. A communication from the Legal Information Assistant, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of

a rule entitled "Community Reinvestment Act—Interagency Uniformity" (RIN1550-AC08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-894. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, General Law, Ethics, and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy announcement in the position of Under Secretary (Terrorism and Financial Crimes), received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-895. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to Ireland; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-896. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's 2010 Annual Report; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-897. A communication from the Program Manager, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program; Revisions to the Reductions and Increases to Hospitals' FTE Resident Caps for Graduate Medical Education Payment Purposes" (RIN0938-AQ92) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 14, 2011; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-898. A communication from the Chief of the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of Import Restrictions Imposed on Certain Archaeological and Ethnological Materials from Colombia" (RIN1515-AD73) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2011; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-899. A communication from the Chief of the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Country of Origin of Textile and Apparel Products" (RIN1515-AD57) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 14, 2011; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-900. A communication from the Deputy Chief Human Capital Officer, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's third and final report on the category rating system; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-901. A communication from the Chairman of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Buy American Act Report for fiscal year 2010; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-902. A communication from the Senior Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Departmental Offices, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Garnishment of Accounts Containing Federal Benefit Payments" (RIN1505-AC20) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 10, 2011; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-903. A communication from the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and

Space Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "2011 National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Strategic Plan"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-904. A communication from the Chairman of the Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Making the Right Connections: Targeting the Best Competencies for Training"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-905. A communication from the Chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Fiscal Year 2010 Annual Performance and Accountability Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-906. A communication from the Chairman of the National Capital Planning Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2010; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-907. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Labor Relations Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Authority's Fiscal Year 2010 Performance and Accountability Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-908. A communication from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a one-year extension of the District of Arizona's declaration of a judicial emergency; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-909. A communication from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report of the Proceedings of the Judicial Conference of the United States" for the September 2010 session; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-910. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Surety Guarantees, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Surety Bond Guarantee Program; Disaster and Miscellaneous Amendments" (RIN3245-AF77) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2011; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-911. A communication from the Director of the Regulations Management Office of the General Counsel, Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "U.S. Paralympics Monthly Assistance Allowance" (RIN2900-AN43) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 15, 2011; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-912. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, the semiannual report detailing payments made to Cuba as a result of the provision of telecommunications services pursuant to Department of the Treasury specific licenses; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-913. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed technical assistance agreement for the export of defense articles, to include technical data, and defense services to Singapore related to the sale of one G550 aircraft modified with a military TACAN beacon system and an AN/ARC-210 VHF/UHF radio in the amount of

\$50,000,000 or more; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-914. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed manufacturing license agreement for the export of defense articles, to include technical data, and defense services to the Commonwealth of Australia for the manufacture, assembly, testing, qualification, maintenance and repair of military aiming lasers, infrared illuminators, and associated military electronics; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-915. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed manufacturing license agreement for the export of defense articles, to include technical data, and defense services to Japan for the manufacture and support of the KD2R-5 Aerial Target System Program for the Japanese Ministry of Defense in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

## PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petition or memorial was laid before the Senate and was referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-5. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan urging the Congress of the United States to take steps to insure that the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act does not result in increased fees on consumers at exempted institutions; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 21

Whereas, under certain provisions (section 1075) of the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Public Law No. 111-203), the Federal Reserve Board is required to issue regulations that would provide for reasonable interchange transaction fees for electronic debit transactions and place limitations on payment card network restrictions; and

Whereas, in drafting Section 1075, Congress included language to exempt small issuers from this provision, defining small institutions as those "with less than \$10 billion in total assets." Small issuers rely on debit interchange fees to provide free checking services to their customers and to cover costs associated with fraud prevention and data security. If these costs were not fully recoverable, small issuers would be unable to offer debit services to their customers, and the result could be decreased consumer choice and higher fees. Because of these concerns, Congress specifically exempted those institutions with less than \$10 billion in assets; and

Whereas, the Federal Reserve Board's current debit interchange fee regulatory proposal (Docket No. R-1404) could lead to the unintended consequences of increasing costs on consumers and limiting consumer choice. The proposal does not include any provision designed to enforce the carve-out for small issuers. It is incumbent on Congress to revisit this issue and help insure that these regulations do not ultimately result in less choice and higher costs for consumers: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives,* That we urge Congress to stop or delay the implementation of Section 1075 so that statutory changes can be made to ensure institutions with less than \$10 billion in assets are