

rural Kansas farm. In 1976, she was selected as a Farm Bureau leader to represent her district on the State Women's Committee. In 1989, she was elected to the Kansas Farm Bureau Board of Directors, and in 2002 she was elected as vice president of the Kansas Farm Bureau. Edie's career has taken her around the world to convey the importance of agriculture and to share her passion for the special way of life so many Kansans love.

Edie Dahlsten embodies many traits we can all admire—a deep love for the great State of Kansas, gratitude for the many hard-working families who daily provide the food, fuel, and fiber Americans rely on, and the respect of her peers across the nation.

I would now like to ask my colleagues to join us in recognizing Edie for her dedication, passion, and many years of service.●

#### CLOSE UP FOUNDATION

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, today I recognize the Close Up Foundation on the occasion of its 40th anniversary.

The Close Up Foundation has had a widespread impact on teachers and students around the nation, and I applaud their efforts to educate and inspire young people and provide teachers with valuable resources to take back to their classrooms.

Since 1971, the Close Up Foundation has been committed to promoting responsible and informed participation in our republic through experiential education programs that provide students with the knowledge and skills to be involved in our democratic process.

Close Up's partnerships with government agencies, the media, private businesses, and our capital's historic sites provide interactive classrooms to reinforce the links between our history and our current policy debates, giving students a better understanding of the concepts and institutions of America's constitutional government.

Again, I am proud to honor the Close Up Foundation and congratulate them for their many contributions towards educating America's youth.●

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

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 2930. An act to amend the securities laws to provide for registration exemptions for certain crowd-funded securities, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2940. An act to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to eliminate the prohibition against general solicitation as a requirement for a certain exemption under Regulation D.

#### 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-3855. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Importation of Bromeliad Plants in Growing Media From Belgium, Denmark, and the Netherlands" ((RIN0579-AD36)(Docket No. APHIS-2010-0005)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2011; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3856. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Mitchell H. Stevenson, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3857. 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: Fire-Resistant Fiber for Production of Military Uniforms" ((RIN0750-AH22)(DFARS Case 2011-D021)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2011; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3858. 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: Simplified Acquisition Threshold for Humanitarian or Peacekeeping Operations" ((RIN0750-AH29)(DFARS Case 2011-D032)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2011; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3859. 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: Representation Relating to Compensation of Former DoD Officials" ((RIN0750-AG99)(DFARS Case 2010-D020)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2011; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3860. A communication from the Senior Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Office of Financial Stability, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "TARP Conflicts of Interests" (RIN1505-AC05) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3861. A communication from the Chief Counsel of the Fiscal Service, Bureau of Pub-

lic Debt, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Offering of United States Savings Bonds, Series EE; Regulations Governing Definitive United States Savings Bonds, Series EE and HH; Offering of United States Savings Bonds, Series I; Regulations Governing Definitive United States Savings Bonds, Series I; Final Rule" (31 CFR Parts 351, 353, 359, and 360) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3862. 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 "Tribal Economic Development Bonds—Request for Public Comment on Volume Cap Allocation Process and Optional Extension of Deadline to Issue Bonds" (Announcement 2011-71) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2011; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3863. 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 "O'Donnabhain v. Commissioner, 134 T.C. 34 (2010)" (AOD-2011-47) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2011; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3864. 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 "Extending Religious and Family Member FICA and FUTA Exceptions to Disregarded Entities" ((RIN1545-BJ07)(TD 9554)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2011; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3865. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations: Libya and UNSCR 2009" (RIN1400-AC97) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2011; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3866. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations: Filing, Retention, and Return of Export Licenses and Filing of Export Information" (RIN1400-AC91) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2011; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3867. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of Innovation and Improvement, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Priorities, Requirements, and Selection Criteria; Charter Schools Program (CSP) Grants for Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools" (RIN1855-ZA08) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3868. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of Innovation and Improvement, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Promise Neighborhoods Program" (RIN1855-ZA07) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3869. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services,

Office of Innovation and Improvement, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Investing in Innovation Fund" (34 CFR Chapter II) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3870. A communication from the Deputy Director for Policy, Legislative and Regulatory Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits" (29 CFR Part 4022) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 3, 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3871. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Beverages: Bottled Water Quality Standard; Establishing an Allowable Level for di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate" (Docket No. FDA-1993-N-0259) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3872. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Annual Privacy Activity Report to Congress for Fiscal Year 2010"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3873. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Suspension of Community Eligibility" ((44 CFR Part 64)(Docket No. FEMA-2011-0002)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2011; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3874. A communication from the Acting Staff Director, United States Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the appointment of members to the Nebraska Advisory Committee; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3875. A communication from the Acting Staff Director, United States Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the appointment of members to the California Advisory Committee; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3876. A communication from the Chairman, Board of Trustees, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Center's financial statements, supplemental schedules of operations, and independent auditor's report for years ended October 3, 2010 and September 27, 2009; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

Report to accompany S. 1487, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of State, to establish a program to issue Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Cards, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112-92).

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 363. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to convey property of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to the City of Pascagoula, Mississippi, and for other purposes.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. HELLER:

S. 1817. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for greater transparency and efficiency in the procedures followed by the Federal Communications Commission; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. STABENOW:

S. 1818. A bill to amend SAFETEA-LU to ensure that projects that assist the establishment of aerotropolis transportation systems are eligible for certain grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. KOHL (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI):

S. 1819. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to improve programs and services; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. BLUNT):

S. 1820. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Defense to provide assistance to State National Guards to provide counseling and reintegration services for members of reserve components of the Armed Forces ordered to active duty in support of a contingency operation, members returning from such active duty, veterans of the Armed Forces, and their families; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. ISAACSON, Mr. BURR, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mr. HELLER):

S. 1821. A bill to prevent the termination of the temporary office of bankruptcy judges in certain judicial districts; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HELLER (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts):

S. 1822. A bill to provide for the exhumation and transfer of remains of deceased members of the Armed Forces buried in Tripoli, Libya; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 1823. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for employment and reemployment rights for certain individuals ordered to full-time National Guard duty, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. TOOMEY (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. JOHANNES):

S. 1824. A bill to amend the securities laws to establish certain thresholds for shareholder registration under that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida:

S. 1825. A bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to grant a Federal charter to the American Military Retirees Association, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 1826. A bill to provide for the availability of self-employment assistance to in-

dividuals receiving extended compensation or emergency unemployment compensation; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 1827. A bill to establish a Trade Enforcement Division in the Office of the United States Trade Representative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KERRY:

S. 1828. A bill to increase small business lending, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. REED, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 1829. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to empower the States to set the maximum annual percentage rates applicable to consumer credit transactions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. STABENOW:

S. 1830. A bill to improve enforcement of intellectual property rights, and for other purposes; 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 Mrs. MCCASKILL (for herself and Mr. BLUNT):

S. Res. 315. A resolution commending the St. Louis Cardinals on their hard-fought World Series victory; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. KERRY):

S. Res. 316. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding Tunisia's peaceful Jasmine Revolution; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. Res. 317. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the liberation of Libya from the dictatorship led by Muammar Qaddafi; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 227

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 227, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure more timely access to home health services for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare program.

S. 362

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 362, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a Pancreatic Cancer Initiative, and for other purposes.

S. 431

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) were added as cosponsors of S. 431, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 225th