

1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1701. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Panama Canal Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1702. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Inspector General's report for the six-month period ending September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1703. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1704. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Act of 1949, as amended, (40 U.S.C. 484(j)) to authorize the Administrator of General Services to transfer title surplus personal property the State agencies for surplus property for donation to eligible donees without Federal restrictions; to the on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1705. A communication from the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semi-annual report of the Inspector General and the Management Response for the period April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1706. A communication from the Chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1707. A communication from the Director of the Peace Corps, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1708. A communication from the Chairman of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1709. A communication from the Chairman and General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1710. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1711. A communication from the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. D'AMATO, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 650. A bill to increase the amount of credit available to fuel local, regional, and national economic growth by reducing the regulatory burden imposed upon financial institutions, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 104-185).

By Mr. WARNER, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, without amendment:

H.R. 2527. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to improve the electoral process by permitting electronic filing and preservation of Federal Election Commission reports, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 69. A joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Homer Alfred Neal as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

H.J. Res. 110. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of Howard H. Baker, Jr. as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

H.J. Res. 111. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of Anne D'Harnoncourt as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

H.J. Res. 112. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of Louis Gerstner as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

By Mr. WARNER, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, with an amendment and with a preamble:

S. Con. Res. 34. A concurrent resolution to authorize the printing of "Vice Presidents of the United States, 1789-1993".

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ROTH, from the Committee on Finance:

Joshua Gotbaum, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Jeffrey R. Shafer, of New Jersey, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed, subject to the nominees' commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary:

Merrick B. Garland, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

(The above nomination was reported with the recommendation that he be confirmed.)

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. GRAMS:

S. 1478. A bill to facilitate the ability of a private consortium to site, design, license, construct, operate, and decommission a private facility for the interim storage of commercial spent nuclear fuel, subject to licensing by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, to authorize the Secretary of Energy to contract with the consortium for storage services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 1479. A bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to improve control of acid mine drainage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 1480. A bill to provide for the comparable treatment of Federal employees and Members of Congress and the President during a period in which there is a Federal Government shutdown; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRAMS:

S. 1478. A bill to facilitate the ability of a private consortium to site, design, license, construct, operate, and decommission a private facility for the interim storage of commercial spent nuclear fuel, subject to licensing by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, to authorize the Secretary of Energy to contract with the consortium for storage services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### THE PRIVATE INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY AUTHORIZING ACT OF 1995

● Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, on the heels of today's Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing on legislation to amend the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, I am introducing legislation to privatize the Federal spent fuel interim storage program. It is my understanding that the House plans to act on similar legislation before the Christmas recess. Today's hearing, coupled with the introduction of my bill should provide the impetus for timely action in the full Senate.

When the Energy Committee held a hearing on various nuclear waste policy proposals earlier this year, all of our witnesses agreed that the "1998" date is critical in this debate. With 1996 only a few weeks away, the deadline is rapidly approaching and we are no closer to resolving this issue than the last time Congress enacted nuclear waste legislation [1987].

But it is not like we haven't seen this deadline coming. For 16 years, the Department of Energy has been charged with the responsibility of our civilian spent fuel. In that time, DOE has spent nearly \$5 billion of ratepayers' money—including over \$250 million from Minnesota's electric customers. And yet here we sit, debating the issue of exactly what to do with America's civilian nuclear waste.

But the Department of Energy just continues to go round in circles. First, they said we can store waste at Yucca Mountain; then they tell us we can't force it on Nevada. Then DOE says they can't meet the 1998 deadline—and even claim they aren't legally bound to do so; then they tell us they can, if only Congress would "untie" their hands. The latest was that an interim facility couldn't be complete for 7 years at a cost of nearly \$400 million; then their testimony says it could be