

EC-1208. A communication from the Director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1209. A communication from the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Government in the Sunshine Act for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1210. A communication from the Associate Director for Management of the Peace Corps, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of amendment to system of records; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1211. A communication from the Executive Director of the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 1996 report under the Freedom of Information Act; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1212. A communication from the Chairman of the Armed Forces Retirement Home Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report concerning the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1213. A communication from the Administrator of the Office of Independent Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on audit and investigative activities; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

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. McCONNELL (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 348. A bill to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to encourage States to enact a Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights, to provide standards and protection for the conduct of internal police investigations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. HOLLINGS):

S. 349. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for expanding, intensifying, and coordinating activities of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute with respect to heart attack, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases in women; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. THURMOND:

S. 350. A bill to authorize payment of special annuities to surviving spouses of deceased members of the uniformed services who are ineligible for a survivor annuity under transition laws relating to the establishment of the Survivor Benefit Plan under chapter 73 of title 10, United States Code; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. MURRAY:

S. 351. A bill to provide for teacher technology training; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. BIDEN:

S. 352. A bill to require the United States Sentencing Commission to amend the Federal sentencing guidelines to provide an enhanced penalty for follow-on bombings; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 353. A bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act and part 7 of subtitle B of title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to establish standards for protection of consumers in

managed care plans and other health plans; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. KERRY):

S. 354. A bill to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to prohibit executive agencies from awarding contracts that contain a provision allowing for the acquisition by the contractor, at Government expense, of certain equipment or facilities to carry out the contract if the principal purpose of such provision is to increase competition by establishing an alternative source of supply for property or services; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. GRAMM (for himself and Mrs. HUTCHISON):

S. 355. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make the research credit permanent; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. CHAFEE):

S. 356. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the title XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to assure access to emergency medical services under group health plans, health insurance coverage, and the medicare and medicaid programs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BENNETT (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. BURNS, and Mr. THOMAS):

S. 357. A bill to authorize the Bureau of Land Management to manage the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. MACK, Mr. MOYNIHAN, and Mr. D'AMATO):

S. Res. 59. A resolution designating the month of March of each year as "Irish American Heritage Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. McCONNELL (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 348. A bill to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to encourage States to enact a Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights, to provide standards and protection for the conduct of internal police investigations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' BILL OF RIGHTS ACT OF 1997

• Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, American families turn on the news every night and get bombarded by the reality that the war against crime and drugs is escalating. No one understands the dangers of this domestic war better than the men and women who serve on the front lines. I'm talking about our Nation's police officers.

These dedicated individuals offer up their lives as an act of service every day. They know the stress and the

strain of walking the daily beat, of being caught in the crossfire in a world of gangs and drugs. These officers experience first-hand the casualties of our national epidemic.

As the Washington Post reported this Sunday, seven law enforcement officers right here in the Nation's Capital have been killed—in little more than 2 years. Moreover, the ambush of these "men and women wearing badges [occurred]—even though the officers posed no immediate threat to their attackers."

Our Nation's police officers endure unfathomable pressure every day as they fight to take back our streets. In the words of one officer, "the ultimate sacrifice could occur at any time. * * * [The gangs and criminals] have rewritten the rule book."

To make matters worse, the pressure of crime and drugs—of gangs and thugs—is multiplied by the fear of unjust disciplinary actions. Our law enforcement officers face intrusive investigations into their professional and personal lives—oftentimes at the behest of some recently arrested criminal looking for a paycheck.

Our officers live in the fear of: being investigated without notice; being interrogated without an attorney; and being dismissed without a hearing.

We must act now to address this situation by guaranteeing our police officers their basic and fundamental rights. So, today, along with Mr. BIDEN and Mr. LEAHY, I proudly introduce the Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights.

This bill protects rights that most of us take for granted. For example, it allows police officers to be involved in, or refrain from, political activity.

The bill also gives significant due process rights to every police officer subject to investigation for non-criminal disciplinary action. Some of these rights include:

The right to be informed of the administrative charges prior to being questioned; the right to be advised of the results of an investigation; the right to a hearing and an opportunity to respond; and the right to be represented by counsel or other representative.

We owe our law enforcement officers a national debt of gratitude for their valiant fight in a battle that must be won. I ask my colleagues to show their appreciation and understanding of the plight of our police force. We must act boldly to equip every officer with basic and fundamental rights.

Finally, I must conclude by explaining that this bill is a product of years of input from the men and women who have experienced these daily pressures, and continue to endure them. This legislation has benefited from the thoughtful ideas and past support of many law enforcement groups, including the Fraternal Order of Police, the National Association of Police Organizations, and the International Brotherhood of Police Officers.