

Twenty-five years ago, April 7, 1972, the Federal debt stood at \$429,202,000,000 which reflects a debt increase of nearly \$5 trillion (\$4,955,988,477,419.92) during the past 25 years.

THE GREAT FALLS OPTIMIST CLUB

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, as a newly inducted member of the downtown Optimist Club of Great Falls, MT, I take great pride in telling my colleagues about the new Optimist International Child Safety Awareness Program.

In recent months, there have been numerous reports of serious and even fatal injuries to children as a result of incorrect positioning or improper restraint in vehicles. Often these injuries are preventable.

The Optimist International Child Safety Awareness Program operates under the premise that adults must assume the responsibility to see that their kids are safe while driving in a motor vehicle. The Optimist Club seeks to increase adult awareness of the hazards of incorrectly positioned children. I am very excited about this plan because I think we can make a real difference.

The Optimists have always been strong advocates for children's safety. I encourage all of my colleagues in Congress to become familiar with the Optimists program and give it their full support. Our children are depending on it.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, 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.)

REPORT CONCERNING THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 25

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 308 of Public Law 97-449 (49 U.S.C. 308(a)), I transmit herewith the Annual Report of the De-

partment of Transportation, which covers fiscal year 1995.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, April 8, 1997.

REPORT CONCERNING THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 26

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to the provisions of section 504(h) of Public Law 98-164, as amended (22 U.S.C. 4413(i)), I transmit herewith the 13th Annual Report of the National Endowment for Democracy, which covers fiscal year 1996.

The report demonstrates the National Endowment for Democracy's unique contribution to the task of promoting democracy worldwide. The Endowment has helped consolidate emerging democracies—from South Africa to the former Soviet Union—and has lent its hand to grass-roots activists in repressive countries—such as Cuba, Burma, or Nigeria. In each instance, it has been able to act in ways that government agencies could not.

Through its everyday efforts, the Endowment provides evidence of the universality of the democratic ideal and of the benefits to our Nation of our continued international engagement. The Endowment has received and should continue to receive strong bipartisan support.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, April 8, 1997.

REPORT CONCERNING THE RADIATION CONTROL FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 27

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with section 540 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic (FDC) Act (21 U.S.C. 360qq) (previously section 360D of the Public Health Service Act), I am submitting the report of the Department of Health and Human Services regarding the administration of the Radiation Control for Health and Safety Act of 1968 during calendar year 1995.

The report recommends the repeal of section 540 of the FDC Act, which requires the completion of this annual report. All the information found in this report is available to the Congress on a more immediate basis through the Center for Devices and Radiological Health technical reports, the Center's

Home Page Internet Site, and other publicly available sources. Agency resources devoted to the preparation of this report should be put to other, better uses.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, April 8, 1997.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:38 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 11. Concurrent resolution permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

MEASURE REFERRED

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

S. 522. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose civil and criminal penalties for the unauthorized access of tax returns and tax return information by Federal employees and other persons, and for other purposes; ordered referred jointly to the Committee on Finance and Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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. ABRAHAM:

S. 518. A bill to control crime by requiring mandatory victim restitution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ALLARD:

S. 519. A bill to terminate the authorities of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. FEINGOLD:

S. 520. A bill to terminate the F/A-18 E/F aircraft program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. COVERDELL (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. HAGEL, and Mr. SHELBY):

S. 521. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose civil and criminal penalties for the unauthorized access of tax returns and tax return information by Federal employees and other persons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

S. 522. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose civil and criminal penalties for the unauthorized access of tax returns and tax return information by Federal employees and other persons, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. GLENN:

S. 523. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prevent the unauthorized inspection of tax returns or tax return information; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for himself and Mr. DORGAN):

S. 524. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to remove the requirement of an X-ray as a condition of coverage