

H.R. 3528. An act to amend title 28, United States Code, with respect to the use of alternative dispute resolution processes in United States district courts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-4649. A communication from the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of two rules received on April 16, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4650. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on enlistment waiver trends for fiscal years 1991 through 1997; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4651. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Empowerment Zones: Rule for Second Round Designations" received on April 16, 1998; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4652. A communication from the President and Chairman of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Russia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4653. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report of the Bureau of Justice Assistance for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-384. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Whereas, Congress, through the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (FAIR Act), mandated that the secretary of agriculture consolidate the then existing thirty-two federal milk marketing orders into no fewer than ten nor more than fourteen orders by no later than April 4, 1999; and

Whereas, the FAIR Act also authorized the secretary of agriculture to review and reform the pricing and other provisions of the consolidated orders; and

Whereas, on January 23, 1998, the secretary of agriculture issued the proposed rules for federal milk order consolidations and reforms; and

Whereas, these proposed rules included two options for pricing milk used in Class I (fluid milk products), which are noted and referred to as Option 1A and Option 1B; and

Whereas, Option 1A is similar to the present geographic price structures; however, Option 1B would reduce the minimum federal order prices in Louisiana more than \$1.00 per hundred weight; and

Whereas, while demand has been rising due to increasing population, milk production in Louisiana and the entire Southeast has de-

clined during each of the past seven years; as a result, larger quantities of milk are imported from other regions at higher cost than local milk; and

Whereas, implementation of Option 1B, even with the highest transition option, would aggravate the loss of dairy farms and local milk production; and

Whereas, such loss will be devastating to the dairy farmer, the rural communities, and the consumers: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana memorializes the Congress of the United States to support, and urges and requests the secretary of agriculture to incorporate, Option 1A as the pricing procedure in all federal milk marketing orders in his final decision on consolidation and reform of these orders. Be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate, the clerk of the United States House of Representatives, each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation, and the secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture.

POM-385. A resolution adopted by the Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania relative to Federal credit unions; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

POM-386. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Maine; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO PRESERVE THE CURRENT FAIR HOUSING ACT

Whereas, 10 years ago the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 amended Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, to extend the principle of equal housing opportunity to people with disabilities and to families with children; and

Whereas, on February 12, 1998, the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1998 was introduced for the purpose of repealing the federal protections for people with mental retardation and other disabilities; and

Whereas, the accomplishments that have been made during the last 30 years to protect people with disabilities and families with children should be celebrated and improved upon, not weakened; Now, Therefore, be it *Resolved*, That the important civil rights protections extended by the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 must be preserved; and be it further

Resolved, That suitable copies of this memorial, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to Charles Canady, Chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States and to each member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

POM-387. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 388

Whereas, This Commonwealth has used four telephone area codes since the 1940s; and

Whereas, A shortage of available telephone numbers in two area codes in this Commonwealth has prompted the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission to create two new area codes since 1995, increasing the total number of area codes to six; and

Whereas, Anticipated shortages in the 717, 215 and 610 area codes prompted the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission to institute practices that would conserve telephone numbers in these area codes and so miti-

gated the need to create additional area codes; and

Whereas, Beginning in July 1997, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission adopted orders authorizing several methods of conserving telephone numbers in the 717, 215 and 610 area codes; and

Whereas, These methods to reduce the amount of telephone numbers provided to telephone service providers in any given local exchange, to develop a transparent area code and to ration available numbers were challenged at the Federal Communications Commission; and

Whereas, The delays and denials from the Federal Communications Commission prevented the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission from implementing its conservation methods and so forced the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission to act to create new area codes; and

Whereas, Due to these delays and denials, this Commonwealth faces a crisis in available telephone numbers in the 717, 215 and 610 area codes, which has forced the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission to tentatively create two new area codes; and

Whereas, The creation of new area codes prior to the full implementation of conservation methods results in unnecessary inconvenience, confusion and expense to citizens in the affected areas; and

Whereas, The creation of these proposed new area codes could have been prevented or significantly delayed had the Federal Communications Commission acted expeditiously on the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission's conservation proposals: Therefore, be it *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives memorialize the Congress of the United States and the Federal Communications Commission to allow state regulatory agencies the flexibility they need to conserve available telephone numbers and so extend the useful lives of existing area codes; and, be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

POM-388. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 220

Whereas, the air transportation needs of the metropolitan Washington region are addressed through a finely balanced, comprehensive regional airport plan; and

Whereas, under that plan, Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport and Washington Dulles International Airport each perform a separate and unique function in that regional airport plan; and

Whereas, Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport functions as the local and regional airport, serving cities within a 1,250-mile radius; and

Whereas, Washington Dulles International Airport serves as the national and international airport; and

Whereas, significant local decisions about airport investment and development plans have been based on this locally and federally endorsed balance of traffic; and

Whereas, the allocation of roles to each airport under the plan has stimulated the growth and development of Washington Dulles International Airport; and

Whereas, the development of Washington Dulles International Airport has improved the quality of regional, domestic, and international air transportation for all citizens of the region; and