

I believe that the faculty's continuous hard work and dedication to these goals has made their students successful and contributing citizens of Washington state. Education is more than merely memorizing facts and Centralia College teaches its students vital problem solving and communication skills that will lead our country in the new millennium and give them a solid foundation to help Washington state continue in its prosperity.

I wish Centralia College another successful 75 years. It is institutions like Centralia College that make Washington state one of the best places to live.●

A DRAFT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION ENTITLED THE "CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION ENHANCED ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2000"—A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 104

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:

I am pleased to transmit today for immediate consideration and prompt enactment the "Consumer Product Safety Commission Enhanced Enforcement Act of 2000." This legislative proposal would increase the penalties that the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) could impose upon manufacturers, distributors, and retailers of consumer products who do not inform the CPSC when the company has reason to believe it has sold a product that does not meet Federal safety standards or could otherwise create a substantial product hazard. The proposal would also improve product recalls by enabling the CPSC to choose an alternative remedy in a recall if the CPSC finds that the remedy selected by the manufacturer is not in the public interest.

Under current consumer product safety laws, manufacturers, distributors, and retailers of consumer products are required to inform the CPSC whenever they have information that one of their products: (1) fails to comply with a CPSC product safety standard; (2) contains a defect that could create a substantial product hazard; or (3) creates an unreasonable risk of serious injury or death. After a company reports this information to the CPSC, the CPSC staff initiates an investigation in cooperation with the company. If the CPSC concludes that the product presents a substantial product hazard and that a recall is in the public interest, the CPSC staff will work with the company to conduct a product safety recall. The sooner the CPSC hears about a dangerous product, the sooner the CPSC can act to remove the product from store shelves and inform con-

sumers about how to eliminate the hazard. That is why it is critical that companies inform the CPSC as soon as they are aware that one of their products may present a serious hazard to the public.

Unfortunately, in about half the cases involving the most significant hazards—where the product can cause death or serious injury—companies do not report to the CPSC. In those cases, the CPSC must get safety information from other sources, including its own investigators, consumers, or tragically, from hospital emergency room reports or death certificates. Sometimes years can pass before the CPSC learns of the product hazard, although the company may have been aware of it all along. During that time, deaths and injuries continue. Once the CPSC becomes aware of the hazard, many companies continue to be recalcitrant, and the CPSC staff must conduct its own independent investigation. This often includes finding and investigating product incidents and conducting extensive laboratory testing. This process can take a long time, which means that the most dangerous products remain on store shelves and in consumers' homes longer, placing children and families at continuing risk.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission can currently assess civil penalties against companies who fail to report a dangerous product. Criminal penalties are also available in particularly serious cases. In fact, in 1999, the CPSC assessed 10 times the amount of civil penalties assessed 10 years ago. But, even with this more vigorous enforcement, too many companies still do not report, especially in cases involving serious harm.

This legislative proposal would enhance the CPSC's civil and criminal enforcement authority. It would provide an added incentive for companies to comply with the law so that we can get dangerous products out of stores and consumers' homes more quickly.

My legislative proposal would also help to make some product recalls more effective by allowing the CPSC to choose an alternative remedy if the CPSC finds that the manufacturer's chosen remedy is not in the public interest. Under current law, a company with a defective product that is being recalled has the right to select the remedy to be offered to the public. My proposal would continue to permit the company to select the remedy in a product recall. My proposal would also, however, allow the CPSC to determine—after an opportunity for a hearing—that the remedy selected by the company is not in the public interest. The CPSC may then order the company to carry out an alternative program that is in the public interest.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission helps to keep America's children and families safe. This legislative proposal would help the CPSC be even more effective in protecting the public from dangerous products. I urge the

Congress to give this legislation prompt and favorable consideration.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON,
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 12, 2000.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:19 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 2370. An act to designate the Federal building located at 500 Pearl Street in New York City, New York, as the "Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse."

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 112. Concurrent resolution to make technical corrections in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 434.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1377) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13234 South Baltimore Avenue in Chicago, Illinois, as the "John J. Buchanan Post Office Building".

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 277) authorizing the use of the Capitol grounds for the Great Washington Soap Box Derby.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrent of the Senate:

H.R. 3519. An act to provide negotiations for the creation of a trust fund to be administered by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development of the International Development Association to combat the AIDS epidemic.

H.R. 3616. An act to reauthorize the impact aid program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4249. An act to foster cross-border cooperation and environmental cleanup in Northern Europe.

H.R. 4251. An act to amend the North Korea Threat Reduction Act of 1999 to enhance congressional oversight to nuclear transfers to North Korea, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrent of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 251. Concurrent resolution commending the Republic of Croatia for the conduct of its parliamentary and presidential elections.

H. Con. Res. 309. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress with regard to in-school personal safety education programs for children.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The message further announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 434. An act to authorize a new trade and investment policy for sub-Saharan Africa, expend trade benefits to the countries in the Caribbean Basin, renew the generalized system of preferences, and reauthorize the trade adjustment assistance programs.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3519. An act to provide for negotiations for the creation of a trust fund to be administered by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development of the International Development Association to combat the AIDS epidemic; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 4249. An act to foster cross-border cooperation and environmental cleanup in Northern Europe; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

The following concurrent resolutions were read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 251. Concurrent resolution commending the Republic of Croatia for the conduct of its parliamentary and presidential elections, to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H. Con. Res. 309. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress with regard to in-school personal safety education programs for children; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

The following bills, previously received from the House of Representatives for the concurrence of the Senate, were read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3903. An act to deem the vessel *M/V Mist Cove* to be less than 100 gross tons, as measured under chapter 145 of title 46, United States Code; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 3439. An act to require the Federal Communications Commission to revise its regulations authorizing the operation of new, low-power FM radio stations; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 3616. An act to reauthorize the impact aid program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes.

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-8946. A communication from the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, transmitting reports on radiological waste disposal and environmental monitoring, worker radiation exposure, and occupational safety and health, and an overview of the Program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-8947. A communication from the Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, a report relative to certification of a proposed license for the export of

defense articles or defense services sold commercially under a contract in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more to Italy, Sweden, Norway, Germany, Australia and the United Arab Emirates; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-8948. A communication from the Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, a semi-annual report on progress toward regional nuclear non-proliferation in South Asia, for the period October 1, 1999, to March 31, 2000; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-8949. A communication from the Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 1999, through March 31, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-8950. A communication from the Secretary of the Senate, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the receipts and expenditures of the Senate for the period October 1, 1999 through March 31, 2000; ordered to lie on the table.

EC-8951. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Advanced Threat Infrared Countermeasure/Common Missile Warning System defense acquisition program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-8952. A communication from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, transmitting, a copy of the unqualified opinion it received as a result of the audit performed in compliance with the Chief Financial Officers' Act of 1990; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-8953. A communication from the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of an interim final rule entitled "Indian Reservation Road Bridge Program" (RIN2125-AE57), received May 11, 2000; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-8954. A communication from the Federal Election Commission transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule entitled "Administrative Fines", received May 15, 2000; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-8955. A communication from the Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule entitled "Indirect Food Additives: Adjuvants, Production Aids, Sanitizers" (Docket No. 99F-1910), received May 10, 2000; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-8956. A communication from the Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule entitled "Indirect Food Additives: Polymers" (Docket No. 98F-1019), received May 10, 2000; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-8957. A communication from the Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule entitled "Indirect Food Additives: Adjuvants, Production Aids, Sanitizers" (Docket No. 99F-5111), received May 10, 2000; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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-517. A resolution adopted by the Executive Board of the Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO in opposition to breaching of the Snake River and Columbia River dams; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-518. A resolution adopted by the legislature of the State of Alaska relative to S. 2214, a bill opening the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to responsible exploration, development, and production of its oil and gas resources; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLVE NO. 38

Whereas, in 1973, during the Arab oil embargo, the United States was 36 percent dependent on foreign supplies, while today the United States relies on imports to supply over 56 percent of its energy consumption; and

Whereas, in the last eight years, the nation's demand for petroleum products has grown by 14 percent while domestic production was declined by 17 percent; and

Whereas, by 2020, the United States expects to be 64 percent dependent on other countries to fuel its industry, transportation, and homes; and

Whereas United States consumers are paying the price, with home heating oil costs in the Northeastern states surpassing 41.70 a gallon, while gasoline prices have climbed to \$2 a gallon for mid-range gasoline in California; and

Whereas some airplane passengers are currently paying a \$20 fuel surcharge on tickets; and

Whereas the nation's growing reliance on foreign oil is strengthening the aggressive pricing policies of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC); and

Whereas the United States is currently receiving 44 percent of its imported oil from OPEC countries, including 1,400,000 barrels a day from Saudi Arabia and 700,000 barrels a day from Iraq; and

Whereas Iraq has emerged as the fastest growing source of United States oil imports; and

Whereas Iraq has emerged as the fastest growing source of United States oil imports; and

Whereas the United States is spending \$300,000,000 a day on foreign oil, accounting for one-third of the entire trade deficit; and

Whereas the United States Secretary of Energy recently visited the OPEC countries of Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait and non-OPEC member Mexico to urge increased production, but did not visit Alaska; and

Whereas it will take 10,000 dockings of foreign supertankers carrying 500,000 barrels of oil each to provide 65 percent of the nation's oil needs in 2020; and

Whereas, if the United States is going to reduce its dependence on foreign oil, it must look toward domestic sources, including Alaska's Arctic; and

Whereas federal legislation has been introduced by Senator Murkowski calling for the opening of the 1,500,000-acre coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to environmentally sound exploration, development, and production of oil and gas resources; and

Whereas the coastal plain is America's best possibility for the discovery of another giant, Prudhoe Bay-sized oil and gas discovery in North America; and

Whereas, in 1998, a three-year study by the United States Geological Survey estimated the recoverable oil potential of the coastal plain to be as high as 16,000,000,000 barrels of oil, which could replace Saudi oil imports to the United States for 30 years; and

Whereas the vast majority of Alaskans, including the Native residents of Kaktovik,