

Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Air Force nominations beginning David C. Abruzzi and ending Michael J. Zuber, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on April 25, 2000.

Army nomination beginning Manester Y. Bruno and ending Manester Y. Bruno, which nomination was received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on April 25, 2000.

Navy nomination beginning Richard L. Page and ending Richard L. Page, which nomination was received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on April 11, 2000.

Navy nomination beginning Thomas B. Lee and ending Thomas B. Lee, which nomination was received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on April 25, 2000.

Navy nominations beginning Charles A. Armin and ending Mark D. Pyle, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on April 25, 2000.

Marine Corps nominations beginning Debra A. Anderson and ending Scott C. Whitney, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on April 25, 2000.

By Mr. ROTH for the Committee on Finance.

Michelle Andrews Smith, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

(The above nomination was reported with the recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. DOMENICI:

S. 2573. A bill to coordinate and facilitate the development by the Department of Defense of directed energy technologies, systems, and weapons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. TORRICELLI:

S. 2574. A bill to provide for principles on workers' rights for United States companies doing business in the People's Republic of China and Tibet; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HELMS:

S. 2575. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on mixtures of Bromoxynil Octanoate and Heptanoate; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HELMS:

S. 2576. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Bromoxynil Octanoate technical; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HELMS:

S. 2577. A bill to reduce temporarily the duty on Fipronil technical; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HELMS:

S. 2578. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Isoxaflutole; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HELMS:

S. 2579. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Cyclanilide technical; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. DASCHLE, and Mr. INOUE):

S. 2580. A bill to provide for the issuance of bonds to provide funding for the construction of schools of the Bureau of Indian Affairs of the Department of the Interior, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. LOTT, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. HELMS, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. INHOPE, and Mrs. HUTCHISON):

S. 2581. A bill to provide for the preservation and restoration of historic buildings at historically women's public colleges or universities; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. KERRY, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. AKAKA, and Mr. BRYAN):

S. 2582. A bill to amend section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to better define the term political organization; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. KERRY, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. AKAKA, and Mr. BRYAN):

S. 2583. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase disclosure for certain political organizations exempt from tax under section 527; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROBB (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 2584. A bill to provide for the allocation of interest accruing to the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

S. 2585. A bill to amend titles IV and XX of the Social Security Act to restore funding for the Social Services Block Grant, to restore the ability of the States to transfer up to 10 percent of TANF funds to carry out activities under such block grant, and to require an annual report on such activities by the Secretary of Health and Human Services; to the Committee on Finance.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DOMENICI:

S. 2573. A bill to coordinate and facilitate the development by the Department of Defense of directed energy technologies, systems, and weapons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

DIRECTED ENERGY COORDINATION AND CONSOLIDATION ACT OF 2000

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise today to offer the Directed Energy Coordination and Consolidation Act of 2000. While enactment of the provisions in this bill will greatly enhance and accelerate some of the research, development, test and evaluation activities in my home state of New Mexico, I firmly believe taking this action is also in our national interest.

Last year's Defense Authorization Act required the Defense Department

to convene the High Energy Laser Executive Review Panel (HELLERP). This Panel was to make recommendations on a management structure for all defense high energy laser weapons programs. The authorization language also instructed the Panel to address issues in science and technology funding, the industrial base for these technologies, and possible cooperation with other agencies.

Mr. President, let me briefly outline some conclusions and recommendations made by the Panel. The findings include the following:

Laser systems are ready for some of today's most challenging weapons applications, both offensive and defensive; laser weapons would offer the U.S. an asymmetric technological edge over adversaries for the foreseeable future; funding for laser Science and Technology programs should be increased to support acquisition programs and develop new technologies for future applications; the laser industrial supplier base is fragile in several critical laser technologies and lacks an adequate incentive to make investments required to support current and anticipated defense needs; DoD should leverage relevant research being supported by the Department of Energy and other agencies, as well as the private sector and academia; and, lastly, as in other critical high tech areas, it is increasingly difficult to attract and retain people with the skills necessary for directed energy technology development.

In sum, the Panel found that these technologies have matured sufficiently to offer solutions to some of the most daunting defense challenges the U.S. currently confronts. However, other findings indicated that science and technology funding is inadequate to realize these aims, the industrial base is steadily eroding, and this field cannot recruit and retain adequate talent to remain viable. We have the means, but we're not making the investments required to achieve our goals.

As requested by Congress last year, the High Energy Laser Master Plan approved by the Defense Department in March of this year proposes a different management structure. The Services all approved of this defense-wide management structure for making decisions regarding the specific technologies to pursue for specific defense applications and resource allocation.

Mr. President, this legislation echoes the findings of the High Energy Laser Executive Review Panel and codifies the proposed management structure outlined by the Panel. Furthermore, in accordance with the Panel's findings, the bill authorizes \$150 million in defense-wide research and development funding for directed energy technologies. Up to \$50 million of those funds can be utilized to leverage the directed energy expertise and technologies developed within our DOE laboratories. Lastly, this legislation requires that microwave technology investment decisions also be coordinated within this management structure.