

Over the past 25 years, Skadden Delaware has grown tenfold, from its original six attorneys to its present complement of nearly 60, becoming one of the largest and most influential law offices in the State of Delaware, and employing more than 150 Delawareans.

Skadden Delaware attorneys have counseled clients in many of the largest and most groundbreaking corporate transactions, including highly publicized contests for corporate control, and contributed thereby to the reputation of the Delaware courts as the pre-eminent arbiters of corporate law issues in the world, and to the State of Delaware's dominance as the preferred domicile for corporations large and small across the United States.

Skadden Delaware lawyers have also contributed their professional and personal resources to a wide variety of civic and charitable endeavors outside the confines of their law practice, to the consistent benefit of the State of Delaware and its citizens.

Former Skadden Delaware lawyers have gone on to hold positions of high trust and importance in the State of Delaware, serving on the Court of Chancery and the supreme court, as counsel to the Governor, as U.S. attorney, and as president of the Delaware bar.

I thank Skadden Delaware for all that they do, not only in Delaware, but across the country, and I wish them a very happy 25th anniversary. I rise today to offer my full support and to congratulate them on a remarkable quarter century of success. ●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 9:48 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker of the House of Representatives has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 3926. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to promote organ donation, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1997. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, and the Uniform Code of Military Justice to protect unborn children from assault and murder, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

At 12:42 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, with an amendment:

S. Con. Res. 95. Concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009.

The message further announced that the House insist upon its amendment to the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 95) setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009, and ask a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon.

Ordered that Mr. NUSSLE, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. SPRATT, be the managers of the conference on the part of the House.

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

H.R. 3723. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8135 Forest Lane in Dallas, Texas, as the "Vaughn Gross Post Office Building".

H.R. 3917. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 695 Marconi Boulevard in Copiague, New York, as the "Maxine S. Postal United States Post Office".

The message also announced that the House agree to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2584) to provide for the conveyance to the Utrok Atoll local government of a decommissioned National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration ship, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that pursuant to (10 U.S.C. 111 note) the Minority Leader hereby appoints retired Army Lt. General H.G. (Pete) Taylor, to the Commission on the Review of the Overseas Military Facility Structure of the United States.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3723. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8135 Forest Lane in Dallas, Texas, as the "Vaughn Gross Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3917. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 695 Marconi Boulevard in Copiague, New York, as the "Maxine S. Postal United States Post Office"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

S. 2250. A bill to extend the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 2002, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-6856. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, case number 02-09; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-6857. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, case number 03-02; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-6858. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, case number 00-06; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-6859. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6860. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Critical Skills Retention Bonus program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6861. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the notification of the Department's intent to transfer \$372 million from the Defense Working Capital Funds to the Operation and Maintenance Appropriations; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6862. A communication from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the transfer of the historic harbor tug ex-HOGA (YTM 146) to the Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum, North Little Rock, Arkansas; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6863. A communication from the Secretary of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of an Average Procurement Unit Cost and a Program Acquisition Unit Cost (PAUC) breach; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6864. A communication from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy for the position of Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Logistics and Material Readiness, Department of Defense, received on March 29, 2004; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6865. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Review Panels performing duties pursuant to the Military Commission process; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6866. A communication from the Principal Deputy for Personnel and Readiness, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the annual audit of the American Red Cross; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6867. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition