

committed to conference: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. COBLE, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. SIMMONS, Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. FILNER, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, Mr. HIGGINS, and Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania.

From the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for consideration of section 408 of the House bill, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. GILLMOR, and Mr. DINGELL.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill H.R. 3057 making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

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

H.R. 4128. An act to protect private property rights.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1691. An act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinic in Appleton, Wisconsin as the "John H. Bradley Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 4061. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the management of information technology within the Department of Veterans Affairs by providing for the Chief Information Officer of that Department to have authority over resources, budget, and personnel related to the support function of information technology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 4128. An act to protect private property rights; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

S. 1960. A bill to protect the health and safety of all athletes, to promote the integrity of professional sports by establishing minimum standards for the testing of steroids and other performance-enhancing substances and methods by professional sports leagues, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LUGAR, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. 1184. A bill to waive the passport fees for a relative of a deceased member of the Armed Forces proceeding abroad to visit the grave of such member or to attend a funeral or memorial service for such member.

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. BIDEN (for himself and Mr. HATCH):

S. 1961. A bill to extend and expand the Child Safety Pilot Program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ROBERTS (for himself, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, and Mr. BROWNBACK):

S. 1962. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to revise certain repayment contracts with the Bostwick Irrigation District in Nebraska, the Kansas Bostwick Irrigation District No. 2, the Frenchman-Cambridge Irrigation District, and the Webster Irrigation District No. 4, all a part of the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BAUCUS:

S. 1963. A bill to make miscellaneous improvements to trade adjustment assistance; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 1964. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the determination and deduction of interest on qualified education loans; to the Committee on Finance.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 832

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 832, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide taxpayer protection and assistance, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 273

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 273, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United Nations and other international organizations shall not be allowed to exercise control over the Internet.

S. RES. 299

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE), the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 299, a resolution to express support for the goals of National Adoption Month by promoting national awareness of adoption, celebrating children and families involved in adoption, and encouraging Americans to secure safety, permanency, and well-being for all children.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BIDEN (for himself and Mr. HATCH):

S. 1961. A bill to extend and expand the Child Safety Pilot Program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Extending the Child Safety Pilot Program Act of 2005, along with my good friend Senator HATCH.

At the outset, let me thank Senator HATCH and his staff for joining with me in this effort. I can think of no stronger advocate for children's safety than my friend from Utah, and I am so pleased to have him as an original cosponsor of this bill.

When a mom drops her young son or daughter off at the local Boys & Girls Club, when a dad brings his child to little league practice, or when one of our kids is mentored by an older member of the community, we hope and pray that they are going to be safe. They usually are, and youth-serving organizations are constantly vetting new employees and volunteers to ensure there's nothing in their background to indicate that potential workers should not be around our kids.

But these groups can only do so much. They send information and fingerprints on prospective workers to their State criminal identification agencies, and that effort typically results in a comprehensive search of criminal history information on file in the State where the organization is established. But if the worker spent time in another state, or if a State's records are not up to date, kids' safety can be put in jeopardy.

The organization with the most complete set of national criminal history information is the FBI's Criminal Justice Information Services Division, in Clarksburg, West Virginia. Years ago, I was approached by the Boys & Girls Clubs and others and asked whether there would be a way for them to directly access CJIS' records and avoid the then-cumbersome system requiring them to apply for these national background checks through their States.

I looked into the issue and discovered that a patchwork of statutes and regulations govern background checks at the State level. There are over 1,200 State statutes concerning criminal record checks. In different States, different agencies are authorized to perform background checks for different types of organizations, distinct forms and information are required, and the results are returned in various formats that can be difficult to interpret. Youth-serving organizations trying to do the right thing and keep the kids in their charge safe were being forced to navigate an extremely cumbersome system.

Indeed, in 1998, the FBI's Criminal Justice Information Services Division performed an analysis of fingerprints submitted for civil applicant purposes. CJIS found that the average transmission time from the point of fingerprint to the State bureau was 51.0 days, and from the State bureau to the FBI was another 66.6 days, for a total of 117.6 days from fingerprinting to receipt by the FBI. The worst performing jurisdiction took 544.8 days from