

necessary to work effectively in today's global society by making study abroad an integral part of the undergraduate educational experience.

Today, only 1 percent of all enrolled undergraduate students spend time living and studying abroad for academic credit. And only approximately one-third of those students chose to study in locations outside Western Europe, even though an estimated 95 percent of the world's population growth will occur outside that area in the next 50 years. The percentages of minorities among individuals studying abroad are extremely low, and underrepresentative of the numbers of those students in the general student population.

Minnesota ranks third in the Nation for study abroad participation rates. During the 2003–2004 school year, 8073 students enrolled in Minnesotan colleges and universities studied abroad, which is a little less than 3 percent of the overall enrolled undergraduate student population in the State. I would like to see this number grow—study abroad opportunities will help make the next generation of Minnesotans and all Americans more competitive in the global marketplace.

The reality of the global environment commands that far more of our students study abroad, regardless of their field of study, ethnicity, socioeconomic status or gender, and that more of them study in nontraditional destinations. In order for graduates to be effective in the increasingly interconnected global society, they must better understand the broad world, not just a small part of it.

Study abroad should become the norm, not the exception for U.S. college students. It can only be good for our campuses, our communities and our Nation to have more U.S. students understanding more about the rest of the world.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO PERRY M. ZIMMERMAN

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I am pleased and honored to salute labor leader Perry Zimmerman, the distinguished business manager of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, IBEW, Local 1245, and a vice president of the California Labor Federation, AFL–CIO. Perry is retiring after 5 years as IBEW Local 1245 business manager and more than 40 years of outstanding service to the labor community in California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and Idaho.

Perry Zimmerman began his career at Pacific Gas and Electric Company in 1962. During his 19 years there, he was an active union member, serving as a shop steward, unit chairman, and advisory council member.

In 1981, Perry joined the staff of IBEW Local 1245 as business representative, where he served members in Sac-

ramento and the San Francisco Bay Area. After 11 years, he was promoted to assistant business manager and served area members in both the private and public sectors.

Perry was elected business manager/financial secretary of IBEW Local 1245 in 2001. He was reelected in 2004 and has held this post ever since. As the leader of more than 18,000 members working for over 50 employers and 100 contractors, Perry Zimmerman is the voice of energy and communication workforces in 5 Western States. During this time, he was also a vice president of the California Labor Federation, AFL–CIO.

Throughout his career, Perry has demonstrated great enthusiasm and compassion for his fellow workers. As business manager, Perry was committed to being in regular touch with members, informing them of leadership decisions and requesting their opinions. He has said this was his favorite part of his job.

After more than 40 years of service to working families, Perry Zimmerman deserves some time off. Along with his friends and admirers throughout the Western United States, I wish him a long and pleasurable retirement.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 9:31 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills and joint resolution:

S. 1496. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a pilot program under which up to 15 States may issue electronic Federal migratory bird hunting stamps.

H.R. 4019. An act to amend title 4 of the United States Code to clarify the treatment of self-employment for purposes of the limitation on State taxation of retirement income.

H.R. 5865. An act to amend section 1113 of the Social Security Act to temporarily increase funding for the program of temporary assistance for United States citizens returned from foreign countries, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 86. An act approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes.

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

At 11:38 a.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 bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5682. An act to exempt from certain requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 a proposed nuclear agreement for cooperation with India.

H.R. 5877. An act to amend the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 to extend the authorities provided in such Act until September 29, 2006.

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

H. Con. Res. 400. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Government of Venezuela should actively support strategies for ensuring secure airport facilities that meet international certifications to prevent trafficking of controlled substances, narcotics, and laundered money.

At 12:47 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 bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2730. An act to authorize funding for eligible joint ventures between United States and Israeli businesses an academic persons, to establish the International Energy Advisory Board, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5319. An act to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require recipients of universal service support for schools and libraries to protect minors from commercial social networking websites and chat rooms.

H.R. 5337. An act to ensure national security while promoting foreign investment and the creation and maintenance of jobs, to reform the process by which such investments are examined for any effect they may have on national security, to establish the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5611. An act to authorize a partnership between the Secretary of Energy and appropriate industry groups for the creation of a transportation fuel conservation education campaign, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 2730. An act to establish a grant program to fund eligible joint ventures between United States and Israeli businesses and academic persons, to establish the International Energy Advisory Board, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 5319. An act to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require recipients of universal service support for schools and libraries to protect minors from commercial social networking websites and chat rooms; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.