

time with his shooting team which won more than a dozen championships at Birchwood Shooting Park. He would smile when he talked about setting up visits to the communities served by TelAlaska's companies, checking the calendar to ensure that he would arrive in the right season for a day or two of fishing or hunting. It is no surprise, then, that he wanted his ashes spread in the fall at his favorite duck hunting retreat at Cold Bay.

Catherine and I send our condolences to Donna and their sons, Ryan and Richard II, and all who knew and loved Jack. He will be missed.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, 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 and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill:

H.R. 2830. An act to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2008, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act and title 18, United States Code, to combat the crime of alien smuggling and related activities, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 841(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (P.L. 10-181), the Minority Leader appoints Mr. Dean G. Poppo of Virginia to the Commission on Wartime Contracting.

At 4:20 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:

H.R. 5715. An act to ensure continued availability of access to the Federal student loan program for students and families.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2920. A bill to reauthorize and improve the financing and entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5613. To extend certain moratoria and impose additional moratoria on certain Medicaid regulations through April 1, 2009, and for other purposes.

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

H.R. 2830. An act to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2008, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act and title 18, United States Code, to combat the crime of alien smuggling and related activities, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 5715. An act to ensure continued availability of access to the Federal student loan program for students and families.

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-5983. A communication from the General Counsel, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard for the Flammability of Clothing Textiles" (RIN3041-AB68) received on April 23, 2008; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5984. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the feasibility study that was undertaken to evaluate flood damage reduction opportunities for the communities of Cynthiana, Millersburg, and Paris, in the Licking River Basin, Kentucky; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5985. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Public Access, Use, and Recreation Regulations for the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge" (RIN1018-AV43) received on April 23, 2008; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5986. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting a legislative proposal intended to address the declining balance in the Inland Waterways Trust Fund; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5987. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tier I Issue—Backdated Stock Options Directive No. 2" (LMSB Control No. 4-0308-017) received on April 23, 2008; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5988. A communication from the Acting Assistant Legal Adviser, Office of Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to information that was omitted from the original transmittal of the Extradition Agreement with the European Union that was signed on June 25, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5989. A communication from the Acting Assistant Legal Adviser, Office of Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to information that was omitted from the original transmittal of the Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance that was signed on June 25, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5990. A communication from the General Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a draft bill intended to contribute to an international clean technology fund; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5991. A communication from the General Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a draft bill intended to provide for a U.S. contribution to the replenishment

of the resource of the International Development Association; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5992. A communication from the General Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a draft bill intended to provide for U.S. contribution to the eleventh replenishment of the resources of the African Development Fund; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5993. A communication from the Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts, National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Foundation's annual report relative to the Arts and Artifacts Indemnity Program for fiscal year 2007; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5994. A communication from the President, Gallaudet University, transmitting a report relative to the school's desire to appoint a Senator to its Board of Trustees; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5995. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 17-338, "Transit Operator Protection and Enhanced Penalty Amendment Act of 2008" received on April 23, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5996. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 17-357, "Procurement of Natural Gas and Electricity Exemption Amendment Act of 2008" received on April 23, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5997. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 17-356, "Vending Regulation Temporary Act of 2008" received on April 23, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5998. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 17-339, "Telecommunications Competition Amendment Act of 2008" received on April 23, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5999. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 17-340, "Clinical Trials Insurance Coverage Act of 2008" received on April 23, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6000. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 17-341, "East of the River Hospital Revitalization Amendment Act of 2008" received on April 23, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6001. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 17-345, "Retirement Incentive Temporary Act of 2008" received on April 23, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6002. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 17-358, "Dedication of Land for Street Purposes, the Establishment of a Building Restriction Line, S.O. 06-9108, and the Removal of a Portion of a 50-foot Right-of-Way from the Highway Plan on Lot 822, in