

S. 2457. An act to provide for extensions of leases of certain land by Mashantucket Pequot (Western) Tribe.

S. 2739. An act to authorize certain programs and activities in the Department of the Interior, the Forest Service, and the Department of Energy, to implement further the Act approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, to amend the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003, and for other purposes.

S. 2954. An act to amend Public Law 110-196 to provide for a temporary extension of programs authorized by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 beyond May 2, 2008.

#### 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-6014. A communication from the Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children: Miscellaneous Vendor-Related Provisions" (RIN0584-AD36) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6015. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tobacco Transition Payment Program; Release of Records" (RIN0560-AH79) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6016. A communication from the Secretary of the Army, transmitting, pursuant to law, a letter detailing his determination that the Average Procurement Unit Cost metric for the Javelin Advanced Anti-Tank Missile has exceeded the significant cost growth threshold; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6017. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's competitive sourcing efforts during fiscal year 2007; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6018. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement, Acquisition Policy, and Strategic Sourcing, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of Authority to Carry Out Certain Prototype Projects" (DFARS Case 2008-D008) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6019. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement, Acquisition Policy, and Strategic Sourcing, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Deletion of Obsolete Restriction on Acquisition of Vessel Propellers" (DFARS Case 2007-D027) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6020. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement, Acquisition Policy, and Strategic Sourcing, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Earned Value Management Systems" (DFARS Case 2005-D006) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6021. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs),

transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2007 annual report relative to the STARBASE Program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6022. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of General Dan K. McNeill, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6023. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of General Burwell B. Bell III, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6024. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Syria that was declared in Executive Order 13338 of May 11, 2004; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6025. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's activities during calendar year 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6026. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Flood Elevation Determinations" (73 FR 19161) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6027. A communication from the Attorney, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations" (44 CFR Part 65) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6028. A communication from the Attorney, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Proposed Flood Elevation Determinations" (Docket No. FEMA-B-7771) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6029. A communication from the Attorney, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Flood Elevation Determinations" (44 CFR Part 67) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6030. A communication from the Attorney, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations" (Docket No. FEMA-B-7772) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6031. A communication from the Attorney, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Proposed Flood Elevation Determinations" (Docket No. FEMA-B-7773) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6032. A communication from the Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Annual Report for calendar year 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6033. A communication from the Acting Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Com-

merce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Sea Turtle Conservation" (RIN0648-R84) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6034. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Rule to Approve the Georges Bank Cod Hook Sector's 2008 Operations Plan; Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan" (RIN068-AW16) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6035. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries in the Western Pacific; Bottomfish and Seamount Groundfish Fisheries; Management Measures in the Main Hawaiian Islands" (RIN068-AU22) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6036. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2008 Specifications and Management Measures for Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish Fisheries" (RIN068-AV40) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6037. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual progress report entitled, "Report to Congress on the Fiscal Year 2007 Competitive Sourcing Efforts"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6038. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Office of the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs, received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6039. A communication from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Interlocutory Review of Rulings on Requests by Potential Parties for Access to Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information and Safeguards Information" (RIN3150-AI08) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6040. 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—Section 965 Foreign Earnings Repatriation Directive No. 2" (LMSB-4-0408-021) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6041. 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 "Examination of Dividends Received Deduction on Separate Accounts of Life Insurance Companies Directive" (LMSB-04-0308-010) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6042. 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 II Issue—Interchange and Merchant Discount Fees Directive No. 1" (LMSB-04-0208-002) received

on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6043. 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 "Special Rules to Reduce Section 1446 Withholding" ((RIN1545-BD80)(TD 9394)) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6044. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, "Finalizing Medicare Regulations under Section 902 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 for Calendar Year 2007"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6045. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment to the International Arms Traffic in Arms Regulations: North Atlantic Treaty Organization" (22 CFR Part 123) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6046. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's 2007 Buy American Act Report; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6047. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Education (Special Education and Rehabilitative Services), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research—Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects and Centers Program—Disability Rehabilitation Research Projects for a Center on Post-Secondary Education for Students with Intellectual Disabilities—Notice of Final Priority and Definitions" (4000-01-U) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6048. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Default Investment Alternatives Under Participant Directed Individual Account Plans" (RIN1210-AB10) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6049. A communication from the Deputy Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits" (29 CFR Parts 4022 and 4044) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6050. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to postmarket surveillance of medical devices used in pediatric populations; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6051. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting a report entitled, "Audit of Child and Family Services Agency's Contracting and Quality Assurance Procedures"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6052. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Annual Report of the Office of Justice Programs for fiscal year 2006; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-6053. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and

Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of the Swan Creek Viticultural Area" (RIN1513-AB20) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-6054. A communication from the White House Liaison, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of U.S. Attorney for the District of Connecticut, received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-6055. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedules of Controlled Substances: Exempt Anabolic Steroid Products" (RIN1117-AA98) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-6056. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Size Standards, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Small Business Size Standards; Adoption of 2007 North American Industry Classification System for Size Standards" (RIN3245-AF66) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-6057. A communication from the Director of Regulations Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Notice and Assistance Requirements and Technical Correction" (RIN2900-AM17) received on April 29, 2008; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### 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. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. LUGAR):

S. 2951. A bill to require reports on the progress of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in addressing causes for variances in compensation payments for veterans for service-connected disabilities; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. 2952. A bill to improve food safety through mandatory meat, meat product, poultry, and poultry product recall authority, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to improve communication about recalls with schools participating in the school lunch and breakfast programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 2953. A bill to provide for the development and inventory of certain outer Continental Shelf resources, to suspend petroleum acquisition for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HARKIN:

S. 2954. A bill to amend Public Law 110-196 to provide for a temporary extension of progress authorized by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 beyond May 2, 2008; considered and passed.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Mr. SPECTER):

S. 2955. A bill to authorize funds to the Local Initiatives Support Corporation to carry out its Community Safety Initiative; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. COLEMAN, and Mr. OBAMA):

S. 2956. A bill to ensure that persons who form corporations in the United States disclose the beneficial owners of those corporations, in order to prevent wrongdoers from exploiting United States corporations for criminal gain, to assist law enforcement in detecting, preventing, and punishing terrorism, money laundering, and other misconduct involving United States corporations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN:

S. 2957. A bill to modernize credit union net worth standards, advance credit union efforts to promote economic growth, and modify credit union regularity standards and reduce burdens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DOMENICI (for himself, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. BOND, Mr. INHOFE, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. THUNE, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. ALLARD, and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. 2958. A bill to promote the energy security of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 2959. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require States to provide for election day registration; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. DODD:

S. 2960. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002, to establish the Office for Bombing Prevention, to enhance the role of State and local bomb squads, public safety dive teams, explosive detection canine teams, and special weapons and tactics teams in national improvised explosive device prevention policy, to establish a grant program to provide for training, equipment, and staffing of State and local improvised explosive device prevention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 2961. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance the refinancing of home loans by veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 2962. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the provision of items and services provided to Medicare beneficiaries residing in States with more cost-effective health care delivery systems; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BOND (for himself, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. DOMENICI, Mrs. DOLE, and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 2963. A bill to improve and enhance the mental health care benefits available to members of the Armed Forces and veterans, to enhance counseling and other benefits available to survivors of members of the Armed Forces and veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 2964. A bill to require the United States Trade Representative to pursue a complaint of anticompetitive practices against certain oil exporting countries; to the Committee on Finance.