

standard as a consumer product safety rule, to encourage States to require the installation of such detectors in homes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself, Mr. DOMENICI, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. DOLE, and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. 3661. A bill to amend the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to establish a United States Nuclear Fuel Management Corporation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN:

S. 3662. An original bill to establish the Controlled Unclassified Information Office, to require policies and procedures for the designation, marking, safeguarding, and dissemination of controlled unclassified information, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER:

S. 3663. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to provide for a short-term extension of the analog television broadcasting authority so that essential public safety announcements and digital television transition information may be provided for a short time during the transition to digital television broadcasting; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER:

S. 3664. A bill to provide for the extension of a certain hydroelectric project located in the State of West Virginia; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. AKAKA (for himself and Mr. PRYOR):

S. 3665. A bill to amend chapter 63 of title 5, United States Code, to modify the rate of accrual of annual leave for administrative law judges, contract appeals board members, and immigration judges; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. HATCH):

S. 3666. A bill to require certain metal recyclers to keep records of their transactions in order to deter individuals and enterprises engaged in theft and interstate fencing of stolen copper, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

S. 3667. A bill to clarify the application of section 14501(d) of title 49, United States Code, to prevent the imposition of unreasonable transportation terminal fees; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BIDEN:

S. 3668. A bill to create a grant program for collaboration programs that ensure coordination among criminal justice agencies, adult protective services agencies, victim assistance programs, and other agencies or organizations providing services to individuals with disabilities in the investigation and response to abuse of or crimes committed against such individuals; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. VOINOVICH:

S. 3669. A bill to reduce gas prices by promoting domestic energy production, alternative energy, and conservation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BUNNING:

S. 3670. A bill to regulate certain State and local taxation of electronic commerce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 3671. A bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to require the Commodity Fu-

tures Trading Commission to develop and impose aggregate position limits on certain large over-the-counter transactions and classes of large over-the-counter transactions; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BAUCUS:

S. 3672. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to improve economic opportunity and development in rural States through highway investment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BAUCUS:

S. 3673. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to improve highway transportation in the United States, including rural and metropolitan areas; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. CLINTON:

S. 3674. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a Wellness Trust; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KERRY:

S. 3675. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the treatment of certain excessive employee remuneration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S. 3676. A bill to support the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters and emergency medical services personnel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 3677. A bill to establish a Special Joint Task Force on Financial Crimes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 3678. A bill to promote freedom, human rights, and the rule of law in Vietnam; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. Res. 701. A resolution honoring the life of Michael P. Smith; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida:

S. Con. Res. 105. A concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to correct the enrollment of H.R. 6063; considered and agreed to.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER:

S. 3663. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to provide for a short-term extension of the analog television broadcasting authority so that essential public safety announcements and digital television transition information may be provided for a short time during the transition to digital television broadcasting; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Short-term Analog Flash and Emergency Readiness Act. This simple piece of legislation will help make sure those con-

sumers who fail to make the transition to Digital Television, DTV, by February 17, 2009 are not left without access to emergency information. This bill will also allow those consumers to understand what steps they need to take in order to restore their television signals.

I voted against the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, which directs that on February 18, 2009, over-the-air full-power television broadcasts, which are currently provided by television stations in both analog and digital formats, will become digital only. I voted against this bill in both the Commerce Committee and during its consideration by the full Senate because it failed to address the core policy questions of the implementation of the transition to DTV. Specifically, it did not adequately address the minimization of consumer disruption and the establishment a national interoperable communications network with the analog spectrum that broadcasters were vacating. I was one of only three "No" votes in Committee.

When the Commerce Committee passed its portion of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, the then-Republican majority on the Committee did not want to spend significant resources on the DTV transition to minimize consumer disruption. Nor, did they want to spend any resources on building a national interoperable public safety communications network. The only thing that mattered to Republicans in 2005 was generating sufficient money to meet our budget reconciliation instructions. Because the Committee failed to set forth coherent policy objectives in 2005, consumers and our Nation's first responders will bear the brunt of that failure.

I believe that many have forgotten why we moved forward with the DTV transition. It was to free up much needed spectrum to create a national interoperable public safety communications network. I know the people of West Virginia strongly support their first responders and would have gladly accepted that transition to make sure that in times of crisis our local police, fire, and emergency response teams could communicate. Instead, the DTV transition has been sold as nothing more than having a better television picture. That is unfortunate because we are making this transition to address a critical public safety need—one identified by the 9/11 Commission.

Unfortunately, the Federal Communications Commission still has not devised a plan to establish this national public safety communications network. The spectrum has been auctioned and the big wireless companies have secured their futures. But our nation's first responders, which should have been this Administration's first priority, are not much closer to achieving interoperable communications.

As my good friend FCC Commissioner Michael Copps has stated, "the question of public safety is . . . the first obligation of the public servant." In a