over $368 million, $40.1 million in cost savings, and the creation or retention of over 2,500 jobs—or nearly 5 percent of Maine’s manufacturing workforce. I commend Falcon for working with the Maine MEP to become a leaner, more efficient company that is poised for future success, and I am pleased to honor the company and its employees as it receives the Maine MEP’s 2011 Manufacturing Excellence Award.

Maine was once home to dozens of shoe factories and tanneries, which provided thousands of jobs and enormous benefits to the State’s economy. But over time, foreign competition and rising costs have devastated the shoe industry across America. That is what makes Falcon Performance Footwear’s story all the more remarkable. I thank everyone at Falcon for their hard work and endurance, and wish them continued success as they remain an icon in the Lewiston-Auburn communities.

REMEMBERING LARRY GERLACH

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Larry Gerlach. Larry Gerlach, October 6, 1919, in Britton, SD. In 1967, he married Susan O’Connor, and they made their home in Aberdeen. Larry quickly made himself known throughout the community for his love of the area and his resolve to see it grow and prosper.

Larry became a member of the Brown County Fair Board in the 1980s and served on the board for 6 years. He became the president in 1989, and in January 1992, Larry was named the Brown County Fair manager. His ambition and driven attitude helped develop the Brown County Fair into one of the largest fairs in the region. He was able to book some of the biggest names in country music to perform at the grandstand that is being named in his honor. His friends, family, and coworkers all remember him as having an upbeat and positive attitude, and he was regarded by all as a joy to be around.

Larry won many prestigious awards in his life, among them was the 1996 People’s Choice ABBY Award from the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce. In addition, he served as the president of the South Dakota Association of Fairs from 1997–2001, and in 2003, Larry was inducted into the South Dakota Fairman’s Hall of Fame.

Unfortunately, Larry passed away in February of 2011. Although we are saddened by this loss, Larry’s memory will live on through his loved ones and those who were fortunate to work closely with him. Larry’s sense of determination, ambition, and positive attitude helped make the Brown County Fair into a success today, as well as make him a greatly respected man within the Brown County community and the entire state. He will be greatly missed by all.

TRIBUTE TO BO BRUINSMAN

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Bo Bruinsma, an intern in my Sioux Falls, SD, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several weeks.

Bo is a graduate of Elk Point-Jefferson High School in South Dakota. Currently he is attending the University of South Dakota, majoring in political science and mass communications with a Spanish minor. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience. I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Bo for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, 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.)

TRANSMITTING CERTIFICATION

THAT THE DEBT SUBJECT TO LIMIT IS WITHIN $100,000,000,000 OF THE LIMIT IN 31 U.S.C. 3101(b) AND THAT FURTHER BORROWING IS REQUIRED TO MEET EXISTING COMMITMENTS—PM 17

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to section 3101A(a)(1)(A) of title 31, United States Code, I hereby certify that the debt subject to limit is within $100,000,000,000 of the limit in 31 U.S.C. 3101(b) and that further borrowing is required to meet existing commitments.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, August 2, 2011.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:38 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2480. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Administrative Conference of the United States for fiscal years 2012, 2013, and 2014, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-2805. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Launch Safety: Lightning Criteria for Expendable Launch Vehicles” ((RIN1219–AM4) (Docket No. FAA–2011–0181)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2865. A communication from the Attorneys Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Regulated Navigation Area: Chelsea Street Bridge Construction, Chelsea, MA” ((RIN1625–AA11) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0688)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2890. A communication from the Attorneys Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Regulated Navigation Area: Chelsea Street Bridge Construction, Chelsea, MA” ((RIN1625–AA11) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0688)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2890. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Regulated Navigation Area: Chelsea Street Bridge Construction, Chelsea, MA” ((RIN1625–AA11) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0688)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
EC–2807. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zones; Captain of the Port Zone” ((RIN1625–AA09) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0503)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2808. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zones; Marine Events; Detroit, MI” ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0524)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2809. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zones; Captain of the Port Zone” ((RIN1625–AA09) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0503)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2810. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Special Local Regulations for Marine Events; Detroit, MI” ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0503)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2811. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Special Local Regulations for Marine Events; Lake Forest, IL” ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0510)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2812. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Special Local Regulations for Marine Events; Lake Forest, IL” ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0510)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2813. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zones; Captain of the Port Zone” ((RIN1625–AA09) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0503)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2814. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zones; Captain of the Port Zone” ((RIN1625–AA09) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0503)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2815. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zones; Captain of the Port Zone” ((RIN1625–AA10) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0523)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2816. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zones; Captain of the Port Zone” ((RIN1625–AA10) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0523)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2817. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zones; Captain of the Port Zone” ((RIN1625–AA10) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0523)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2818. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zones; Captain of the Port Zone” ((RIN1625–AA10) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0523)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2819. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zones; Captain of the Port Zone” ((RIN1625–AA10) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0523)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2820. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zones; Captain of the Port Zone” ((RIN1625–AA10) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0523)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2821. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zones; Captain of the Port Zone” ((RIN1625–AA10) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0523)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2822. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zones; Captain of the Port Zone” ((RIN1625–AA10) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0523)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2823. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zones; Captain of the Port Zone” ((RIN1625–AA10) (Docket No. USCG–2011–0523)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–2824. A communication from the Director of the Regulation Policy and Management Office, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Program—Changes to Subsistence Allowance” (RIN1900–AG10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary:

Report to accompany S. 623, a bill to amend chapter 111 of title 28, United States Code, relating to protective orders, sealing of cases, disclosures of discovery information in civil actions, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112–45).

By Mrs. BOXER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with an amendment:

S. 1918, to amend the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act to reauthorize the Act (Rept. No. 112–46).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

* Madelyn R. Creedon, of Indiana, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.
* Alan F. Estevez, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.
* Air Force nomination of Gen. William M. Fraser III, to be General.
* Air Force nomination of Col. Donald P. Dunbar, to be Brigadier General.
* Air Force nomination of Brig. Gen. Verle L. Johnston, Jr., to be Major General.
* Air Force nominations beginning with Brigadier General Trulan A. Eyre and ending with Colonel Jennifer L. Walter, which nominations were received and are pending action in the Senate Military Appropriations Subcommittee.
* Army nomination of Gen. Raymond T. Odierno, to be General.
* Army nomination of Lt. Gen. Michael Ferriter, to be Lieutenant General.
* Army nomination of Lt. Gen. Robert L. Caslen, Jr., to be Lieutenant General.
* Army nomination of Col. Brian R. Copes, to be Brigadier General.