

States House of Representatives, to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress, and to the governor of the state of Louisiana.

POM-258. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to the Turtle Excluder Device regulations; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 12

Whereas, due to the protection of the beaches on Rancho Nuevo, Mexico, the number of documented nests of the endangered Kemp's Ridley sea turtle has increased to nearly four thousand from a low of about seven hundred in 1985; and

Whereas, the sea turtle population has increased to the point where modifications of turtle excluder device (T.E.D.S) regulations are feasible without causing detriment to the increasing turtle population; and

Whereas, the Louisiana shrimping industry views current T.E.D. regulations as a direct threat to their industry; and

Whereas, commercial shrimp trawl vessel licenses have dropped from a high of approximately thirty-two thousand in 1987, just prior to the T.E.D. regulations, to a present-day low of approximately fifteen thousand. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana memorializes the Congress of the United States to pursue other viable alternatives to present T.E.D. regulations, including, but not limited to seasonal exemptions, where there is a low presence of the Kemp Ridley turtle in the winter season; and area exemptions where there has been no historical evidence of Kemp Ridley populations; and an industry funded recovery program; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of Representatives and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-259. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to the National Resource Conservation Service; to the Committee on Appropriations.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 60

Whereas, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), formerly the Soil Conservation Service, has been providing technical assistance to Louisiana's landowners and land managers since 1935; and

Whereas, such technical assistance has been provided through formal working agreements with each of Louisiana's forty-three soil and water conservation districts; and

Whereas, a science-based, multidisciplinary workforce's no-cost assistance has been instrumental to the development of Louisiana's productive cropland, pasture land, and forests; and

Whereas, NRCS has generally provided services and funds to the people of Louisiana through the soil and water conservation districts at a ratio of approximately ten federal dollars for each state dollar; and

Whereas, Louisiana landowners and land managers are besieged by regulations and enforcement actions related to clean air, clean water, wetland protection and restoration, animal waste management, nutrient and pesticide management, riparian area protection, and other environmental requirements; and

Whereas, the technical assistance that NRCS provides is critical to our state's land-

owners' continuing compliance with these complex environmental laws and regulations; and

Whereas, private landowners and land managers control over eighty percent of Louisiana's land, and their understanding and application of sound conservation practices to their land is essential to maintain its productivity; and

Whereas, these sound conservation practices constitute an important non-point source environmental protection program on a statewide and national basis; and

Whereas, the president of the United States has proposed a budget that in effect would reduce NRCS field service staff by over 1,050 nationwide with a possible twenty-five reduction in Louisiana's field staff; and

Whereas, this potential reduction in field service staff would severely weaken the state and national non-point source environmental protection program, and the resulting impact of the reduced availability of technical assistance would likely lead to increased violations by private landowners. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana memorializes the Congress of the United States to restore any budget reductions affecting NRCS in order that it can adequately serve the conservation and environmental needs of Louisiana; and be it further

Resolved, That this Resolution shall be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate, the clerk of the United States House of Representatives, each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation, the secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, and the president of the United States.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 348: A bill to authorize and facilitate a program to enhance training, research and development, energy conservation and efficiency, and consumer education in the oilheat industry for the benefit of oilheat consumers and the public, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-109).

By Mr. THOMPSON, from the Committee on Government Affairs, with amendments:

S. 746: A bill to provide for analysis of major rules, to promote the public's right to know the costs and benefits of major rules, and to increase the accountability of quality of Government (Rept. No. 106-110).

By Mr. MCCAIN, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment and an amendment to the title:

S. 937: A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2000 and 2001 for certain maritime programs of the Department of Transportation, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-111).

By Mr. ROTH, from the Committee on Finance:

Report to accompany the bill (S. 1387) to extend certain trade preference to sub-Saharan African countries (Rept. No. 106-112).

By Mr. SPECTER, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, with an amendment to the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 695: A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a national cemetery for veterans in the Atlanta, Georgia, metropolitan area (Rept. No. 106-113).

By Mr. SPECTER, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, without amendment:

S. 1402: An original bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance programs providing education benefits for veterans, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-114).

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Finance, with an amendment and an amendment to the title:

H.R. 1833: A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2000 and 2001 for the United States Customs Service for drug interdiction and other operations, for the Office of the United States Trade Representative, for the United State International Trade Commission, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

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

S. 1394: A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the U.S.S. New Jersey, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BAUCUS:

S. 1395: A bill to require the United States Trade Representative to appear before certain congressional committees to present the annual National Trade Estimate; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. FITZGERALD:

S. 1396: A bill to amend section 4532 of title 10, United States Code, to provide for the coverage and treatment of overhead costs of United States factories and arsenals when not making supplies for the Army, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. ENZI (for himself and Mr. THOMAS):

S. 1397: A bill to provide for the retention of the name of the geologic formation known as "Devil's Tower" at the Devils Tower National Monument in the State of Wyoming; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HELMS:

S. 1398: A bill to clarify certain boundaries on maps relating to the Coastal Barrier Resources System; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. DEWINE (for himself, Mr. DODD, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. REID, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. INOUE, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. WELLSTONE):

S. 1399: A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide that pay adjustments for nurses and certain other health-care professionals employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs shall be made in the manner applicable to Federal employees generally and to revise the authority for the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make further locality pay adjustments for those professionals; to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 1400: A bill to protect women's reproductive health and constitutional right to choice, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. MACK, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. 1401. A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to promote the development and use of affordable crop insurance policies designed to meet the specific needs of producers of specialty crops, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 1402. An original bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance programs providing education benefits for veterans, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Veterans Affairs; placed on the calendar.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. REID, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BRYAN, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 1403. A bill to amend chapter 3 of title 28, United States Code, to modify en banc procedures for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ROBB (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. SARBANES, and Ms. MIKULSKI):

S. 1404. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to authorize expenditures from the Highway Trust Fund for the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Bridge Project for fiscal years 2004 through 2007, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. ROBB, Mr. SARBANES, and Ms. MIKULSKI):

S. 1405. A bill to amend the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Bridge Authority Act of 1995 to provide an authorization of contract authority for fiscal years 2004 through 2007, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. SHELBY (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. LOTT, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BURNS, Mr. BYRD, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. HELMS, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. DODD, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. MACK, Mr. FRIST, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. GREGG):

S. Con. Res. 45. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the July 20, 1999, 30th anniversary of the first lunar landing should be a day of celebration and reflection on the Apollo-11 mission to the Moon and the accomplishments of the Apollo program throughout the 1960's and 1970's; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. Con. Res. 46. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the July 20, 1999, 30th anniversary of the first lunar landing should be a day of celebration and reflection on the Apollo-11 mission to the Moon and the accomplishments of the Apollo program throughout the 1960's and 1970's; considered and agreed to.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

S. 1394. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the U.S.S. *New Jersey*, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

U.S.S. "NEW JERSEY" COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

• Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation that will assist with the financial costs of relocating the Battleship U.S.S. *New Jersey* to a place of honored retirement in her namesake state. After fifty-six years of service to our Nation, this proud ship is ready to serve America in a new and invaluable role as an educational museum and historic center.

The U.S.S. *New Jersey* is believed to be the most decorated warship in the annals of the U.S. Navy, with sixteen battle stars and thirteen other ribbons and medals. She is one of the four battleships of the 45,000 ton *Iowa* class, which are the largest, fastest and most powerful we ever built. Beyond her imposing size and physical characteristics though, the *New Jersey* has an unmatched record of service to her country.

With the easing of world tensions, the battleship was decommissioned in February of 1991 and she now lays in reserve, ready, but destined never to sail again. In January 1995, the *New Jersey* was stricken by the Navy, meaning that she was available to become a museum. For 24 years, the people of New Jersey have been organizing at the grass roots level to prepare for the eventual return to the ship.

Mr. President, the legislation I am introducing will authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to mint silver coins commemorating the U.S.S. *New Jersey*. Millions of dollars have already been raised through the purchase of Battleship License Plates, an annual Tax Check Off and contributions by many of New Jersey's leading civic and business organizations. The issuance of a U.S.S. *New Jersey* coin will add to these efforts and help commemorate this national treasure.

Mr. President, I ask that the text of bill be printed in the RECORD.

The bill follows:

S. 1394

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "U.S.S. New Jersey Commemorative Coin Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The U.S.S. *New Jersey* was launched December 7, 1942, the start of nearly 50 years of dedicated service to our Nation prior to final decommissioning in 1991.

(2) After commissioning, the U.S.S. *New Jersey* was sent to the Pacific, and played a key role in operations in the Marshalls, Marianas, Carolines, Philippines, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa, with a particular highlight being the U.S.S. *New Jersey*'s service as the flag-

ship for Commander 3d Fleet, Admiral William "Bull" Halsey, during the Battle of Leyte Gulf in October 1944.

(3) After the Allied victory in World War II, the U.S.S. *New Jersey* was deactivated in 1948 until being called to service for the second time, in November 1950.

(4) The U.S.S. *New Jersey* served two tours in the Western Pacific during the Korean War, serving as flagship for Commander 7th Fleet.

(5) After her valiant service during the Korean War, the U.S.S. *New Jersey* was again mothballed in 1957, only to be re-activated again in 1968 to serve as the only active-duty Navy battleship.

(6) The U.S.S. *New Jersey* served a successful tour during the Vietnam conflict, providing critical major-caliber fire support for friendly troops, before again being decommissioned in December 1969.

(7) The U.S.S. *New Jersey*'s service to our country did not end with the Vietnam conflict, as she was again called to active duty status in December 1982 and provided a show of strength off the coast of Nicaragua, in Central America in 1983.

(8) The Navy again called upon the U.S.S. *New Jersey* to provide critical support by sending her to the Mediterranean in 1983 to provide critical fire support to Marines in embattled Beirut, Lebanon.

(9) The U.S.S. *New Jersey* continued to serve the Navy in a variety of roles, including regular deployments in the Western Pacific.

(10) The U.S.S. *New Jersey* was decommissioned for the fourth and final time in February 1991.

(11) In 1998 Congress passed legislation to decommission the U.S.S. *New Jersey* and permanently berth her in the State of New Jersey.

(12) The State has strongly endorsed bringing the U.S.S. *New Jersey* home, and has issued commemorative license plates and taken other steps to raise funds for the costs of relocating the U.S.S. *New Jersey*.

(13) The New Jersey congressional delegation is united in its support for bringing the U.S.S. *New Jersey* home to New Jersey.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) DENOMINATION.—In commemoration of the U.S.S. *New Jersey*, the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall mint and issue not more than 500,000 \$1 coins, each of which shall—

(1) weigh 26.73 grams;

(2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(3) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 4. SOURCES OF BULLION.

The Secretary may obtain silver for minting coins under this Act from any available source, including stockpiles established under the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act.

SEC. 5. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of service of the U.S.S. *New Jersey*.

(2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act there shall be—