

To carry out the Federal restoration program, the EPA would be directed to establish the Lake Ponchartrain Executive Council. Council members would include the EPA, the State of Louisiana, the Regional Planning Commission, the University of New Orleans, and the Lake Ponchartrain Basin Foundation.

The EPA, in cooperation with other Federal agencies, the State and local authorities, would assist the Council with the preparation of a comprehensive, multi-use watershed management plan to restore and protect the basin.

Federal grant funds and technical assistance would be available through the EPA. Certain planning, research, monitoring and voluntary restoration projects would be eligible for funding. In accordance with the management plan, the voluntary restoration projects would address various waste, runoff, discharge and water quality problems to improve the basin's watershed.

Also to be authorized for continued priority funding would be the New Orleans Inflow and Infiltration Project.

Lake Ponchartrain, the basin's namesake, is located in its midst. The lake plays a vital environmental, economic and quality of life role for the 1.5 million people who live around it in 16 Louisiana parishes. A 630 square-mile body of water, the lake is a major beneficiary of the basin's restoration.

Other beneficiaries of the restoration program would be the many species of fish, birds, mammals, reptiles and plants which are found in the basin.

Federal assistance should be provided for a watershed program of this size and impact to assist with the cost of the voluntary restoration projects as well as planning, research, and monitoring projects.

I commend all those who have organized and implemented the current basin restoration program over the past decade. They have given so much of their time, energy and support to make the basin environmentally healthier today than it has been for many years. All of them deserve the highest tribute and recognition.

It is my privilege and honor to serve on behalf of citizens who recognize a serious problem and work cooperatively to solve it and also to introduce legislation which would help them continue such a major undertaking.

For these reasons, I have joined with Senator LANDRIEU in cosponsoring the Lake Ponchartrain Basin Restoration Act of 1999. I urge the Senate's prompt consideration of the bill and look forward to working with other Senators on behalf of its passage.

I thank the Chair.

#### THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Wednes-

day, September 22, 1999, the Federal debt stood at \$5,636,049,287,069.79 (Five trillion, six hundred thirty-six billion, forty-nine million, two hundred eighty-seven thousand, sixty-nine dollars and seventy-nine cents).

One year ago, September 22, 1998, the Federal debt stood at \$5,515,819,000,000 (Five trillion, five hundred fifteen billion, eight hundred nineteen million).

Five years ago, September 22, 1994, the Federal debt stood at \$4,666,417,000,000 (Four trillion, six hundred sixty-six billion, four hundred seventeen million).

Ten years ago, September 22, 1989, the Federal debt stood at \$2,844,377,000,000 (Two trillion, eight hundred forty-four billion, three hundred seventy-seven million) which reflects a doubling of the debt—an increase of almost \$3 trillion—\$2,791,672,287,069.79 (Two trillion, seven hundred ninety-one billion, six hundred seventy-two million, two hundred eighty-seven thousand, sixty-nine dollars and seventy-nine cents) during the past 10 years.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

#### REPORT ON THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO IRAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 59

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

*To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and section 505(c) of the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1985, 22 U.S.C. 2349aa-9(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order 12957 of March 15, 1995.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 23, 1999.

#### REPORT ON THE NATIONAL MONEY LAUNDERING STRATEGY FOR 1999—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 60

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

*To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by the provisions of section 2(a) of Public Law 105-310 (18 U.S.C. 5341(a)(2)), I transmit herewith the National Money Laundering Strategy for 1999.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 23, 1999.

#### ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on September 23, 1999, he had presented to the President of the United States, the following enrolled bill:

S. 1059. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2000 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strength for such fiscal year for the Armed forces, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-5303. A communication from the Public Relations Assistant, Panama Canal Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for fiscal year 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-5304. A communication from the Associate Administrator for Procurement, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule relative to administrative changes to the NASA Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement, received September 21, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5305. A communication from the Program Analyst, Office of the Chief Counsel, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (121); Amdt. No. 1949 {9-14/9-16};" (RIN2120-AA65) (1999-0045), received September 16, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5306. A communication from the Program Analyst, Office of the Chief Counsel, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (65); Amdt. No. 1949 {9-11/9-13};" (RIN2120-AA65) (1999-0044), received September 13, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.