

Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regatta Regulations; SLR; City of Augusta, GA (CGD07-99-068)" (RIN2115-AE46) (1999-0042), received November 4, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6222. A communication from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety/Security Zone Regulations; Sciame Construction Fireworks, East River, Manhattan, NY (CGD01-99-181)" (RIN2115-AA97) (1999-0068), received November 4, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6223. A communication from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety/Security Zone Regulations; All Coast Guard and Navy Vessels Involved in Evidence Transport, Narragansett Bay, Davisville, RI (CGD01-99-185)" (RIN2115-AA97) (1999-0069), received November 15, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6224. A communication from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Licensing and Manning for Officers of Towing Vessels (USCG-1999-6224)" (RIN2115-AF23) (1999-0001), received November 15, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6225. A communication from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulated Navigation Areas; Strait of Juan de Fuca and Adjacent Waters of Washington; Makah Whale Hunting (CGD-13-98-023)" (RIN2115-AE84) (1999-0004), received November 15, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6226. A communication from the Secretary of the Senate, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the receipts and expenditures of the Senate for the period April 1, 1999 through September 30, 1999; ordered to lie on the table.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-372. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Michigan relative to tobacco subsidies and food-producing agricultural activities; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 68

Whereas, For many years, even as our country has wrestled with the costly and harmful effects of tobacco use, Americans have provided financial support for tobacco farming through federal tobacco subsidies. These subsidies include money spent for tobacco crop insurance and price support, in addition to inspection and grading services. While changes in federal agricultural programs and law have significantly reduced money going to tobacco farming and related activities, federal dollars continue to be spent on an endeavor that is harmful to our citizens; and

Whereas, One of the greatest challenges facing humanity in any age is the production of food of sufficient quantity and quality to meet ever-rising needs. Investments in the process of raising crops are among the most important commitments we can make to future generations. Subsidies for food production, research, and marketing hold the potential to touch every citizen in a positive fashion; and

Whereas, With the recent settlement among the states and the tobacco industry, the enormity of the cost tobacco exacts on our society is clear. Any money going to support any aspect of this activity would be far better spent elsewhere; now therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to end tobacco subsidies and to redirect this support to food-producing agricultural activities; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following report of committee was submitted:

By Mr. THOMPSON, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs:

Report to accompany the bill (S. 1877) to amend the Federal Report Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 (Rept. No. 106-223).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ROTH for the Committee on Finance:

Deanna Tanner Okun, of Idaho, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission for a term expiring June 16, 2008.

(The above nomination was reported with the recommendation that she be confirmed, subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

By Mr. HATCH for the Committee on the Judiciary:

Kermit Bye, of North Dakota, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit.
Thomas L. Ambro, of Delaware, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

George B. Daniels, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Joel A. Pisano, of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

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. CRAIG:

S. 1937. A bill to amend the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conserva-

tion Act to provide for sales of electricity by the Bonneville Power Administration to joint operating entities; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. BURNS):

S. 1938. A bill to provide for the return of fair and reasonable fees to the Federal Government for the use and occupancy of National Forest System land under the recreation residence program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. HELMS:

S. 1939. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for dry cleaning equipment which uses reduced amounts of hazardous substances; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. JEFFORDS, and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. 1940. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to reaffirm the United States' historic commitment to protecting refugees who are fleeing persecution or torture; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. DEWINE):

S. 1941. A bill to amend the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 to authorize the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide assistance to fire departments and fire prevention organizations for the purpose of protecting the public and firefighting personnel against fire and fire-related hazards; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. JEFFORDS:

S. 1942. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to establish grant programs to provide State pharmacy assistance programs and medication management programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. MURRAY:

S. 1943. A bill to provide for an inexpensive book distribution program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

S. 1944. A bill to provide national challenge grants for innovation in the education of homeless children and youth; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOND (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 1945. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to require consideration under the congestion mitigation and air quality improvement program of the extent to which a proposed project or program reduces sulfur or atmospheric carbon emissions, to make renewable fuel projects eligible under that program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. BENNETT):

S. 1946. A bill to amend the National Environmental Education Act to redesignate that Act as the "John H. Chafee Environmental Education Act", to establish the John H. Chafee Memorial Fellowship Program, to extend the programs under that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 1947. A bill to provide for an assessment of the abuse of and trafficking in gamma hydroxybutyric acid and other controlled substances and drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LOTT:

S. 1948. A bill to amend the provisions of title 17, United States Code, and the Communications Act of 1934, relating to copyright licensing and carriage of broadcast signals by satellite; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEAHY:

S. 1949. A bill to promote economically sound modernization of electric power generation capacity in the United States, to establish requirements to improve the combustion heat rate efficiency of fossil fuel-fired electric utility generating units, to reduce emissions of mercury, carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and sulfur dioxide, to require that all fossil fuel-fired electric utility generating units operating in the United States meet new source review requirements, to promote the use of clean coal technologies, and to promote alternative energy and clean energy sources such as solar, wind, biomass, and fuel cells; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 1950. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 to ensure the orderly development of coal, coalbed methane, natural gas, and oil in the Powder River Basin, Wyoming and Montana, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1951. A bill to provide the Secretary of Energy with authority to draw down the Strategic Petroleum Reserve when oil and gas prices in the United States rise sharply because of anticompetitive activity, and to require the President, through the Secretary of Energy, to consult with Congress regarding the sale of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ABRAHAM:

S. 1952. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a simplified method for determining a partner's share of items of a partnership which is a qualified investment club; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KERREY:

S. 1953. A bill to amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to authorize the establishment of a voluntary legal employment authentication program (LEAP) as a successor to the current pilot programs for employment eligibility confirmation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1954. A bill to establish a compensation program for employees of the Department of Energy, its contractors, subcontractors, and beryllium vendors, who sustained beryllium-related illness due to the performance of their duty; to establish a compensation program for certain workers at the Paducah, Kentucky, gaseous diffusion plant; to establish a pilot program for examining the possible relationship between workplace exposure to radiation and hazardous materials and illnesses or health conditions; and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. KYL, and Mr. GRAMM):
S. Con. Res. 74. A concurrent resolution recognizing the United States Border Patrol's 75 years of service since its founding; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. CAMPBELL):

S. Con. Res. 75. A concurrent resolution expressing the strong opposition of Congress to the continued egregious violations of human rights and the lack of progress toward the establishment of democracy and the rule of law in Belarus and calling on President Alexander Lukashenka to engage in negotiations with the representatives of the opposition and to restore the constitutional rights of the Belarusian people; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. BURNS):

S. 1938. A bill to provide for the return of fair and reasonable fees to the Federal Government for the use and occupancy of National Forest System land under the recreation residence program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

CABIN USER FEE FAIRNESS ACT OF 1999

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I am introducing legislation today that will set a new course for the Forest Service in determining fees for forest lots on which families and individuals have been authorized to build cabins for seasonal recreation since the early part of this century. I am pleased to have Senators MIKE CRAPO, CRAIG THOMAS, and CONRAD BURNS joining me in sponsoring this legislation, which is a companion bill to H.R. 3327, introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman GEORGE NETHERCUTT.

In 1915, under the Term Permit Act, Congress set up a program to give families the opportunity to recreate on our public lands through the so-called recreation residence program. Today, 15,000 of these forest cabins remain, providing generation after generation of families and their friends a respite from urban living and an opportunity to use our public lands.

These cabins stand in sharp contrast to many aspects of modern outdoor recreation, yet are an important aspect of the mix recreation opportunities for the American public. While many of us enjoy fast, off-road machines and watercraft or hiking to the backcountry with high-tech gear, others enjoy a relaxing weekend at their cabin in the woods with their family and friends.

The recreation residence programs allows families all across the country

an opportunity to use our national forests. This quiet, somewhat uneventful program continues to produce close bonds and remarkable memories for hundreds of thousands of Americans, but in order to secure the future of the cabin program, this Congress needs to reexamine the basis on which fees are now being determined.

Roughly 20 years ago, the Forest Service saw the need to modernize the regulations under which the cabin program is administered. Acknowledging that the competition for access and use of forest resources has increased dramatically since 1915, both the cabin owners and the agency wanted a formal understanding about the rights and obligations of using and maintaining these structures.

New rules that resulted nearly a decade later reaffirmed the cabins as a valid recreational use of forest land. At the same time, the new policy reflected numerous limitations on use that are felt to be appropriate in order to keep areas of the forest where cabins are located open for recreational use by other forest visitors. Commercial use of the cabins is prohibited, as is year-round occupancy by the owner. Owners are restricted in the size, shape, paint color and presence of other structures or installations on the cabin lot. The only portion of a lot that is controlled by the cabin owner is that portion of the lot that directly underlies the footprint of the cabin itself.

At some locations, the agency has determined a need to remove cabins for a variety of reasons related to "higher public purposes" and cabin owners wanted to be certain in the writing of new regulations that a fair process would guide any future decisions about cabin removal. At other locations, some cabins have been destroyed by fire, avalanche or falling trees, and a more reliable process of determining whether such cabins might be rebuilt or relocated was needed. It was determined, therefore, that this recreational program would be tied more closely to the forest planning process.

The question of an appropriate fee to be paid for the opportunity of constructing and maintaining a cabin in the woods was also addressed at that time. Although the agency's policies for administration of the cabin program have, overall, held up well over time, the portion dealing with periodic redetermination of fees proved in the last few years to be a failure.

A base fee was determined 20 years ago by an appraisal of sales of comparable undeveloped lots in the real estate market adjacent to the national forest where a cabin was located. The new policy called for reappraisal of the value of the lot 20 years later—a trigger that led to initiation of the reappraisal process in 1995.

In the meantime, according to the policy, annual adjustments to the base