

law, a report relative to a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2859. A communication from the General Counsel, Department of Defense, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation relative to various management concerns; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2860. A communication from the General Counsel, Department of Defense, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation relative to various management concerns; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2861. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the fiscal year 1999 National Defense Authorization Act; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2862. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Patriot PAC-3 major defense acquisition program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2863. A communication from the Under Secretary of the Navy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a decision to study certain functions for possible performance by private contractors; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2864. A communication from the Alternate Office of the Secretary of Defense Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "OSD Privacy Program", received April 27, 1999; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2865. A communication from the Deputy Secretary, Division of Market Regulation, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendments to Form BDW and related rules 15b1-1, 15b3-1, 15b6-1, 15Ba2-2, 15Bc3-1, 15Ca1-1 and 15Cc1-1 under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934" (RIN3235-AG69), received May 3, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2866. A communication from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation relative to a non-profit education foundation; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-2867. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation relative to amending the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2868. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing and Regulatory Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Peanut Production, Research and Information Order; Referendum Procedures" (Docket No. FV-98-703-FR), received on April 30, 1999; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2869. A communication from the Deputy Executive Secretariat, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Temporary Assistance for Needy Families" (RIN0970-AB77), received on April 22, 1999; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2870. A communication from the Board of Trustees, Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and Disability Insurance Trust Funds, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 1999 annual report; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2871. A communication from the Board of Trustees, Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund, transmitting, pursuant to law,

the 1999 annual report; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2872. A communication from the Board of Trustees, Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 1999 annual report; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2873. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2874. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Medicare prospective payment system; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2875. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Chiropractic Services in Medicare HMOs and Medicare+Choice (M+C) Organizations"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2876. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Medicare Alzheimer's Disease Demonstration Evaluation"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2877. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Early Implementation of the Welfare-to-Work Grants Program"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2878. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Child Support Enforcement Program; Grants to States for Access and Visitation Programs: Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting" (RIN0970-AB72); to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2879. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Office of Chief Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Notice of Significant Reduction in the Rate of Future Benefit Accrual" (RIN1545-AT78), received on April 22, 1999; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2880. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Office of Chief Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Announcement 99-40"; received on April 6, 1999; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2881. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Office of Chief Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revenue Ruling 99-18", received on April 9, 1999; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2882. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Office of Chief Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revenue Ruling 99-18", received on April 6, 1999; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2883. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Office of Chief Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revenue Procedure 99-23", received on April 6, 1999; to the Committee on Finance.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of committee were submitted:

By Mr. MCCAIN, for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

The following named officer for appointment as Commander, Atlantic Area, United States Coast Guard, and to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 50:

*To be vice admiral*

Rear Adm. John E. Shkor, 0602

Captain Evelyn J. Fields, NOAA for appointment to the grade of Rear Admiral (O-8), while serving in a position of importance and responsibility as Director, Office of NOAA Corp Operations, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, under the provisions of Title 33, United States Code, Section 853u.

Captain Nicholas A. Prael, NOAA for appointment to the grade of Rear Admiral (O-7), while serving in a position of importance and responsibility as Director, Atlantic and Pacific Marine Centers, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, under the provisions of Title 33, United States Code, Section 853u.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed, subject to the nominees' commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS of March 8, 1999 and April 15, 1999, at the end of the Senate proceedings, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar, that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Coast Guard nomination of James W. Bartlett, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of March 8, 1999.

Coast Guard nomination beginning William L. Chaney, and ending William E. Shea, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of March 8, 1999.

Coast Guard nomination beginning Ashley B. Aclin, and ending Michael J. Zeruto, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of April 15, 1999.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. HOLLINGS (for himself, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. KERRY, Mr. INOUE, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. THURMOND, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. CLELAND, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 959. A bill to establish a National Ocean Council, a Commission on Ocean Policy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. BREAUX):

S. 960. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to establish pension counseling

programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BURNS (for himself, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. KERREY, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 961. A bill to amend the Consolidated Farm And Rural Development Act to improve shared appreciation arrangements; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

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

S. 962. A bill to allow a deduction from gross income for year 2000 computer conversion costs of small businesses; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GREGG:

S. 963. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to preserve family-held forest lands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DASCHLE:

S. 964. A bill to provide for equitable compensation for the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 965. A bill to restore a United States voluntary contribution to the United Nations Population Fund; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. REID:

S. 966. A bill to require medicare providers to disclose publicly staffing and performance in order to promote improved consumer information and choice, to protect employees of medicare providers who report concerns about the safety and quality of services provided by medicare providers or who report violations of Federal or State law by those providers, and to require review of the impact on public health and safety of proposed mergers and acquisitions of medicare providers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG:

S. 967. A bill to provide a uniform national standard to ensure that concealed firearms are available only to authorized persons for lawful purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. MACK, Mr. CLELAND, Mrs. LINCOLN, and Mr. ROBB):

S. 968. A bill to authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to make grants to State agencies with responsibility for water source development, for the purposes of maximizing the available water supply and protecting the environment through the development of alternative water sources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. ASHCROFT:

S. 969. A bill to amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994 to authorize schools to apply appropriate discipline measures in cases where students have weapons or threaten to harm others, 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 Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. REED, Mr. HARKIN, Mr.

MCCONNELL, Mr. MOYNIHAN, and Mr. KOHL):

S. Res. 96. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding a peaceful process of self-determination in East Timor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. COVERDELL (for himself, Mr. FRIST, Mr. GORTON, Mr. LOTT, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. MACK, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LUGAR, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. WELLSTONE):

S. Res. 97. A resolution designating the week of May 2 through 8, 1999, as the 14th Annual Teacher Appreciation Week, and designating Tuesday, May 4, 1999, as National Teacher Day; considered and agreed to.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. HOLLINGS (for himself, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. KERRY, Mr. INOUE, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. THURMOND, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. CLELAND, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 959. A bill to establish a National Ocean Council, a Commission on Ocean Policy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

##### THE OCEANS ACT OF 1999

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Oceans Act of 1999, legislation that the Senate unanimously passed in November 1997. I am pleased to be joined in this endeavor by Senators STEVENS, KERRY, BREAUX, INOUE, KENNEDY, BOXER, BIDEN, LAUTENBERG, AKAKA, MURKOWSKI, THURMOND, MURRAY, CLELAND, and WYDEN. Mr. President, plainly and simply, this bill calls for a plan of action for the twenty-first century to explore, protect, and use our oceans and coasts through the coming millennium.

This is not the first time we have faced the need for a national ocean policy. Three decades ago, our Nation roared into space, investing tens of billions of dollars to investigate the moon and the Sea of Tranquility. During that golden era of science, some of us also recognized the importance of exploring the seas on our own planet. In 1966, Congress enacted the Marine Resources and Engineering Development Act in order to define national objectives and programs with respect to the oceans. That legislation laid the foundation for U.S. ocean and coastal policy and programs and has guided their development for three decades. I was elected to the Senate just three months after the 1966 Act was enacted into law, but I am pleased that both Senators INOUE and KENNEDY, the two cosponsors of the 1966 Act still serving in the Senate, have agreed to join me today in introducing the Oceans Act.

One of the central elements of the 1966 Act was establishment of a presi-

dential commission to develop a plan for national action in the oceans and atmosphere. Dr. Julius A. Stratton, a former president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and then-chairman of the Ford Foundation, led the Commission on an unprecedented, and since unrepeated, investigation of this nation's relationship with the oceans and the atmosphere. The Stratton Commission and its congressional advisors (including Senators Warren G. Magnuson and Norris Cotton) worked together in a bipartisan fashion. In fact, the Commission was established and carried out its mandate in the Democratic Administration of Lyndon Johnson and saw its findings implemented by the Republicans under President Richard Nixon. With a staff of 35 people, the commissioners hear and consulted over 1,000 people, visited every coastal area of this country, and submitted some 126 recommendations in a 1969 report to Congress entitled *Our Nation and the Sea*. Those recommendations led directly to the creation of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in 1970, laid the groundwork for enactment of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) in 1972, and established priorities for federal ocean activities that have guided this Nation for almost thirty years.

While the Stratton Commission performed its job with vision and integrity, the world has changed since 1966. Today, half of the U.S. population lives within 50 miles of our shores and more than 30 percent of the Gross Domestic Product is generated in the coastal zone. Ocean and coastal resources once considered inexhaustible are severely depleted, and wetlands and other marine habitats are threatened by pollution and human activities. In addition, the U.S. regulatory and legal framework has developed over the years with the passage of a number of statutes in addition to CZMA. These include the Endangered Species Act, the Marine Mammal Protection Act, the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the Coastal Barrier Resources Act, and the Oil Pollution Act. It is time to conduct a review that looks at coordination and duplication of programs and policies developed under these laws.

Today people who work and live on the water face a patchwork of confusing and sometimes contradictory federal and state regulations. This bill would allow us to reduce conflicts while maintaining environmental and health safeguards. One illustration of the type of situation that must be corrected is the southeast shrimp trawl fishery. Shrimpers are required under the Endangered Species Act to use panels or grates (known as turtle excluder devices or TEDs) in their nets to protect endangered sea turtles. The panels