

National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Administrative Revisions to the NASA FAR Supplement", received on April 22, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2966. A communication from the Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act, 2000"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2967. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a "Request for Proposals for the Ecology and Oceanography of Harmful Algal Blooms Project" (RIN0648-ZA60) received on April 12, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2968. A communication from the National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report regarding bluefin tuna, for calendar years 1997 and 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2969. A communication from the National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report regarding highly migratory species; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2970. A communication from the Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "National Transportation Safety Board Amendments of 1999"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2971. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "Voluntary Seafood Inspection Performance Based Organization Act of 1999"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2972. A communication from the Acting General Counsel, Department of Defense, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation relative to various transportation matters; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2973. A communication from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines; Detectable Warnings" (RIN3015-AA24), received March 31, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2974. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the activities of the Department regarding the guarantee of obligations issued to finance the construction, reconstruction, or reconditioning of eligible export vessels for calendar year 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2975. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Performance and Registration Information Systems Management Project" dated March 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2976. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, a re-

port entitled "Development of Plans For Responding to Aviation Disasters Involving Civilians on Government Aircraft", dated March 11, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2977. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Status of Activities which Respond to National Transportation Safety Board's Recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation" for calendar year 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2978. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a vacancy; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2979. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Implementation of the International Safety Management (ISM) Code"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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-84. A resolution adopted by the Land Use and Zoning Authority, City of Dearborn Heights, Michigan relative to pending federal land use and zoning legislation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-85. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of South Dakota; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4

Whereas, ongoing depressed prices at the market place for agricultural products have created an economic emergency for rural America; and

Whereas, an investigation into the causes of the crisis in the agricultural economy, including a full investigation of market competitiveness in livestock and crops and a re-examination of trade agreements is warranted and necessary; and

Whereas, action is necessary at the federal state level to stabilize this nation's food producers, main street businesses, and rural America as a whole: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the Senate of the Seventy-fourth Legislature of the State of South Dakota (the House of Representatives concurring therein), That the South Dakota Legislature requests the following actions by the Congress and the executive agencies of the federal government:

(1) The commencement of vigorous anti-trust investigations into the concentration of ownership in meat packing, grain handling, and retail agricultural operations;

(2) A block of the proposed Cargill-Continental Grain merger;

(3) Country-of-origin labeling of meat and meat products and a limitation of the USDA label to United States production;

(4) Mandatory price reporting for livestock and grain;

(5) Shift the responsibility for the regulation of packers and stockyards and enforcement of the Packers and Stockyards Act from the United States Department of Agriculture to the Justice Department;

(6) Inspections of imported agricultural products to ensure that such products have met standards equivalent to United States standards for food safety and environmental and worker protection; and

(7) Actions to ensure that farm and ranch producer interests are represented at the 1999 World Trade Organization negotiations.

POM-86. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Virginia; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 440

Whereas, federal legislation entitled the "Conservation and Reinvestment Act of 1999" has been introduced in the 106th Session of Congress which would provide financial assistance to meet the outdoor conservation and recreation needs of the American people; and

Whereas, funds received pursuant to the Act may be used for projects and activities related to air quality, water quality, fish and wildlife, wetlands, or other coastal resources, including shoreline protection and coastal restoration; and

Whereas, this measure, if enacted, would divert 50 percent of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act funds from the federal treasury directly to states to meet their outdoor conservation and recreation needs; and

Whereas, it is estimated that Virginia's allocation, if such legislation is enacted, would be \$27 million;

Whereas, the money is to be allocated to both the Commonwealth and its eligible political subdivisions; and

Whereas, Virginia, as evidenced by its laws and the allocation of financial resources, has remained committed to protecting its environment and conserving its natural wildlife resources; and

Whereas, a partnership between the federal government and the states would further enhance the various efforts that states have made to protect their land, water, and wildlife resources; and

Whereas, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 embodied a visionary concept that a portion of the proceeds from Outer Continental Shelf leasing revenues and the depletion of nonrenewable natural resources should result in a legacy of public places accessible for recreation; and

Whereas, the demand for recreation and conservation areas, at the state and local level, remains a high priority for Virginians; and

Whereas, completion for limited federal moneys has resulted in the states not receiving an equitable proportion of funds for land acquisition; and

Whereas, to develop a comprehensive conservation legacy that will not only protect open space but will also provide funding for sustaining the wildlife that use the lands, it is essential to establish a permanent funding source for state-level wildlife conservation, conservation education, and wildlife-related recreation programs that promote wildlife diversity; and

Whereas, through enactment of the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act and the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act, hunters and anglers have for more than 60 years willingly paid user fees in the form of federal excise taxes on hunting and fishing equipment to support wildlife diversity and abundance; and

Whereas, state, programs, conducted in coordination with federal, state, tribal, and private landowners and interested organizations, must serve as a vital link in a nationwide effort to protect and enhance wildlife diversity through comprehensive wildlife-management programs that benefit both game and nongame species; and

Whereas, the investment of these Conservation and Reinvestment Act funds in

wildlife-related programs would support natural resources related to tourism and wildlife viewing that generate millions of dollars annually to the economy of Virginia: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Delegates concurring), That Congress be urged to enact the "Conservation and Reinvestment Act" which will provide federal matching funds for such projects; and, be it

Resolved further, That Congress be urged to enact the proposed House of Representatives version of the Act, House Resolution No. 701, that would raise the total diversion of Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act revenues to 60 percent by increasing the allocation of such revenues in the proposed Title II provisions from 16 to 23 percent and Title III provisions from 7 to 10 percent; and, be it

Resolved finally, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the Virginia General Assembly in this matter.

POM-87. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1616

Whereas, Economic sanctions hinder the export of agricultural products, exacerbating the transportation of such products and possibly lowering the price received by the Kansas farmer for such agricultural products; and

Whereas, The export of agricultural commodities has provided the United States the only positive return on its balance of trade; and

Whereas, The only way to ensure that a positive return on the balance of trade continues is to allow international markets to remain open; and

Whereas, The use of unilateral economic sanctions rarely achieves its goal, but cause substantial harm to the producers of products; and

Whereas, Not only do the sanctions imposed by the United States cause lost market opportunities for the Kansas farmer, but so do the unfair trade barriers and sanctions imposed on agricultural products by other countries; and

Whereas, The storage of grain on the ground in Kansas is just one example of the adverse affects sanctions have on agricultural products: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas (the House of Representatives concurring therein): That Congress remove or restrict the use of trade sanctions as they apply to agricultural products and that Congress ensure that the use of trade sanctions will result in meaningful results;

Whereas, The export enhancement program is one tool which can expand foreign market opportunities; and

Whereas, If the Kansas farmer is to have the opportunity to prosper and grow, the agricultural products produced by the farmer must be able to reach foreign markets; and

Whereas, The stockpiling of grain is just one example of where the lack of access to foreign markets hurts not only the Kansas farmer but all American farmers and the economy of the United States in general: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved; That the secretary of the United States department of agriculture is urged to take greater advantage of the export enhancement program; and be it further

Resolved: That Congress work for the reduction and elimination of trade barriers and sanctions imposed by other countries against agricultural products; and

Whereas, Foreign meat and dairy products must be raised or produced under the same regulatory standards to ensure consumer health and safety as meat and dairy products raised and produced in the United States; and

Whereas, Numerous cattle producers have testified before the Kansas Legislature that this issue needs to be investigated and decided in Congress: Now therefore, be it

Resolved: That Congress pass laws that require country of origin labeling on foreign meat and dairy products with such labeling on the final consumer product; and

Whereas, Pork and beef associations presented resolutions and testimony on the need and value of mandatory price reporting; and

Whereas, Discriminatory pricing and retaliatory actions are unacceptable in an open market system; and

Whereas, Pork and beef associations also support a marketing system free from unnecessary government regulations; and

Whereas, Producers should consider participating in marketing alliances, cooperatives and other innovative methods of marketing livestock in order to focus on changing consumer demands and to regain market share; and

Whereas, Pork and beef associations support a system free of government restrictions on livestock ownership, unless such livestock ownership restricts free and competitive markets or is a violation of antitrust laws; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved: That Congress continue to investigate mandatory price reporting in the livestock industry and, if warranted, pass appropriate legislation that will assure a free and open market for our independent farmers and ranchers; and

Whereas, Concentration of segments of the beef and pork industries is occurring; and

Whereas, Such concentration must not result in lower commodity prices for Kansas farmers and ranchers and higher food prices for American consumers; and

Whereas, Pending mergers of grain companies could result in disproportionate control of the grain market; and

Whereas, Renewed investigative efforts, including enforcement of the antitrust laws, must be generated by the justice department and the packers and stockyards division of the United States department of agriculture to ensure the competitive market structure: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved: That the justice department and the packers and stockyard division of the United States department of agriculture enforce the antitrust laws in the livestock and grain industry; and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send enrolled copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Vice-President of the United States, Majority Leaders and Minority Leader of the United States Senate, the Speaker, Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, the Attorney General of the United States and to each member of the Kansas Congressional Delegation.

POM-88. A resolution adopted by the Southern Governors' Association relative to the pricing of imported steel; to the Committee on Finance.

POM-89. A resolution adopted by the Southern Governors' Association relative to political self-determination for Puerto Rico; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-90. A resolution adopted by the Southern Governors' Association relative to deepwater ports and inland waterways; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-91. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Virginia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 245

Whereas, Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States grants to the Congress the power to coin money; and

Whereas, many Americans are unaware of the provisions of the Constitution, one of the most remarkable and important documents in world history; and

Whereas, an abbreviated version of this essential document, consisting of the Preamble and the Bill of Rights could easily be placed on the reverse of the one-dollar bill; and

Whereas, placing the Preamble and the Bill of Rights on the one-dollar bill, a unit of currency used daily by virtually all Americans, would serve to remind the people of the historical importance of the Constitution and its impact on their lives today; and

Whereas, Americans would be reminded by the Preamble of the blessings of liberty and by the amendments of the historical changes to the document that forms the very core of the American experience; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates (the Senate concurring), That the Congress of the United States be urged to direct that the United States one-dollar bill be redesigned to place the Preamble of the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights on its reverse side; and be it

Resolved further, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of the Congressional Delegation of Virginia so that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

POM-92. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Virginia; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 499

Whereas, the 10th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States specifies that "the powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people"; and

Whereas, the founders of this Republic and the framers of the Constitution of the United States understood that centralized power is inconsistent with republican ideals, and accordingly limited the federal government to certain enumerated powers and reserved all other powers to the states and the people through the 10th Amendment; and

Whereas, the federal government has exceeded the clear bounds of its jurisdiction under the Constitution of the United States and has imposed ever-growing numbers of mandates, regulations and restrictions upon state and local governments, thereby removing power and flexibility from the units of government closest to the people and increasing central control in Washington; and

Whereas, in 1995 the General Assembly of Virginia passed several resolutions strongly urging the federal government to observe the principles of federalism embodied in the 10th Amendment and to cease and desist, effective immediately, imposing mandates that are beyond the scope of its constitutionally delegated powers; and

Whereas, despite the General Assembly's admonitions, another attempt to disrupt the delicate balance between the powers of the federal government and the states occurred on May 14, 1998, when President Clinton issued Executive Order No. 13083, which dramatically changed the way the federal government deals with state and local governments; and

Whereas, the effect of Executive Order No. 13083 was to revoke previous protections for states from federal agency action and widen the areas for preemption and the imposition of federal mandates; and

Whereas, on August 6, 1998, in response to negative reaction from congressional, state, and local officials, President Clinton retreated from his position and announced the suspension of Executive Order No. 13083 on federalism; and

Whereas, Congress took further action to ensure the effective repeal of Executive Order No. 13083 by amending H.R. 4328, the omnibus appropriations act, to provide that no federal funds could be used to implement, administer, or enforce the executive order; and

Whereas, although a major assault on the principles of sovereignty was averted, the attack by the federal government on the principles of federalism does not appear to be abating; and

Whereas, many Virginia citizens, disturbed by these recent events and the federal government's unwillingness to limit its powers as required by the 10th Amendment, are calling for Virginia to reassert its constitutional right of sovereignty; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates (the Senate concurring), That the General Assembly of Virginia reaffirm its notice to the federal government that the Commonwealth strongly opposes any effort to weaken the powers reserved to the states and the people by the 10th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States; and, be it

Resolved further, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of the Congressional Delegation of Virginia so that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

POM-93. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Virginia to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Whereas, the McCarran-Ferguson Act, passed by the Congress of the United States in 1945, established a statutory framework whereby responsibility for regulating the insurance industry was left largely to the states; and

Whereas, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) of 1974 significantly altered this concept by creating a federal framework for regulating employer-based health, pension and welfare-benefit plans; and

Whereas, the provisions of ERISA prevent states from directly regulating most employer-based health plans that are not

deemed to be "insurance" for purposes of federal laws; and

Whereas, available data suggests that self-funding of employer-based health plans is increasing at a significant rate; among both large and small businesses; and

Whereas, between 1989 and 1993, the General Accounting Office estimates that the number of self-funded plan enrollees increased by about six million; and

Whereas, approximately 40-50 percent of the employer-based health plans are presently self-funded by employers, who retain most or all of the financial risk for their respective health plans; and

Whereas, as self-funding of health plans has grown, states have lost regulatory oversight of this growing portion of the health insurance market; and

Whereas, the federal government has been slow to enact meaningful patient protections such as mechanisms for the recovery of benefits due plan participants, recovery of compensatory damages from the fiduciary caused by its failure to pay benefits due under the plan, enforcement of the plan-participant's rights under the terms of the plan, assurance of timely payment, and clarification of the plan-participant's right to future benefits under the terms of the plan; and

Whereas, in the absence of federal patient protections, state-level action is needed; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates (the Senate concurring), That the Congress of the United States be urged to either enact meaningful patient protections at the federal level with respect to employer self-funded plans or, in the absence of such federal action, amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) of 1974 to grant authority to all individual states to monitor and regulate self-funded, employer-based health plans; and be it

Resolved further, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, the Secretary of the United States Department of Labor, the Congressional Delegation of Virginia, and to the presiding officer of each house of each state's legislative body so that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

POM-94. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Virginia; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 568

Whereas, the air transportation needs of the metropolitan Washington region are addressed through a finely balanced, comprehensive regional airport plan; and

Whereas, under that plan, Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport and Washington Dulles International Airport each perform a separate and unique function in that regional airport plan; and

Whereas, Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport functions as the local and regional airport, serving cities within a 1,250-mile radius; and

Whereas, Washington Dulles International Airport serves as the national and international airport; and

Whereas, significant local decisions about airport investment and development plans have been based on this locally and federally endorsed balance of traffic; and

Whereas, the allocation of roles to each airport under the plan has stimulated the

growth and development of Washington Dulles International Airport; and

Whereas, the development of Washington Dulles International Airport has improved the quality of regional, domestic, and international air transportation for all citizens of the region; and

Whereas, the improvement in air transportation alternatives has brought to local passengers the benefits of increased competition in the form of competitive fares and a broad array of new service options between these two airports; and

Whereas, the region has benefited from investments by many new firms in Northern Virginia that have located to this area because of the presence of a major international airport, Washington Dulles International Airport, and the strength and continued viability of competitive air service offerings at both Washington Dulles International Airport and Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport; and

Whereas, the increased business activity has produced substantial economic benefits for the region; and

Whereas, a linchpin of this balanced regional air transportation system is the rule at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport limiting flights to 1,250 miles from the airport; and

Whereas, as one of only four high-density airports in the country, Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport is subject to a "slot rule" reservation system which limits the total number of flights per hour to sixty; and

Whereas, changes to the perimeter rule would threaten air service to smaller communities within the perimeter that now enjoy convenient access to Northern Virginia by air; and

Whereas, the perimeter rule and the slot rule were enacted as Section 6012 of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Act of 1986; and

Whereas, legislation is being considered in the Congress of the United States that would provide for exemptions from the perimeter rule and slot rule; and

Whereas, any change in the current perimeter rule and slot rule would threaten the benefits now enjoyed by citizens of the region as a result of the balance of services among the regional airports, as well as threaten the existing noise mitigation policy that is provided with the slot rule; and

Whereas, maintaining the perimeter rule and the slot rule is critical to the continued effectiveness of the balanced regional air transportation plan; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the retention of the 1,250-mile perimeter rule and slot rule at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport be supported and that any relaxation of, exemption from, or amendment to Section 6012 of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Act of 1986 or the regulations promulgated pursuant thereto be opposed; and, be it

Resolved further, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, United States Senator John McCain, and the members of the Congressional Delegation of Virginia in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

POM-95. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Virginia; to the Committee on Finance.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 581

Whereas, on November 23, 1998, the Attorneys General and other representatives of forty-six states, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the District of Columbia signed an agreement with the five largest tobacco manufacturers which ended a four year legal battle with the states and the industry which began in 1994 when Mississippi became the first state to sue the tobacco industry; and

Whereas, the four other states had previously settled with the tobacco manufacturers which means that now all fifty states have settled with the largest tobacco companies; and

Whereas, over the next twenty-five years starting in June 2000, the states will receive an estimated \$206 billion under the Master Settlement Agreement; and

Whereas, the states' agreement with the tobacco manufacturers focused on public health and youth access issues by prohibiting youth targeting, advertising, marketing and promotions, by banning cartoon character advertising, by restricting brand name sponsorship of events with significant youth audiences, by banning outdoor advertising and youth access to free samples, and by creating a national, foundation and a public education fund; and

Whereas, this agreement also changed the corporate culture of the tobacco industry by requiring the industry to make a significant commitment to reducing youth access and consumption, by disbanding tobacco trade associations, by restricting industry lobbying, and opening the industry records and research to the public; and

Whereas, the tobacco settlement provided for court jurisdiction for the implementation and enforcement of the Tobacco Settlement Agreement amount the states; and

Whereas, federal legislation was not required or needed to implement the Master Settlement Agreement which has been reached by the five largest tobacco manufacturers and all fifty states; and

Whereas, certain elements of the federal government in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services have attempted to stake claim to the states' Tobacco Settlement dollars under the existing Medicaid law claiming recovery made on behalf of Medicaid clients should be shared with the federal government based on the federal Medicaid match in the states; and

Whereas, the states have settled with the tobacco industry with no help from the federal government; and

Whereas, there may be a temptation by some to seize this large sum of dollars that has been agreed to by the states and the tobacco industry; now, therefore, be it.

Resolved by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Congress of the United States be urged to enact legislation to prevent the seizure of state tobacco settlement funds by the federal government, and that the federal government be urged not to interfere in the tobacco settlement which has been reached between the fifty states and the largest tobacco manufacturers; and, be it.

Resolved further, That the Congressional Delegation of Virginia introduce legislation to ensure that this occurs; and, be it

Resolved Finally, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate and the members

of the Congressional Delegation of Virginia so they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

POM-96. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Virginia; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 598

Whereas, Virginia ranks second in the nation in the amount of municipal waste imported from other states and the tonnage imported is likely to increase as other states close landfills; and

Whereas, Virginia has ample public and private municipal waste disposal capacity for waste generated in the Commonwealth; and

Whereas, the negative impacts of truck, rail, and barge traffic and litter, odors, and noise associated with waste imports occur not just at the location of final disposal but also along waste transportation routes, and current landfill technology has the potential to fail, leading to long-term cleanup and other associated costs; and

Whereas, the importation of waste runs counter to the repeatedly expressed strong desire of Virginia's citizens for clean air, land, and water and for the preservation of Virginia's unique historic and cultural character, and it is essential to promote and preserve these attributes; and

Whereas, the Commonwealth has demonstrated the ability to attract good jobs and to promote sound economic development without relying on the importation of garbage; and

Whereas, in 1995, 23 governors wrote to the Commerce Committee of the United States Congress urging passage of legislation allowing states and localities the power to regulate waste entering their jurisdictions; and

Whereas, legislation is pending before the Commerce Committee that would provide states and localities with the authority to control the importation of waste, a power that is essential to the public health, safety, and welfare of all citizens of Virginia; therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Congress of the United States be urged to enact legislation giving states and localities the power to control waste imports into their jurisdictions. The study shall include: (i) a ban on waste imports in the absence of specific approval from the disposal site host community and governor of the host state; (ii) authorization for governors to freeze solid waste imports at 1993 levels; (iii) authorization for states to consider whether a disposal facility if needed locally when deciding whether to grant a permit; and (iv) authorization for states to limit the percentage of a disposal facility's capacity that can be filed with waste from other states; and, be it

Resolved further, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of the Congressional Delegation of Virginia in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

POM-97. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Virginia; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 640

Whereas, areas are now capable of having more than two cellular service providers in a single area; and

Whereas, the northern sections of Buchanan County and the section of Dickenson County that includes the Breaks Interstate Park are not currently included in the local cellular calling area administered by ALLTEL Corporation; and

Whereas, the communication system must be considered as highways that separate those parts of Buchanan County and Dickenson County from the Cumberland Plateau Planning District, the Virginia Coalfield Coalition, the Coalfield Economic Development Authority, and the Coalfield Regional Tourism Authority; and

Whereas, the current local cellular calling area divides Buchanan County and removes it from the planning and growth activities of surrounding localities in regional Southwest Virginia; and

Whereas, significant efforts to bolster the lifestyle and prosperity of this region are underway and depend on the availability of reliable and affordable telecommunications, with such service especially needed for the Appalachian School of Law, which is beginning its second year of training attorneys, and the Breaks Interstate Park, which attracted over 420,000 visitors last year; and

Whereas, these and other developments require telecommunications service that will enable the region to continue to grow; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Congress of the United States be urged to direct the Federal Communications Commission to study the feasibility of including all of Buchanan County, Virginia, and all of Dickenson County, Virginia, into the Southwest Virginia Network; and be it

Resolved further, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the United States Department of Labor, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of the Congressional District of Virginia in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

POM-98. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Virginia; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 649

Whereas, encryption technology plays a pivotal role in protecting and enhancing the privacy and security of communications over the Internet, especially those containing personal information or information of commercial value, from criminal and other unwarranted intrusion or interference; and

Whereas, each citizen should be free to employ the level of encryption technology he sees fit to protect the privacy and security of his communications over the Internet; and

Whereas, the ability to use encryption technology will provide safe, secure, and private transactions via the Internet; and

Whereas, because such transactions will enhance electronic commerce, the use of encryption technology by private and corporate citizens should not be curtailed for any legitimate purpose; and

Whereas, there is pending in the United States House of Representatives the Security and Freedom through Encryption Act, which substantially eases federal export controls on American cryptographic products; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That availability and unfettered usage of strong encryption technology

for any legitimate purpose will enable and facilitate the growth of the information economy and therefore should be encouraged and supported by government at all levels; and, be it

Resolved further, That the Congress and the President of the United States be urged to take immediate action to revise the current federal export controls on the export by American companies of cryptographic products; and, be it

Resolved finally, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the United States Senate, and to each member of the Congressional Delegation of Virginia that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

POM-99. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Virginia; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 650

Whereas, the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) governs the delivery of education services to disabled students; and

Whereas, disabled students are entitled to "free and appropriate education," which includes special education and related services and requires the development and implementation of an individualized education plan; and

Whereas, procedural safeguards are provided to students with disabilities who have been identified as eligible for special education, including a variety of notice, hearing and appeals requirements; and

Whereas, the majority of students with disabilities behave well in school; and

Whereas, there are, however, some students with disabilities who have serious behavior problems, resulting in violence and disruption in the educational environment; and

Whereas, prior to the early 1990s, students with disabilities were subject to expulsion for the same infractions as other students if there was no causal connection between the student's behavior and the student's disability and the student was appropriately placed at the time of the misconduct; and

Whereas, in the first half of the decade, Virginia was in litigation with the federal Department of Education as a result of federal demands that the Commonwealth's plan for special education include a provision requiring continuation of educational services to students with disabilities upon expulsion from school attendance, even if the discipline resulted from behavior unrelated to the child's disability; and

Whereas, pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, federal funds are conditioned on compliance with federal law and regulations; and

Whereas, for several years, Virginia's grant funds under IDEA were in limbo because of the litigation; however, in 1976 the Fourth Circuit Court ruled in favor of Virginia; and

Whereas, after the Fourth Circuit Court decision, Congress amended IDEA during the reauthorization process to require continuation of services to expelled students with disabilities; and

Whereas, it has been Virginia's contention throughout this process that allowing students with disabilities to be exempt from the consequences of their actions is a policy which does not benefit the student with dis-

abilities or the educational environment and is patently unfair to other students; and

Whereas, the school divisions in Virginia have continued to serve students with disabilities who have been expelled from school through a variety of methods, such as visiting teachers, distance learning, and alternative programs; and

Whereas, Virginia's school divisions are dedicated to providing quality education to students with disabilities while maintaining good discipline and an atmosphere conducive to learning; and

Whereas, the Commonwealth would like to have a policy which provides uniform sanctions for violent students; however, federal law prevents the application of standardized disciplinary penalties; and

Whereas, the public schools throughout the nation are seeking to develop mechanisms to prevent the outbreaks of violence, particularly incidences of shootings; and

Whereas, the Commonwealth's education community believes that Congress should examine the consequences of its mandate to continue educational services to expelled students in terms of fairness to all students, school safety for all students and the maintenance of a positive educational atmosphere; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Congress of the United States be urged to reconsider federal restrictions on discipline of certain students with disabilities; and, be it

Resolved further, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation so that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

POM-100. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Virginia; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 754

Whereas, by resolution of the General Assembly, eight Indian tribes have been recognized by the Commonwealth; and

Whereas, the Chickahominy; the Chickahominy, Eastern Division; the Mattaponi; the Upper Mattaponi; the Pamunkey; and the Rappahannock tribes were recognized by House Joint Resolution No. 54 (1983); the Nansemond tribe by House Joint Resolution No. 205 (1985); and the Monacan tribe by House Joint Resolution No. 390 (1989); and

Whereas, the existence of those tribes has been recognized by the Virginia Council on Indians, since they were indigenous to and occupied a specific site in what is now Virginia the time of the arrival of the first European Settlers; the current members are Indian descendants of those tribes as demonstrated by various records; the tribes have established tribal organizations with appropriate records and historical documentation; and other similar criteria; and

Whereas, the members of the Indian tribes have expressed the desire, through their leadership, for greater autonomy and local authority to deal with issues affecting tribal members and have represented that they have no intent in operating commercial gaming on their lands; and

Whereas, among these local issues are housing, health care, and education; and

Whereas, the preservation of tribal identity, culture, and tradition is also a concern of the leadership of the several tribes; and

Whereas, historic congressional federal recognition of the tribal status of these Vir-

ginia Indian tribes would greatly enhance the ability of the tribes to preserve their tribal cultures and address pressing local problems affecting tribal members; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Congress of the United States be urged to grant historic congressional federal recognition to the Chickahominy; the Chickahominy, Eastern Division; the Mattaponi; the Monacan; the Nansemond; the Pamunkey; the Rappahannock; and the Upper Mattaponi as Indian tribes under federal law; and, be it

Resolved, further, That the Congressional Delegation of Virginia be requested to take all necessary steps forthwith to gain historic congressional federal recognition for the eight Virginia Indian tribes; and, be it

Resolved finally, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of the Congressional Delegation of Virginia in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

POM-101. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Ohio; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H. CON. RES. NO. 6

Whereas, the United States is a signatory to the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Global Climate Change (FCCC); and

Whereas, a proposed protocol to expand the scope of the FCCC was negotiated in December 1997 in Kyoto, Japan, potentially requiring the United States to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by seven percent from 1990 levels during the period from 2008 to 2012, with potentially larger emission reductions thereafter; and

Whereas, developing nations are exempt from greenhouse gas emission limitation requirements in the FCCC, and refused in the Kyoto negotiations to accept any new commitments for greenhouse gas emission limitation through the Kyoto Protocol; and

Whereas, achieving the emission reductions proposed by the Kyoto Protocol would require a thirty-eight per cent reduction in projected United States greenhouse gas emissions during the period from 2008 to 2012; and

Whereas, the legally binding goals to reduce emissions to the levels stipulated in the Kyoto Protocol would weaken the economy of the United States, impair the competitiveness of its industries in the growing global market, and cause economic dislocation in the United States, including job loss, major economic restructuring, and increased levels of poverty; and

Whereas, if the requirements of the Kyoto Protocol were implemented, Americans would experience increased prices for energy, emergency services, education, finished goods, and transportation; and

Whereas, the economic consequences of complying with the Kyoto Protocol merit rejection of the treaty and consideration of policies that promote a more studied, balanced, and constructive approach; and

Whereas, the results of scientific studies evaluating greenhouse gas emissions and their effect on the earth's environment are inconclusive; and

Whereas, the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol will allow foreign interests to control and limit the growth of the United States economy; now therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the 123rd General Assembly of the State of Ohio, respectively memorialize the members of the United States Senate not to ratify the Kyoto Protocol related to the control of greenhouse gases; and be it further

Resolved, That we, the members of the 123rd General Assembly of the State of Ohio, strongly recommend that the United States protect and improve the environment by adopting incentives for the development, commercialization, and use of technologies that promote energy efficiency and reduce pollution rather than through coercive and excessive government regulation; and be it further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit copies of this resolution to the President Pro Tempore and the Secretary of the United States Senate.

POM-102. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of West Virginia; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 35

Whereas, the Legislature works tirelessly to improve the quality of life for the citizens of the Mountain State; and

Whereas, coal mining has been, and continues to be, one of the primary industries responsible for the economic success of West Virginia and its citizens; and

Whereas, thousands of West Virginians are employed, either directly or indirectly, by the coal mining industry which generates payrolls totaling over \$2 billion; and

Whereas, surface coal mining, including the practice of mountaintop removal, currently represents one third of the total coal production in West Virginia; and

Whereas, surface mining currently accounts for the payment of millions of dollars in severance taxes, millions of dollars in income taxes, and millions of dollars in other related taxes paid to the State of West Virginia; and

Whereas, county governments and county school systems throughout the state rely on the taxes from coal companies and coal miners to fund many valuable programs, including public education, ambulance services and law enforcement; and

Whereas, the loss of any of West Virginia's coal mines and the loss of any mining-related employment ultimately results in significant harm to all West Virginians; and

Whereas, the world marketplace for coal is severely competitive and supports only mining companies that are dependable, low cost sources of coal; and

Whereas, concerns have been raised about the method of mining known as mountaintop removal and the Governor and the Legislature have responded to those concerns; and

Whereas, by executive order, the Governor did appoint a task force to explore the issue of mountaintop removal mining and related practices. That task force conducted numerous public meetings and collected significant amounts of information prior to issuing a comprehensive report containing numerous recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature; and

Whereas, the Legislature did request a study of the issues surrounding blasting to be conducted by a joint interim subcommittee of the Joint Standing Committee on Government Organization and that subcommittee recommended numerous bills to address the concerns of blasting; and

Whereas, the 1999 Legislature, through the passage of Senate Bill No. 681, has considered the reports and recommendations of the Gov-

ernor's task force and the interim subcommittee and has affirmatively responded to concerns which have been raised about the issue of mountaintop removal mining by doing the following:

Strengthening the laws and regulations which are designed to control blasting by extending the pre-blast survey areas, requiring site-specific blasting plans when blasting is to occur near structures, imposing new penalties for blasting violations causing damage to property, establishing a presumption of liability where damage is done to water wells within certain distances of water wells and establishing an economical and efficient claims process for those aggrieved by blasting operations; and

Establishing the office of blasting to review and regulate blasting operations in surface mining;

Establishing the office of coalfield community development to require the various stakeholders in the mining process to address the issues of community development, regional development, property acquisitions and other issues relevant to the future of the areas of the state where coal mining occurs;

Repealing the provisions of legislation which was enacted during the 1998 session of the Legislature thereby restoring the stream mitigation program to its previous status; and

Addressing other issues of concern in the areas of mountaintop removal mining; and

Whereas, actions and inactions by federal regulatory agencies which have had the effect of closing surface coal mines are more frequent and result in the loss of hundreds of mining and other jobs in West Virginia; and

Whereas, in an effort to address these problems and to solicit cooperation with the federal agencies, the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates jointly prepared and sent to Carol M. Browner, Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, a letter inquiring about mining standards and agency actions. At the present time, there has been no response to the letter; therefore, be it

Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia, that

The Legislature hereby recognizes the importance of the coal mining industry and encourages all federal and state agencies regulating the coal mining industry to demonstrate affirmative responsiveness by returning to fair and objective behavior, particularly in the issuance of mining permits and other regulation of the coal industry; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the Legislature supports the continued mining of coal in West Virginia, including surface mining by all methods recognized by state and federal law, and is prepared to cooperate with all federal agencies in an effort to resolve quickly any outstanding issues which are preventing the mining of coal and which are contributing to the loss of jobs in West Virginia; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the Legislature requests West Virginia's congressional delegation to join in the efforts to support the coal industry in West Virginia and to make every effort possible to assist in securing the needed cooperation from federal agencies to allow the continuation of the mining of coal and to protect the jobs of coal miners and others who derive their employment from coal mining; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the Clerk of the Senate is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, the Governor

of West Virginia, members of West Virginia's congressional delegation and the directors of each of the federal and state agencies that regulate the coal mining industry in West Virginia.

POM-103. A resolution adopted by the Okanogan Horticultural Association relative to the financial plight of the apple grower; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

POM-104. A resolution adopted by the Okanogan Horticultural Association relative to agricultural water rights; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-105. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1

Whereas, the United States is a signatory to the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Global Climate Change ("FCCC"); and

Whereas, a proposed protocol to expand the scope of the FCCC was negotiated ("Kyoto Protocol") in December, 1997, in Kyoto, Japan, potentially requiring the United States to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by seven percent (7%) from 1990 levels during the period of 2008 to 2012, with potentially larger emission reductions thereafter; and

Whereas, the Kyoto Protocol would require other major industrial nations to reduce emissions from 1990 levels by six percent (6%) to eight percent (8%) during the period 2008 to 2012, with potentially larger emission reductions thereafter; and

Whereas, President William J. Clinton pledged on October 22, 1997, that the "United States not assume binding obligations unless key developing nations meaningfully participate in this effort"; and

Whereas, Article 2, Section 2 of the Constitution of the United States requires a two-thirds concurrence of the United States Senate before any treaty may be ratified; and

Whereas, on July 25, 1997, the United States Senate adopted Senate Resolution No. 98 by a vote of 95 to 0, expressing the sense of the Senate that "the United States should not be a signatory to any protocol to or other agreement regarding the Framework Convention on Climate Change . . . which would require the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, and which would mandate new commitments to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions for the developed country parties unless the protocol or other agreement also mandates specific scheduled commitments within the same compliance period to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions for developing country parties"; and

Whereas, developing nations are exempt from greenhouse gas emission limitations in the FCCC refused, in the Kyoto negotiations, to accept any new commitments for greenhouse gas emission limitations through the Kyoto Protocol; and

Whereas, manmade emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide are caused primarily by the combustion of oil, coal and natural gas fuels by industries, automobiles, homes and other uses of energy; and

Whereas, the United States relies on carbon-based fossil fuels for more than ninety percent (90%) of its total energy supply; and

Whereas, achieving the emission reductions proposed by the Kyoto Protocol would require a thirty-eight percent (38%) reduction in projected United States carbon emissions during the period of 2008 to 2012; and

Whereas, developing countries exempt from emission limitations under the Kyoto Protocol are expected to increase their rates of fossil fuel use over the next two (2) decades and surpass the United States and other industrialized countries in total emissions of greenhouse gases; and

Whereas, studies prepared by the economic forecasting group, WEFA, estimate that legally binding requirements for the reduction of United States greenhouse gases below 1990 emission levels would result in the loss of many Wyoming jobs, while also experiencing higher energy, housing, medical and food costs. Since Wyoming government is so highly reliant on taxes and royalties from the production of fossil fuels such as oil, gas and coal, the result of decreasing the production of these minerals would result in economic hardships; and

Whereas, the failure to provide for commitments by developing countries in the Kyoto Protocol creates an unfair competitive imbalance between industrial and developing nations, potentially leading to the transfer of jobs and industrial development from the United States to developing countries;

Whereas, increased emissions of greenhouse gases by developing countries would offset any environmental benefits associated with emissions reductions achieved by the United States and other industrial nations.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved By The Members of the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1. That the President of the United States not attempt to use federal activities to initiate strategies to mitigate greenhouse gases until and unless the Kyoto Protocol is amended or otherwise revised so that it is consistent with United States Senate Resolution No. 98 to including specific scheduled commitments for developing countries to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions within the same compliance period required for industrial nations.

Sec. 2. That the United States Senate reject any proposed protocol or other amendment to the FCCC that is inconsistent with this resolution or that does not comply fully with the United States Senate Resolution No. 98.

Sec. 3. That the Secretary of State of Wyoming transmit copies of the resolution to the President of the United States, to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress and to the Wyoming Congressional Delegation.

POM-106. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming; to the Committee on Finance.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1

Whereas, the livestock industry continues to play a vital role in the culture and the economy of Wyoming; and

Whereas, both the cattle industry and the sheep industry are struggling to survive in the face of unprecedented prolonged price decline for cattle, lambs and wool; and

Whereas, there is compelling evidence that the decline in cattle and lamb prices are being caused in strong part by growing levels of imports of both live animals and meat products; and

Whereas, significant increases in imports may be occurring in violation of the fair trade provisions of both the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT).

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved By The Members of the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Sect. 1. That the Wyoming State Legislature fully supports the antidumping and the countervailing duty petitions against Canada as filed by the Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Foundation (R-CALF); and

Sect. 2. That the Wyoming State Legislature fully supports the Section 201 Trade Action as filed by the American Sheep Industry Association with the United States International Trade Commission; and

Sect. 3. That the Wyoming State Legislature petitions the United States Department of Commerce and the United States International Trade Commission: (1) to act quickly to determine the extent of any trade violations by countries exporting cattle or lamb into the United States; and (2) if violations are found, to take decisive steps to protect Wyoming and other domestic cattle and sheep producers from the negative effects of this unfair and unlawful competition.

Sect. 4. That the Wyoming State Legislature requests that the Governor act to the full extent of his authority to support the actions filed by the Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Foundation (R-CALF) and the American Sheep Industry Association.

Sect. 5. That the Secretary of State of Wyoming transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, to the Secretary of Commerce, to the United States International Trade Commission and to the Wyoming Congressional Delegation.

POM-107. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

RESOLUTIONS

Whereas, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the North American Numbering Council (NANC) have been unable and/or unwilling to address the area code crises throughout the United States; and

Whereas, the Department of Telecommunications and Energy, should, after being given any and all appropriate waivers by the FCC, be permitted to examine, test, and implement number conservation initiatives to alleviate the necessity of adding additional area codes, including but not limited to: Number pooling, number utilization audits, and rate center consolidation; and

Whereas, the failure to immediately address this issue will result in increased costs and inconvenience to telecommunication customers in Massachusetts; and

Whereas, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) should re-evaluate its procedures for granting waivers to individual states for the purpose of implementing number conservation initiatives as soon as possible; and

Whereas, the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation should take all appropriate action to convince the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to grant to Massachusetts the necessary waivers to independently implement number conservation measures which are critical to telecommunication customers in Massachusetts; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Department of Telecommunications and Energy make initial reports of its investigation and subsequent initiatives undertaken to address the area code crises to the Governor and the Legislature no later than June 30, 1999; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded by the Clerk of the House of Representatives to his Excellency, Governor

Argeo Paul Cellucci, the Members of the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation, the President of the Massachusetts Senate and the Department of Telecommunications and Energy.

POM-108. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Georgia; to the Committee on Finance.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the export of agricultural commodities has provided the United States the only positive return on its balance of trade; and

Whereas, the only way to ensure that a positive return on the balance of trade continues is to allow international markets to remain open; and

Whereas, the use of unilateral economic sanctions rarely achieves its goal, but causes substantial harm to the producers of products; and

Whereas, not only do the sanctions imposed by the United States cause great harm to the Georgia farmer, but so do the unfair trade barriers and sanctions imposed on agricultural products by other countries; and

Whereas, economic sanctions hinder the export of agricultural products, exacerbating the transportation of such products and possibly lowering the price received by the Georgia farmer for such agricultural products.

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the General Assembly of Georgia, That Congress is urged to remove or restrict the use of trade sanctions as they apply to agricultural products and that Congress ensures that the use of trade sanctions will result in meaningful results and to work for the reduction and elimination of trade barriers and sanctions imposed by other countries against agricultural products.

Be it further resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate is directed to send enrolled copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the United States Senate, the Speaker, Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, the secretary of the United States Department of State, the secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture and to each member of the Georgia Congressional Delegation.

POM-109. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Georgia; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, if the Georgia farmer is to have the opportunity to prosper and grow, the agricultural products produced by the farmer must be able to reach foreign markets; and

Whereas, the export enhancement program is one tool which can expand foreign market opportunities; and

Whereas, the stockpiling of grain is just one example of where the lack of access to foreign markets hurts not only the Georgia farmer but all American farmers and the economy of the United States in general.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the General Assembly of Georgia, That the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture is urged to take greater advantage of the export enhancement program.

Be it further resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate shall forward appropriate copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Vice President of the

United States, Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the United States Senate, the Speaker, Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture and to each member of the Georgia Congressional Delegation.

POM-110. A resolution adopted by the City Council of Cincinnati, Ohio relative to Round II Urban Federal Empowerment Zones: ordered to lie on the table.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. HELMS, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. 579: A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to target assistance to support the economic and political independence of the countries of the South Caucasus and Central Asia (Rept. No. 106-45).

H.R. 669: A bill to amend the Peace Corps Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2000 through 2003 to carry out that Act, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-46).

By Mr. CHAFEE, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

Special Report entitled "Activities of the Committee on Environment and Public Works for the One Hundred Fifth Congress" (Rept. No. 106-47).

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with amendments:

S. 625: A bill to amend title 11, United States Code, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-49).

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. SCHUMER (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. REED, and Mr. KERRY):

S. 995. A bill to strengthen the firearms and explosives laws of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. 996. A bill to establish a matching grant program to help State and local jurisdictions purchase school safety equipment; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SANTORUM (for himself, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. DEWINE, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. MCCAIN):

S. 997. A bill to assist States in providing individuals a credit against State income taxes or a comparable benefit for contributions to charitable organizations working to prevent or reduce poverty and protect and encourage donations to charitable organizations, to prohibit discrimination against nongovernmental organizations and certain individuals on the basis of religion in the distribution of government funds to provide government assistance and the distribution of such assistance, to allow such organizations to accept such funds to provide such assistance without impairing the religious character of such organizations, to provide for tax-free distributions from individual re-

tirement accounts for charitable purposes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. KOHL):

S. 998. A bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to prohibit the donation or service without charge of competitive foods of minimal nutritional value in schools participating in Federal meal service programs before the end of the last lunch period of the schools; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 999. A bill to amend chapter 18 of title 35, United States Code, to improve the ability of Federal agencies to patent and license federally owned inventions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 1000. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain dealer derivative financial instruments, hedging transactions, and supplies as ordinary assets; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. BYRD, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. KOHL, Mr. CLELAND, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. REED, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 1001. A bill to establish the National Youth Violence Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 1002. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a prospective payment system for services furnished by psychiatric hospitals under the medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. BRYAN):

S. 1003. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide increased tax incentives for the purchase of alternative fuel and electric vehicle, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURNS (for himself and Mr. INHOPE):

S. 1004. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to reduce telephone rates, provide advanced telecommunications services to schools, libraries, and certain health care facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG:

S. 1005. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to provide for national minimum sentences for individuals convicted of operating motor vehicles under the influence of alcohol; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. TORRICELLI (for himself, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. 1006. A bill to end the use of conventional steel-jawed leghold traps on animals in the United States; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 1007. A bill to assist in the conservation of great apes by supporting and providing financial resources for the conservation programs of countries within the range of great apes and projects of persons with demonstrated expertise in the conservation of great apes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself and Mr. LEVIN):

S. 1008. A bill to modify the standards for responding to import surges under section 201 of the Trade Act of 1974, to establish mechanisms for import monitoring and the prevention of circumvention of United States trade laws, and to strengthen the enforcement of United States trade remedy laws; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SHELBY:

S. 1009. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2000 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes; from the Select Committee on Intelligence; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 1010. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a medical innovation tax credit for clinical testing research expenses attributable to academic medical centers and other qualified hospital research organizations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. FRIST:

S. 1011. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that trusts established for the benefit of individuals with disabilities shall be taxed at the same rates as individual taxpayers; to the Committee on Finance.

S. 1012. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to use the Consumer Price Index in addition to the national average wage index for purposes of cost-of-living adjustments; to the Committee on Finance.

S. 1013. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to promote lifetime savings by allowing people to establish child savings accounts within Roth IRAs and by allowing the savings to be used for education, first time home purchases, and retirement, to expand the availability of Roth IRAs to all Americans and to protect their contributions from inflation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

S. 1014. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce the rate of the individual income tax and the number of tax brackets; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. REID:

S. Res. 99. A resolution designating November 20, 1999, as "National Survivors for Prevention of Suicide Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. 996. A bill to establish a matching grant program to help State and local jurisdictions purchase school safety equipment; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

STUDENTS LEARNING IN SAFE SCHOOLS ACT

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, today I introduce the Students Learning in Safe Schools Act of 1999.