

learn, are provided with challenging courses, and are encouraged to develop and pursue long-term educational and career goals.

Fourth, in response to clear evidence that standards-based reforms work best when States have strong accountability systems in place, my proposal would encourage each State to establish a single, rigorous accountability system for all schools. The bill also would require States to end social promotion and traditional retention practices; phase out the use of teachers with emergency certificates and the practice of assigning teachers "out-of-field;" and implement sound discipline policies in every school. Finally, the bill would give parents an important new accountability tool by requiring State, district, and school-level report cards that will help them evaluate the quality of the schools their children attend.

Based on high standards for all students, high-quality professional development for teachers, safe and disciplined learning environments, and accountability to parents and taxpayers, the Educational Excellence for All Children Act of 1999 provides a solid foundation for raising student achievement and narrowing the achievement gap between disadvantaged students and their more advantaged peers. More important, it will help prepare all of our children, and thus the Nation, for the challenges of the 21st century. I urge the Congress to take prompt and favorable action on this proposal.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 21, 1999.

NOTICE ON AMENDED MINES PROTOCOL—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 31

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

*To the Senate of the United States:*

I am gratified that the United States Senate has given its advice and consent to the ratification of the Amended Mines Protocol of the Convention on Conventional Weapons.

The Senate and my Administration, working together, reached agreement on a detailed resolution of advice and consent to ratification, including 13 conditions covering issues of significant interest and concern. I will implement these provisions. I will, of course, do so without prejudice to my Constitutional authorities. A condition in a resolution of advice and consent to ratification cannot alter the allocation of authority and responsibility under the Constitution, for both the Congress and the President.

I am grateful to Majority Leader Lott, Minority Leader Daschle, and

Senators Helms, Biden, Leahy, and the many others who have assisted in this ratification effort. It is clear that the practical result of our work together on the Protocol will well serve the critical humanitarian interest of protecting civilians from the dangers posed to them by landmines, as well as the imperative requirements of ensuring the safety and effectiveness of U.S. military forces. In this spirit, I express my hope that the Protocol will lead to further sound advances in the development of the international law of armed conflict.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 24, 1999.

NOTICE ON AMENDED PROTOCOL ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF MINES, BOOBY-TRAPS AND OTHER DEVICES, TOGETHER WITH ITS TECHNICAL ANNEX—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 32

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

*To the Congress of the United States:*

In accordance with the resolution of advice and consent to ratification of the Amended Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices, together with its Technical Annex, adopted by the Senate of the United States on May 20, 1999, I hereby certify that:

In connection with Condition (1)(B), Pursuit Deterrent Munition, the Pursuit Deterrent Munition shall continue to remain available for use by the United States Armed Forces at least until January 1, 2003, unless an effective alternative to the munition becomes available.

In connection with Condition (6), Land Mine Alternatives, in pursuing alternatives to United States anti-personnel mines or mixed anti-tank systems, I will not limit the types of alternatives to be considered on the basis of any criteria other than those specified in the sentence that follows. In pursuit of alternatives to United States anti-personnel mines, or mixed anti-tank systems, the United States shall seek to identify, adapt, modify, or otherwise develop only those technologies that (i) are intended to provide military effectiveness equivalent to that provided by the relevant anti-personnel mine, or mixed anti-tank system; and (ii) would be affordable.

In connection with Condition (7), Certification with Regard to International Tribunals, with respect to the Amended Mines Protocol, the Convention on Conventional Weapons, or any future protocol or amendment thereto, the United States shall not recognize the

jurisdiction of any international tribunal over the United States or any of its citizens.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 24, 1999.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-3149. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Effectiveness of Occupant Protection Systems and Their Use" dated April 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3150. A communication from the Program Analyst, Office of the Chief Counsel, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class C Airspace and Revocation of Class D Airspace, Austin-Bergstrom International Airport, TX; and Revocation of Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Class C; Delay of Effective Date; Docket No. 97-AWA-4/4-30 (5-3)" (RIN2120-AA66) (1999-0170), received May 3, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3151. A communication from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety/Security Zone Regulations; Port of New York/New Jersey Fleet Week (CGD001-98-170)" (RIN2115-AA97) (1999-0017), received May 10, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3152. A communication from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of ten rules relative to Regatta Regulations (RIN2115-AE46) (1999-0009), received April 9, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3153. A communication from the Aeronautical Information Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (30); Amdt. No. 1929" (RIN2120-AA65), received May 4, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3154. A communication from the Aeronautical Information Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (82); Amdt. No. 1928" (RIN2120-AA65), received May 4, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3155. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; West Coast Salmon Fisheries; 1999 Management Measures" (RIN0648-AK21), received May 12, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3156. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Interim Rule to Certify Jones-Davis and Gulf Fishery Bycatch Reduction Devices Under Amendment 9 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Shrimp Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico" (RIN0648-AL14), received April 26, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3157. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Rule to Implement Framework Adjustment 28" (RIN0648-AM10), received April 2, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3158. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Financial Disclosure" (RIN0648-AG16), received May 6, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3159. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Western Alaska Community Development Quota Program" (RIN0648-AL21), received April 26, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3160. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Processors Using Trawl Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands", received May 6, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3161. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Trip Limit Adjustments", received May 3, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3162. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Acquisition and Technology, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting Selected Acquisition Reports (SARs) for the quarter ending December 31, 1998; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3163. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Species in the Rock sole/Flathead sole/Other flatfish' Fishery Category by Vessels Using Trawl Gear in Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area", received April 30, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

EC-3164. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service,

Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod in the Gulf of Alaska", received April 29, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3165. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod in the Western Regulatory Area in the Gulf of Alaska", received April 19, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3166. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Adjustments From Cape Falcon, OR to Point Pitas, CA", received April 12, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3167. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States—Announcement That the Scup Commercial Quota Has Been Harvested for the Winter I Period", received April 22, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3168. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Atka Mackerel in the Central Aleutian District of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands", received April 22, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3169. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Shallow-water Species Fishery by Vessels Using Trawl Gear in the Gulf of Alaska", received April 22, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3170. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Atka Mackerel; in the Central Aleutian District of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands", received April 22, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3171. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod in the Gulf of Alaska", received April 22, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3172. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod for Vessels Using Hook-and-Line and Pot

Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands", received April 22, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3173. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Bumper Safety Standards" (RIN2127-AH59), received April 6, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3174. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Light Truck Fuel Economy Standards for Model Year 2001" (RIN2127-AH52), received April 6, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3175. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Procedures for Participation in and Receiving Data from the National Driver Register Problem Driver Pointer System" (RIN2127-AH54), received April 15, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3176. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Test Device Placement" (RIN2127-AF40), received April 22, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3177. A communication from the Chief, Policy and Program Planning Division, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions in the Telecommunication Act of 1996" (CC Docket No. 96-98; 3rd Order on Reconsideration and Further NPRM), received May 14, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3178. A communication from the Chief, Policy and Program Planning Division, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Policy and Rules Concerning the Interstate, Interexchange Market Place Implementation of Section 254(g) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended" (CC Docket No. 96-61), received April 22, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3179. A communication from the Chief, Policy and Program Planning Division, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Deployment of Wireline Services Offering Advanced Telecommunications Capability, First Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking" (FCC 99-48), received April 27, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3180. A communication from the Chief, Policy and Program Planning Division, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Computer III Further Remand Proceedings: Bell Operating Company Provision of Enhanced Services" (CC Docket No. 95-20), received April 14, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3181. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service,

Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Notice 99-22: Low-Income Housing Tax Credit—1999 Possessions Population Figures" (OGI-121622-98), received May 10, 1999; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3182. A communication from the Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting a report entitled "Analysis of the Climate Change Technology Initiative", dated April 1999; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3183. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to exempt disaster employees from filing Virgin Island income tax forms; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3184. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a certification of a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with Poland; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3185. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a certification of a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with Turkey; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3186. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a certification of a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with Norway; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3187. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a certification of a proposed export license with the United Kingdom; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3188. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a list of countries not cooperating with U.S. antiterrorism efforts; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3189. A communication from the President, Inter-American Foundation, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation amending the Foreign Assistance Act of 1969; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3190. A communication from the Director, Administration and Management, Office of the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to two vacancies in the Department of Defense; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3191. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the Panama Canal Treaty of 1997; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3192. A communication from the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence for Community Management and the Senior Civilian Official, OASD(C3I), Department of Defense, transmitting jointly, pursuant to law, a report relative to Year 2000 compliance; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3193. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Milk in Iowa Marketing Area; Revision of Rule, DA-99-02", received May 18, 1999; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3194. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3195. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulations Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedule for Rating Disabilities; Diseases of the Ear and other Sense Organs" (RIN2900-AF22), received May 12, 1999; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3196. A communication from the Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for calendar year 1998; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3197. A communication from the Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Uranium Industry Annual 1998"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3198. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Office of Safeguards and Security, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Manual for Nuclear Materials Management and Safeguards System Reporting and Data Management" (DOE M 447.1-2), received May 12, 1999; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3199. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Office of Field Management, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishing and Maintaining a Facility Representative Program at DOE Facilities" (DOE STD 1063-97), received May 12, 1999; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3200. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Office of Environment, Safety and Health, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Integration of Environment, Safety and Health into Facility Disposition Activities" (DOE STD 1120-98), received May 12, 1999; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3201. A communication from the Governor, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, transmitting a report relative to the Federal-CNMI Initiative on Labor Immigration, and Law Enforcement, dated April 1999; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3202. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Complaint Procedures" (Docket No. RM98-13-000), received May 17, 1999; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3203. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, a report entitled "Oil and Gas Leasing Program Evaluation Report", dated October 1998; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3204. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "West Virginia Regulatory Program" (SPATS No. WV-077-FOR), received May 10, 1999; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3205. A communication from the Director, Corporate Policy and Research Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing Benefits", received May 12, 1999; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3206. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Indirect Food Additives: Adjuvants, Production Aids, and Sanitizers", received May 11, 1999; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3207. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Listing of Color Additives for Coloring Sutures; {Phtalocyaninato (2-)} Copper", received May 5, 1999; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3208. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Indirect Food Additives: Adjuvant, Production Aids, and Sanitizers", received May 14, 1999; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3209. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Indirect Food Additives: Adjuvant, Production Aids, and Sanitizers", received May 18, 1999; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3210. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education Act of 1999"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3211. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "FDA Review Fee Act of 1999"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3212. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the National Health Service Corps; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3213. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Higher Education Act of 1965; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3214. A communication from the Director, National Science Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Women, Minorities, and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering: 1998"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3215. A communication from the Chief Executive Officer, Corporation for National Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for calendar year 1998; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3216. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, the Chairman of the

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve, the Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Chairperson of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, jointly, a report entitled "Hedge Funds, Leverage, and the Lessons of Long-Term Capital Management", dated April 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3217. A communication from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to the Republic of Korea; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3218. A communication from the Chairman, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule relative to prompt corrective action for federally insured credit unions, received May 11, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3219. A communication from the Managing Director, Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Affordable Housing Program Regulation" (RIN3060-AA82), received May 12, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3220. A communication from the Managing Director, Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Affordable Housing Program Regulation" (RIN3069-AA73), received May 12, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3221. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Exports to Cuba" (RIN0694-AB93), received May 11, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3222. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention; Revisions to the Export Administration Regulations" (RIN0694-AB67), received May 11, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3223. A communication from the Deputy Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rulemaking for EDGAR System" (RIN3235-AH70), received May 17, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3224. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "List of Communities Eligible for the Sale For Flood Insurance, 64 FR 24957, 05/10/99" (Docket No. FEMA-7712), received May 18, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3225. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Authorization of Solicitations during the Combined Federal Campaign" (RIN3206-AI53), received May 18, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3226. A communication from the Legal Advisor, Cable Services Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled

"Report and Order: In the Matter of Cable Act Reform Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996" (CS Docket No. 98-85, FCC 99-57), received April 27, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3227. A communication from the Legal Advisor, Cable Services Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Report and Order: In the Matter of 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review—Streamlining of Cable Television Services Part 76 Public File and Notice Requirements" (CS Docket No. 98-132, FCC 99-12), received April 27, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3228. A communication from the Associate Chief, International Bureau, Telecom Division, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Report and Order: In the Matter of 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review, Reform of the International Settlement Policy and Associated Filing Requirements, et al." (IB Docket No. 98-148, FCC 99-73), received May 14, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3229. A communication from the Associate Chief, International Bureau, Telecom Division, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Replacement of Part 90 by Part 88 to Revise the Private Land Mobile Radio Services and Modify the Policies Governing Them and Examination of Exclusivity and Frequency Assignment Policies of the Land Mobile Services, Second Memorandum Opinion and Order" (PR Docket No. 99-235, FCC 99-68), received May 14, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3230. A communication from the Regulations Officer, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Parts and Accessories Necessary for Safe Operation; Lighting Devices, Reflectors, and Electrical Equipment" (RIN2125-AD27), received April 2, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3231. A communication from the Attorney, Office of the Chief Counsel, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Commercial Space Transportation Licensing Regulations" (RIN21205-AF99), received April 19, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3232. A communication from the Trial Attorney, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Passenger Equipment Safety Standards" (RIN2130-AA95), received May 13, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3233. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Notice of Approval of Fishery Management Plan Amendments" (RIN0648-AL40), received April 26, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3234. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Shark Fisheries; Large Coastal Shark Species; Clo-

sure" (I.D. 031899B), received April 6, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3235. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Adjustments to the 1999 Summer Flounder Commercial Quota", received April 16, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3236. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels using Trawl Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands", received April 16, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3237. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of the National Invasive Species Act of 1996 (CGD97-068) (USCG-1999-3423)" (RIN2115-AF55) (1999-0001), received May 13, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3238. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety/Security Zone Regulations; Pepsi Gala Fireworks, New York Harbor, Upper Bay (CGD01-99-048)" (RIN2115-AA97) (1999-0019), received May 13, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3239. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety/Security Zone Regulations; Santa Barbara Channel, CA (COTP Los Angeles-Long Beach 99-001)" (RIN2115-AA97) (1999-0015), received April 15, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3240. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Drawbridge Regulations; Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, LA (CGD-08-99-028)" (RIN2115-AE47) (1999-0010), received May 13, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3241. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Chemical Testing; Management Information System Reporting Requirements (USCG-1998-4469)" (RIN2115-AF67), received May 3, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3242. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Waiver application; tank vessel; reduction of gross tonnage (USCG-1999-5451)", received May 3, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3243. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of

a rule entitled "Regatta Regulations; SLR; Charleston to Bermuda Sailboat Race, Charleston, SC (CGD07-99-024)" (RIN2115-AE46) (1999-0013), received May 3, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3244. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regatta Regulations; SLR; City of Augusta, GA (CGD07-98-068)" (RIN2115-AE46) (1999-0011), received April 19, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3245. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90) Phase-out Requirements for Single Hull Tank Vessels (USCG-1999-4620)" (RIN2115-ZZ08), received May 3, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3246. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Vessel Identification System (CGD 89-050)" (RIN2115-AD35) (1999-0001), received April 15, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3247. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulated Navigation Areas; Mississippi River, LA: (CGD 08-97-020)", (RIN2115-AE84) (1999-0003), received April 15, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3248. A communication from the Rules Administrator, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Visiting: Notification to Visitors" (RIN1120-AA67), received May 14, 1999; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3249. A communication from the Director, Policy Directives and Instructions Branch, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Adjustment of Status for Certain Nationals in Haiti" (RIN1115-AF33) (INS No. 1963-98), received May 13, 1999; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3250. A communication from the Director, National Legislative Commission, The American Legion, transmitting, pursuant to law, the consolidated financial statements for the calendar years 1997 and 1998; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3251. A communication from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation entitled "Chemical Safety Information and Site Security Act of 1999"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3252. A communication from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report relative to the activities and operations of the Public Integrity Section, Criminal Division for calendar year 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3253. A communication from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting, pursuant to law, two reports entitled "1998 Activities of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts" and "1998 Judicial Business of the United States Courts" for fiscal year 1998; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### 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-124. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Illinois relative to senior citizens; to the Committee on Finance.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 70

Whereas, The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 established a new reimbursement system for Medicare home health services effective for cost reporting periods beginning on or after October 1, 1997 which has threatened to ruin the home health benefit; and

Whereas, The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 created an interim payment system which is cost-based with reduced limits and is in effect until a prospective payment system is initiated with cost reporting periods beginning on or after October 1, 2000; and

Whereas, While the 105th Congress made strides to rectify the interim payment system, the real effect of the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1998 was to raise the per-visit reimbursement for home health between only \$0.50 and \$1.00 and the per-beneficiary limits by less than 5% for the majority of home health agencies; and

Whereas, If the home health program, which is only 9% of the overall Medicare budget, is slashed, other programs will bear the burden, and in many cases Medicare patients will be transferred to the Medicaid program; and

Whereas, If these patients are not served by home health, they will drive up health care costs in other arenas, including nursing homes, hospitals, and emergency care; and

Whereas, One out of every 10 Medicare beneficiaries received some form of home health care in 1996; and

Whereas, On average, a home care visit in 1996 cost between \$40 and \$140, while the cost of staying in a hospital per day is \$2,071, and a skilled nursing facility, \$443; and

Whereas, The average home health agency has seen a 39% reduction in Medicare revenue since the implementation of the interim payment system; and

Whereas, Fifty-eight, or 15%, of Illinois home health agencies have closed in the past year; and

Whereas, Rural home health agencies report revenues at least one-third lower than this same period last year; and

Whereas, Three-fourths of Illinois Home Care Council freestanding agency members (those not affiliated with a hospital or network) estimate that, unless something changes with the interim payment system, they will be closed within 6 months to a year; and

Whereas, The interim payment system is based on average costs, which creates strong incentives to avoid caring for patients with complex or long-term medical problems, forcing many Illinois home health agencies to choose between staying in business and serving highly complex, high visit volume patients; and

Whereas, Three prominent public policy research organizations, George Washington University, the Commonwealth Fund, and the Lewin Group, independently concluded that the home health provisions of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 are causing a crisis in the Medicare home health benefit by: (i) eliminating access to medically necessary home health services for the sickest, most frail Medicare beneficiaries; (ii) rewarding higher cost and penalizing lower cost home

health agencies by establishing radically different payment limits that do not reflect current patient mix or efficiency; and (iii) eliminating access to Medicare home health in rural areas; and

Whereas, The prospective payment system is a system by which home health agencies are paid according to types and numbers of patients actually served which assures a predictable reimbursement rate and schedule, beneficial to both the federal government and home health agencies; therefore, be it

*Resolved, by the Senate of the Ninety-First General Assembly of the State of Illinois*, that we urge Congress to hold the Health Care Financing Authority accountable for the timely implementation of a fair prospective payment system; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we urge the federal government to rectify some of the damage wrought by the interim payment system by raising the per-beneficiary and per-visit limits, so that agencies can keep serving patients until the prospective payment system is implemented; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we urge the federal government to eliminate the additional 15% cut in reimbursements scheduled for October 2000; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we urge Congress to require a representative of the federal government to meet with an Illinois Home Care Council member to discuss the questions and concerns raised by this resolution; and be it further

*Resolved*, That suitable copies of this resolution be delivered to the President pro tempore of the U.S. Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and of the other members of the Illinois Congressional delegation.

POM-125. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Michigan relative to the regulation of insurance matters by the states; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 26

Whereas, In 1994, the Michigan Legislature passed legislation (HB 5281) granting lending institutions the authority to sell all lines of insurance; and

Whereas, That legislation, which became 1994 PA 409, includes necessary consumer and fair market protections, such as requiring the separation of lending and insurance transactions; prohibitions against offering or discussing insurance while a loan transaction is pending; requiring separate lending and insurance areas; requirements for full written disclosures to customers; and inclusion of strong prohibitions against sharing confidential insurance-related information in bank loan files with bank-affiliated agencies; and

Whereas, In a joint letter published November 7, 1994, HB 5281 was lauded and strongly supported by the Michigan Bankers Association, Michigan Association of Insurance Agents, Michigan League of Savings Institutions, Michigan Association of Life Underwriters, Michigan Chamber of Commerce, Michigan Consumer Federation, Michigan Credit Union League, Small Business Association of Michigan, Michigan Association of Credit Unions, Michigan Retail Hardware Association, Greater Detroit Chamber of Commerce, and National Electrical Contractors Association (Michigan Chapter); and

Whereas, In 1995, the Rhode Island Legislature resoundingly passed legislation substantially similar to Michigan law, granting lending institutions the authority to sell insurance; and