

EC-10885. A communication from the Special Assistant, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments; FM Broadcast Stations (Shoshoni and Dubois, Wyoming)" (MM Docket No. 98-99) received on September 18, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment and an amendment to the title and with a preamble:

S. Res. 304: A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the development of educational programs on veterans' contributions to the country and the designation of the week that includes Veterans Day as "National Veterans Awareness Week" for the presentation of such educational programs.

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 785: A bill for the relief of Frances Schochenmaier.

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment:

S. 1314: A bill to establish a grant program to assist State and local law enforcement in deterring, investigating, and prosecuting computer crimes.

S. 2778: A bill to amend the Sherman Act to make oil-producing and exporting cartels illegal.

By Mr. LUGAR, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, without amendment:

S. 2811: A bill to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to make communities with high levels of out-migration or population loss eligible for community facilities grants.

By Mr. JEFFORDS, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Con. Res. 135: A concurrent resolution recognizing the 25th anniversary of the enactment of the Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975.

NOMINATIONS DISCHARGED

The following nominations were discharged from the Committee on Foreign Relations and placed on the Executive Calendar, pursuant to the unanimous consent agreement of September 21, 2000:

Luis J. Lauredo, of Florida, to be Permanent Representative of the United States to the Organization of American States, with the rank of Ambassador, vice Victor Marrero, to which position he was appointed during the last recess of the Senate.

Mark L. Schneider, of California, to be Director of the Peace Corps, vice Mark D. Gearan, resigned, to which position he was appointed during the last recess of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first

and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 3086. A bill to permit the televising of Supreme Court proceedings; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. GREGG, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 3087. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to simplify the individual income tax by providing an election for eligible individuals to only be subject to a 15 percent tax on wage income with a tax return free filing system, to reduce the burdens of the marriage penalty and alternative minimum tax, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 3088. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to promulgate regulations regarding allowable costs under the medicaid program for school based services provided to children with disabilities; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HAGEL (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. KERREY, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. ROBB):

S. 3089. A bill to authorize the design and construction of a temporary education center at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 3090. A bill to establish the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. ASHCROFT, and Mr. BROWNBACK):

S. 3091. A bill to implement the recommendations of the General Accounting Office on improving the administration of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 by the Department of Agriculture; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CONRAD:

S. 3092. A bill to provide incentives for improved and efficient use of energy sources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 3093. A bill to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to roll back the wholesale price of electric energy sold in the Western System Coordinating Council, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 3094. A bill to amend titles 18 and 28, United States Code, to inhibit further intimidation of public officials within the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. REED, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. WELLSTONE):

S. 3095. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to remove certain limitations on the eligibility of aliens residing in the United States to obtain lawful permanent resident status; read the first time.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. Res. 359. A resolution designating October 16, 2000, to October 20, 2000 as "National

Teach For America Week"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WELLSTONE (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. REID, and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. Con. Res. 138. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that a day of peace and sharing should be established at the beginning of each year; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 3086. A bill to permit the televising of Supreme Court proceedings; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

OPENING THE SUPREME COURT TO TELEVISION

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have sought recognition today to introduce legislation on behalf of Senator BIDEN and myself, a bill which, succinctly stated, would provide the following: The Supreme Court of the United States shall permit television coverage of all open sessions of the Court unless the Court decides by a vote of the majority of Justices that allowing such coverage in a particular case will constitute a violation of the due process rights of one or more of the parties before the Court.

I will summarize that lengthy statement because of time limitations. The statement contains the citations of the cases referred to and the specific quotations which I shall cite.

The purpose of this legislation is to open to public view what the Supreme Court of the United States does in rendering important decisions. It is grounded on the proposition that since the Supreme Court of the United States has assumed the power to decide the cutting-edge questions on public policy today and has in effect become virtually a "super legislature" in taking on the decisions on these public policy issues, that the public has a right to know what the Supreme Court is doing, and that right would be substantially enhanced by televising the oral arguments of the Court so that the public would be able to see and hear the kinds of issues which the Court is deciding. The public would then have an insight into those issues to be able to follow what the Court decides after the due course of the Court's deliberations.

In a very fundamental sense, the televising of the Supreme Court has been implicitly recognized—perhaps even sanctioned—by a 1980 decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in a case captioned *Richmond Newspapers v. Virginia*, where the Supreme Court noted that a public trial belongs not only to the accused, but to the public and the press as well; and that people now acquire information on court procedures chiefly through the print and electronic media.

That decision, in referencing the electronic media, perhaps might be