

EC-11499. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Livestock and Seed Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fresh Bartlett Pears Grown in Oregon and Washington; Decreased Assessment Rate" (Docket #FV00-931-1 FIR) received on November 2, 2000; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-11500. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Sulfentrazone; Pesticide Tolerance for Emergency Exemptions" (FRL #6751-7) received on November 9, 2000; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-11501. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Copper Sulfate Pentahydrate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL #6747-3) received on November 9, 2000; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-11502. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pyriproxyfen; Extension of Tolerance for Emergency Exemptions" (FRL #6753-3) received on November 9, 2000; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-11503. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Material Inspection and Receiving Report" (DFARS Case 2000-D008) received on October 26, 2000; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-11504. A communication from the Alternate Office of the Secretary of Defense Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "TRICARE Dental Program—Final Rule" (RIN0720-AA58) received on October 26, 2000; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-11505. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Maryland Regulatory Program" (MD-047-FOR) received on November 9, 2000; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-11506. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of the Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Notice of Revised Contract Rent Annual Adjustment Factors" (FR-4626-N-01) received on November 9, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-11507. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Overseas Private Investment Corporation, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "Freedom of Information"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-11508. A communication from the National Treasurer of the Navy Wives Clubs of America, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of an audit for the period of September 1, 1998 through August 31, 1999; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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 (for himself and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 3269. A bill to establish a Commission for the comprehensive study of voting procedures in Federal, State, and local elections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

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

S. 3270. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a modification of medicare billing requirements for certain Indian providers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TORRICELLI:

S. 3271. A bill to require increased waste prevention and recycling measures to be incorporated in the daily operations of Federal agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE):

S. Res. 384. A resolution relative to Rule XXXIII; considered and agreed to.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

Mr. TORRICELLI:

S. 3271. A bill to require increased waste prevention and recycling measures to be incorporated in the daily operations of Federal agencies, and other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

GREENING THE GOVERNMENT ACT OF 2000

Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to offer the "Greening the Government Act of 2000." This bill would allow the Federal Government to use its purchasing power to conserve natural resources, create markets for the materials that the American people recycle in their home and office recycling programs, and reduce the toxicity of products commonly used by establishing an infrastructure for coordinating and expanding Federal recycling and "green" purchasing activities.

The Federal Government spends \$275 billion each year buying goods and services. With this immense purchasing power, and through its research, development and assistance programs, it can influence markets to create more environmentally friendly products. Indeed, I believe that the Federal Government should be a leader in demonstrating how organizations can meet their mission in a cost-effective and environmentally protective way.

Tomorrow, we will celebrate America Recycles Day. Millions of Americans

will re-dedicate themselves to recycling and, more importantly, closing the recycling loop by buying recycled content products. Hundreds of American companies are also recognizing the importance and cost-effectiveness of "greening" their operations. For instance, in my State of New Jersey, Telecordia Technologies has saved more than \$3 million by recycling 72 percent of its waste. Telecordia saves \$4,000 per week by simply replacing disposable cafeteria trays with recycled content plastic trays. I believe that the Federal Government can also achieve similar savings by "greening" its operations and encouraging environmental innovation. Indeed, the Federal Government's purchasing decisions can tremendously affect the environment we leave to future generations.

Building on the progress made during the past seven years under President Clinton's Executive Order 13101, "Greening the Government through Waste Prevention, Recycling, and Federal Acquisition," the Greening the Government Act of 2000 will establish a permanent infrastructure for coordinating, promoting, and expanding Federal recycling and "green" procurement activities. Under this legislation, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will designate both recycled content products and environmentally preferable products and services for Federal agencies to purchase. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will also create a list of biobased products for agencies to consider purchasing. Federal agencies will then incorporate procurement of these USDA and EPA-designated products and services into their acquisition processes. Finally, Federal research and development monies, technology transfer programs, and assistance programs will be expanded to facilitate the development of greener technologies.

In 1994, approximately 12 percent of the copier paper purchased by the Federal Government was recycled content paper, and that contained only ten percent postconsumer (recycled content) fiber. President Clinton increased the Federal postconsumer content standard to 30 percent. Today, 98 percent of the copier paper purchased from the Government Printing Office and General Services Administration contains 30 percent postconsumer fiber. The Greening the Government Act of 2000 raises the Federal content standard to 40 percent postconsumer fiber and, for the first time, requires agencies both to consider purchasing office papers bleached without chlorine and to purchase wood products made with sustainably grown wood.

We all know that it is not easy to buy "green" products. It is my intention that the "Greening of the Government Act" will encourage manufacturers to identify their products as "green," making it easier for all Americans to buy these products. It is time