

relative, the issues that challenge working women must be priorities for all of us, from balancing responsibilities within our own families to our debates on national and, indeed, multinational policy. And, as has been the case for all of the 73 years that we've had National Business Women's Week, we start from a position where there is good news and bad news; we've come a long way, and we have a long way to go.

In 1999, there were nine million women-owned firms, representing 38 percent of all American businesses, a 103 percent increase in just over 10 years; and the rate of growth for women-owned businesses in America is nearly three times faster than the overall rate. Women-owned businesses are also as financially secure and credit-worthy as other firms, and, in fact, are more likely to stay in business.

Yet, even with that powerful place in our economy, women entrepreneurs still have lower levels of available credit than their male counterparts. And as for employees, women still face a wage gap; for every dollar earned by men in 1998, women earned an average of 73 cents. The gap is even wider for women of color, and it gets worse as the workers get older, presumably progressing in their careers.

In the highest echelons of the business world, the Fortune 500, the good news is that the number of women corporate officers has increased by 37 percent over the past five years; the bad news is that the total number of women officers is still alarmingly low. The number of women in the highest officer positions, like CEO, president and high-ranking vice presidencies, has increased by 113 percent since 1995, but that still translates into just 114 women in those jobs, or about five percent of top office holders.

We've seen similar progress, with corresponding long ways to go, in women working in government and higher education. In my State last year, we elected our first woman Governor—a Governor, I might add, who is also a small business owner. While we rightly celebrate her victory, she was just the 11th of 12 American women ever to have been elected to that office outright. Here in the Senate, we have seen progress—with a record 13 women currently serving as U.S. Senators—but we still cannot call it success. And in academia, too, although some numbers are getting better, some problems persist, including what the American Association of University Professors described as substantial disparities in salary, rank and tenure.

And so, as we approach National Business Women's Week, we have some work to do. Achieving equity on the job is a process, and it proceeds not on an isolated track but with almost constant overlap with policies that affect home and family life, from providing

adequate health care to combating domestic violence, from meeting the needs of our young children to responding to the needs of our aging parents. As a national interest, work and family exist in partnership.

We celebrate the progress and contributions of working women in America, recognizing that our prosperity—as well as the full expression of our values and national character—depend upon women having the opportunity to participate fully in our economic life. We are not there, but we are inspired by the women who continue to lead the way, and during National Business Women's Week, we are reminded to honor their uniquely valuable contributions to the strength of our economy and our society, and to the promise of our future.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

##### ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTIONS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2001, the Secretary of the Senate, on October 12, 2001, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled joint resolutions:

H.J. Res. 68. A joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2002, and for other purposes.

S.J. Res. 19. A joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Anne d'Harnoncourt as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

S.J. Res. 20. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of Roger W. Sant as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2001, the enrolled joint resolutions were signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD) on October 12, 2001.

At 3:37 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2975. An act to deter and punish terrorist act in the United States and around the world, to enhance law enforcement investigatory tools, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3061. An act making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 3061. An act making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes.

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and ordered placed on the calendar:

H.R. 2975. An act to deter and punish terrorist act in the United States and around the world, to enhance law enforcement investigatory tools, and for other purposes.

#### ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on, October 12, 2001, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled joint resolutions:

S.J. Res. 19. A joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Anne d'Harnoncourt as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

S.J. Res. 20. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of Roger W. Sant as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

#### 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-4421. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the Status of U.S. Efforts Regarding Iraq's Compliance with UN Security Council Resolutions; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4422. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Defense, transmitting, a report on the results of the Department of Defense review of the report of the Department of Defense Panel on Military Justice in The National Guard When Not In Federal Service; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4423. A communication from the Assistant Director for Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense, Special Operations, Low Intensity Conflict, received on October 5, 2001; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4424. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, the report of a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4425. A communication from the Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "TRICARE; CHAMUS; Payments for Professional Services in Low-Access Locations" (RIN0720-AA58) received on October 10, 2001; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4426. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, the report of a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4427. A communication from the Acting Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974, a report relative to any budget estimate, request, or information submitted to the Office of Management and Budget, and a report regarding the 2002 budget request; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.