

EC-5918. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Dornier Model 328-100 Series Airplanes" (Docket 98-NM-103-AD) received on July 2, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5919. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; AlliedSignal Inc. KT 76A Air Traffic Control (ATC) Transponders" (Docket 97-CE-30-AD) received on July 2, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5920. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on direct spending or receipts legislation within seven days of enactment dated June 16, 1998; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-5921. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the effect of the U.S./Russian Highly Enriched Uranium Agreement on domestic uranium mining, conversion, and enrichment industries through April 1998; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-5922. A communication from the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Means-Testing Public Benefits" (RIN0584-AC62) received on July 2, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5923. A communication from the Manager of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tobacco (Quota Plan) Crop Insurance Regulations; and Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Quota Tobacco Crop Insurance Provisions" (RIN0563-AB47) received on July 2, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5924. A communication from the Manager of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "General Crop Insurance Regulations, Tobacco (Guaranteed Plan) Endorsement; and Common Crop Insurance Regulations, Guaranteed Tobacco Crop Insurance Provisions" (RIN0563-AA84) received on July 2, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5925. A communication from the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision of User Fees for 1998 Crop Cotton Classification Services to Growers" (Docket CN-98-004) received on July 2, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5926. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator for Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Reform of Affirmative Action in Federal Procurement—Case 97-004B" (RIN9000-AH59) received on June 26, 1998; to the Committee on Small Business.

EC-5927. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator for Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Reform of Affirmative Action in Federal Procurement—Case 97-004A" (RIN9000-AH59) received on June 26, 1998; to the Committee on Small Business.

EC-5928. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel of the Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "HUBZone Empowerment Contracting Program" received on July 2, 1998; to the Committee on Small Business.

EC-5929. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of the 12 Federal Home Loan Banks and the Financing Corporation for calendar year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-5930. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget and Chief Financial Officer, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Annual Accountability Report for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-5931. A communication from the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to extend the United States Department of Agriculture Personnel Management Demonstration Project; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-5932. A communication from the Director of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, transmitting, notice of the adoption of the practice of granting waivers of Agency rules and regulations as appropriate; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5933. A communication from the Chief Counsel of the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule regarding technical corrections to controls on Cuban and Iranian assets; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

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

S. 512. A bill to amend chapter 47 of title 18, United States Code, relating to identity fraud, and for other purposes.

S. 2143. A bill to amend chapter 45 of title 28, United States Code, to authorize the Administrative Assistant to the Chief Justice to accept voluntary services, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. McCAIN, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

William Clyburn, Jr., of South Carolina, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board for a term expiring December 31, 2000.

Deborah K. Kilmer, of Idaho, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

Neal F. Lane, of Oklahoma, to be Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Rosina M. Bierbaum, of Virginia, to be an Associate Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Clyde J. Hart, Jr., of New Jersey, to be Administrator of the Maritime Administration.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed, subject to the nominees' commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

The following name officer for appointment as Chief of Staff, United States Coast Guard, and to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 50a:

*To be vice admiral*

Rear Adm. Timothy W. Josiah, 0000

(The above nomination was reported with the recommendation that he be confirmed.)

Mr. McCAIN. Madam President, for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, I also report favorably one list in the United States Coast Guard which was printed in full in the RECORD of June 17, 1998, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar, that the nomination lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The nomination ordered to lie on the Secretary's desk was printed in the RECORD of June 17, 1998, at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

In the Coast Guard nomination of Christopher A. Buckridge, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of June 17, 1998.

#### 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. McCAIN (for himself and Mr. GORTON):

S. 2279. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize the programs of the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. FAIRCLOTH:

S. 2280. A bill to provide for fairness in the home foreclosure process; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DEWINE (for himself, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. FORD, Mr. DODD, Mr. BYRD, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

S. 2281. A bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to eliminate disincentives to fair trade conditions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. BURNS, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. GORTON, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. KERREY, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. BOND, and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 2282. A bill to amend the Arms Export Control Act, and for other purposes; read twice.

By Mr. DEWINE (for himself, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. JOHNSON, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. ABRAHAM, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. LEVIN):

S. 2283. A bill to support sustainable and broad-based agricultural and rural development in sub-Saharan Africa, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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

S. 2284. A bill to establish the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site in the State of South Dakota, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED  
BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. FAIRCLOTH:

S. 2280. A bill to provide for fairness in the home for closure process; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

## FORECLOSURE FAIRNESS ACT OF 1998

• Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, today I introduce legislation that will improve the single family home foreclosure process. As we all know, bankruptcies have reached an all time high. It has also recently been reported that a record number of homeowners are shifting debt from credit cards to their homes. According to some estimates, there are 500,000 foreclosures taking place annually.

I am greatly concerned that sometime in the future we may see a greater number of foreclosures on single family homes. I hope this will not be true, but if it is, I am introducing legislation to greatly improve the process for the homeowner.

Currently, a common practice in most States is causing tens of thousands of consumers to be treated unfairly when their homes are sold following foreclosure proceedings.

In all but three States, when a home is sold in a foreclosure sale, a lawyer normally advertises the event in an obscure local publication and in terms that the average person would have a hard time understanding. And the sales are typically held at times and places that are not designed to encourage bidding on the home. The sale may take place on the courthouse steps or in the backroom of law firm's office.

Because the general public is rarely aware of these sales, it is not uncommon for the lending institution and the lawyer to be the only people present.

In the long run, it is the homeowner who is the double loser. First, the homeowner has lost his home because of an inability to meet the mortgage payments. Second, the foreclosure sale usually does not result in the home bringing fair market value and this results in the now former homeowner facing a deficiency judgment that might not have occurred if the home had been sold in a public manner by auction.

I think this process needs to be improved. Today, I am introducing a bill that would allow the homeowner to choose to have his or her foreclosure conducted by auction, in a manner that maximizes competitive bidding, and most importantly, is open and convenient to the general public.

Under this process, in my view, both the homeowner and the lender will benefit greatly, because the property, when sold, will generate a true fair market value. There will most likely be no deficiency judgement against homeowners, and lenders will not have to collect their losses from insolvent homeowners.

Mr. President, my legislation has already undergone testing in three

States, Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts. The first two States require a true auction, not a lawyer's secret sale, under State law, while Massachusetts uses the real auction procedures based on a court order. In all three States, the program has worked with great results and both homeowners and lenders gain from its usage.

Nothing in this legislation will affect State law regarding any other provision of foreclosures, except that the homeowner has the right to select an auction sale. Further, my legislation provides an exemption for State laws that are substantially similar in nature.

Mr. President, I think this is a good bill that will help consumers when they are in a dire financial condition. Consumers can take comfort in the fact that they will have the option to a full, fair, open and public sale of their home should it come to foreclosure. •

By Mr. DEWINE (for himself, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. JOHNSON, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. ABRAHAM, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. LEVIN):

S. 2283. A bill to support sustainable and broad-based agricultural and rural development in sub-Saharan Africa, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

## AFRICA: SEEDS OF HOPE ACT

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I rise today, along with my colleague from Maryland, Senator SARBANES, Senator MOYNIHAN, Senator MURRAY, and Senator JOHNSON, to introduce the "Africa: Seeds of Hope Act"—legislation to promote small-scale agricultural and rural development in Africa. The bill also would recognize the important benefits such overseas agriculture advances could hold for our own farmers here in the United States.

Mr. President, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization, around 215 million people are undernourished in sub-Saharan Africa. This number is expected to increase dramatically in the next century. Similarly, the number of Africans who are unable to produce the provisions they need to lead healthy, productive lives is rising.

Food is the most basic necessity of life. Yet, millions of Africans lead lives of needless suffering because they don't have the skills and tools necessary to provide for themselves and others. As a result, many African countries are dependent on the outside world for humanitarian assistance and basic nutrition. Africa's food imports are projected to rise from less than 8,000,000 metric tons in 1990 to more than 25,000,000 metric tons by the year 2020.

Mr. President, I believe that the most effective way to improve conditions for Africa's poor is to increase the productivity of their agricultural sector. Whenever I travel to developing countries, I try to spend time looking at the countries' agriculture. I have seen firsthand that rural areas can succeed through innovative agricultural development. It does in fact work.

Mr. President, about 70 percent of Africa's poor lives in rural areas. That's where the major problem is, and that's where this bill can make a difference.

This legislation has an important link with another bipartisan trade bill—the African Trade Growth and Opportunities Act, which I cosponsored and hope the Senate will pass sometime in the near future. That legislation is also an important step in aiding a continent in need of strong economic leadership.

Before we can have effective trade, however, there needs to be a reciprocal market—a springboard from which we can foster substantive trade relations. This is why this bill we are introducing today is so critical to American interests in that region.

Mr. President, let me outline a few highlights of this bill:

First, it would encourage Federal agencies and international organizations to make rural development issues a priority—by teaching effective farming methods to small-scale sub-Saharan African farmers and entrepreneurs;

Second, it would provide African small farmers and entrepreneurs with improved access to credit and other resources necessary to stimulate production and micro-enterprise;

Third, it would mobilize new investments in African agriculture and rural development through the US Overseas Private Investment Corporation; and

Fourth, it would facilitate the coordination of national and international agricultural research and extension efforts aimed at developing the skills of African researchers, extension agents, farmers, and agribusiness people—in fact, the bill would allow American universities to play a pivotal role in this effort.

Mr. President, African nations are in dire need of agricultural development. This bill can help them gain the knowledge they need to succeed. At the same time, as a Senator from a State with a rich agricultural tradition, I believe we must be sensitive to the needs of our own American farmers. I believe the United States and our farmers could benefit from the passage of the bill.

This bill could open new export opportunities for American farmers, especially those who produce value-added goods. As the economies in sub-Saharan Africa develop, the overall standard of living will increase. In turn, the people of Africa will be in a better position to purchase a variety of goods, including American agricultural commodities and equipment. This is where our export markets can flourish.

Another significant point to consider is that food stability is a critical factor in preventing civil strife within nations. Our investment in international agriculture and rural development will help reduce demands for U.S. disaster and famine relief.

Also, the most rapidly increasing markets for U.S. products are in developing countries. Hence, helping these