

2001, President George W. Bush appointed him Commissioner of the Bureau, where he served for 5 years until his retirement in April 2006.

John believed in the adapting mission of the Bureau of Reclamation. He joined the Bureau at the time in its history when the final projects it oversees today were being authorized. During his tenure, the Bureau went from constructing water projects in the West to maintaining and improving facilities and processes. John was well-known for his efforts to facilitate collaborative management and solutions to challenges. He was a man of solutions and integrity, and he cared deeply about people and our natural resources. Idaho benefited from John's leadership as he worked with the State legislature, interest groups, the Tribes and irrigation districts on solving some of the thorny issues that have arisen with Endangered Species Act requirements in the Columbia River system for species such as salmon and bull trout.

In January, 2006, John spoke about the mission of the Bureau:

Our mission has evolved from the construction of dams to management and maintenance. As water management has evolved, Reclamation has transformed into a more comprehensive water management agency. Today, much of our focus is on improving the safety, security, and efficiency of the facilities we already have, as well as meeting environmental obligations. The challenges we face today in maintaining and improving the system are as formidable as those challenges that we surmounted during Reclamation's construction heyday. One priority is security . . . We feel more prepared and, therefore, more secure against terrorism, than ever.

A lot is changing, but some things remain constant. Since I was appointed Commissioner in 2001, my main priority has been carrying out Reclamation's core mission: deliver water, generate power, do the things it takes to get that done, and plan for the future. I'm interested not just in the next few years, but in setting up the framework that will enable Reclamation to succeed many years into the future.

John left a tremendous legacy at work and in his family. He devoted his time in retirement to his family and his volunteer efforts with Angel Flight and other humanitarian efforts. He was a remarkable man who did remarkable things for the country and region he cared about so deeply. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends at this very difficult time.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:07 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, 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. 1333. An act to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on the use of Civil Air Patrol personnel and resources to support homeland security missions, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2631. An act to strengthen efforts in the Department of Homeland Security to develop nuclear forensics capabilities to permit attribution of the source of nuclear material, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2964. An act to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to treat nonhuman primates as prohibited wildlife species under that Act, to make corrections in the provisions relating to captive wildlife offenses under that Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3702. An act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain land in the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Montana, to Jefferson County, Montana, for use as a cemetery.

H.R. 4179. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish an appeal and redress process for individuals wrongly delayed or prohibited from boarding a flight, or denied a right, benefit, or privilege, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4749. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Office for Bombing Prevention, to address terrorist explosive threats, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5680. An act to amend certain laws relating to Native Americans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5909. An act to amend the Aviation and Transportation Security Act to prohibit advance notice to certain individuals, including security screeners, of covert testing of security screening procedures for the purposes of enhancing transportation security at airports, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5982. An act to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security, for purposes of transportation security, to conduct a study on how airports can transition to uniform, standards-based, and interoperable biometric identifier systems for airport workers with unescorted access to secure or sterile areas of an airport, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6276. An act to repeal section 9(k) of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1333. An Act to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on the use of Civil Air Patrol personnel and resources to support homeland security missions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2631. An Act to strengthen efforts in the Department of Homeland Security to develop nuclear forensics capabilities to permit attribution of the source of nuclear material, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 4179. An Act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish an appeal

and redress process for individuals wrongly delayed or prohibited from boarding a flight, or denied a right, benefit, or privilege, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 4749. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Office for Bombing Prevention, to address terrorist explosive threats, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 5680. An Act to amend certain laws relating to Native Americans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 5909. An act to amend the Aviation and Transportation Security Act to prohibit advance notice to certain individuals, including security screeners, of covert testing of security screening procedures for the purpose of enhancing transportation security at airports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 5982. An act to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security, for purposes of transportation security, to conduct a study on how airports can transition to uniform, standards-based, and interoperable biometric identifier systems for airport workers with unescorted access to secure or sterile areas of an airport, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 6276. An act to repeal section 9(k) of the United States Housing Act of 1937; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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. 3702. An act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain land in the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Montana, to Jefferson County, Montana, for use as a cemetery.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-6687. A communication from the Administrator, Dairy Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Dairy Product Mandatory Reporting" (Docket No. DA-06-07) received on June 17, 2008; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6688. A communication from the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to surcharges for fiscal years 2005 and 2006; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6689. A communication from the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's purchases from foreign entities in Fiscal Year 2007; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6690. A communication from Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Flood Elevation Determinations" (73 FR 31944) received on June 18, 2008; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.