

proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 554, Senate Concurrent Resolution 52.

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

The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 52) to recognize and encourage the convening of a National Silver Haired Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the concurrent resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution and preamble be agreed to, en bloc, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, that any statements related thereto appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD as if read.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 52) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

S. CON. RES. 52

Whereas many States have encouraged and facilitated the creation of senior citizen legislative and advocacy bodies;

Whereas in creating such bodies such States have provided to many older Americans the opportunity to express concerns, promote appropriate interests, and advance the common good by influencing the legislation and actions of State government; and

Whereas a National Silver Haired Congress, with representatives from each State, would provide a national forum for a non-partisan evaluation of grassroots solutions to concerns shared by an increasing number of older Americans: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Congress hereby recognizes and encourages the convening of an annual National Silver Haired Congress in the District of Columbia.

AUTHORIZING THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TO OFFER VOLUNTARY SEPARATION INCENTIVE PAYMENTS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 3870, which was received from the House.

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

The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3870) to authorize the Agency for International Development to offer voluntary separation incentive payments to employees of that agency.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be

deemed read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 3870) was deemed read the third time, and passed.

UNITED STATES TOURISM ORGANIZATION ACT

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 551, S. 1735.

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

The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1735) to establish the United States Tourism Organization as a non-governmental entity for the purpose of promoting tourism in the United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with amendments, as follows:

(The parts of the bill intended to be stricken are shown in boldface brackets and the parts of the bill intended to be inserted are shown in italic.)

S. 1735

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "United States Tourism Organization Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds that—

(1) the travel and tourism industry is the second largest retail or service industry in the United States, and travel and tourism services ranked as the largest United States export in 1995, generating an \$18.6 billion trade surplus for the United States;

(2) domestic and international travel and tourism expenditures totaled \$433 billion in 1995, \$415 billion spent directly within the United States and an additional \$18 billion spent by international travelers on United States flag carriers traveling to the United States;

(3) direct travel and tourism receipts make up 6 percent of the United States gross domestic product;

(4) in 1994 the travel and tourism industry was the nation's second largest employer, directly responsible for 6.3 million jobs and indirectly responsible for another 8 million jobs;

(5) employment in major sectors of the travel industry is expected to increase 35 percent by the year 2005;

(6) 99.7 percent of travel businesses are defined by the Federal Government as small businesses; and

(7) the White House Conference on Travel and Tourism in 1995 brought together 1,700 travel and tourism industry executives from across the nation and called for the establishment, by federal charter, of a new national tourism organization to promote international tourism to all parts of the United States.

SEC. 3. UNITED STATES TOURISM ORGANIZATION.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established with a Federal charter, the United States Tourism Organization (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Organization"). The Organization shall be a [nonprofit] *not for profit* organization. The Organization shall maintain its principal offices and national headquarters in the [city of Washington, District of Columbia,] *greater metropolitan area of Washington, D.C.*, and may hold its annual and special meetings in such places as the Organization shall determine.

(b) **ORGANIZATION NOT A FEDERAL AGENCY.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, the Organization shall not be considered a Federal agency for the purposes of civil service laws or any other provision of Federal law governing the operation of Federal agencies, including personnel or budgetary matters relating to Federal agencies. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Organization or any entities within the Organization.

(c) **DUTIES.**—The Organization shall—

(1) facilitate the development and use of public-private partnerships for travel and tourism policymaking;

(2) seek to, and work for, an increase in the share of the United States in the global tourism market;

(3) implement the national travel and tourism strategy developed by the National Tourism Board under section 4;

(4) operate travel and tourism promotion programs outside the United States in partnership with the travel and tourism industry in the United States;

(5) establish a travel-tourism data bank and, through that data bank collect and disseminate international market data;

(6) conduct market research necessary for the effective promotion of the travel and tourism market; and

(7) promote United States travel and tourism.

(d) **POWERS.**—The Organization—

(1) shall have perpetual succession;

(2) shall represent the United States in its relations with international tourism agencies;

(3) may sue and be sued;

(4) may make contracts;

(5) may acquire, hold, and dispose of real and personal property as may be necessary for its corporate purposes;

(6) may accept gifts, legacies, and devices in furtherance of its corporate purposes;

(7) may provide financial assistance to any organization or association, other than a corporation organized for profit, in furtherance of the purpose of the corporation;

(8) may adopt and alter a corporate seal;

(9) may establish and maintain offices for the conduct of the affairs of the Organization;

(10) may publish a newspaper, magazine, or other publication consistent with its corporate purposes;

(11) may do any and all acts and things necessary and proper to carry out the purposes of the Organization; and

(12) may adopt and amend a constitution and bylaws not inconsistent with the laws of the United States or of any State, except that the Organization may amend its constitution only if it—

(A) publishes in its principal publication a general notice of the proposed alteration of the constitution, including the substantive terms of the alteration, the time and place of the Organization's regular meeting at which the alteration is to be decided, and a provision informing interested persons that they may submit materials as authorized in subparagraph (B); and