

"Resolved, That the Texas secretary of state forward official copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and president of the Senate of the United States Congress and to all members of the Texas delegation to the congress with the request that it be officially entered in the Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of America."

POM-216. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Rhode Island; to the Committee on Finance.

"SENATE RESOLUTION

"Whereas, the proposed "Personal Responsibility Act" would impose new restrictions on virtually every program funded by federal, state and local governments. Legal immigrants, with only a few exceptions, would become ineligible for the five major federal programs: AFDC, Food Stamps, SSI, Medicaid and Social Services Block Grants; and

"Whereas, additionally, most legal immigrants would be denied all other needs-based benefits via a PRA provision that would impose a "deeming" requirement in all needs based programs other than housing programs. Under deeming, the income of the sponsor is counted as though available to the immigrant, regardless of actual availability to the immigrant, to determine if the immigrant meets the income and resource eligibility criteria of any given program. Deeming also disqualifies the immigrant if the immigrant's sponsor is unavailable or unwilling to cooperate by providing evidence of income and property; and

"Whereas, the deeming provision contains no exceptions for emergency services. Deeming would apply to almost all emergency services such as church meals provided with public funds, battered women's shelters and child protective services to rescue battered children; and

"Whereas, the deeming provision does not contain a time limit. Therefore, a legal immigrant who has lived in the United States and paid taxes for thirty or forty years would be disqualified from benefits solely because he or she is unable to locate their sponsor; and

"Whereas, the deeming provision does not contain an exception for battered spouses. Because women are frequently sponsored by their husbands, the PRA would create a situation where a battered woman would be unable to qualify for basic services to escape family violence because she cannot obtain the cooperation of the very husband she seeks to escape; and

"Whereas, because the deeming requirement applies to all needs-based programs at the state and local levels, any entity receiving government-funded assistance, including churches, schools, English as a Second Language classes, health care clinics, soup kitchens and shelters would be required to check immigrant status and to obtain financial assistance from immigrant sponsors. The time-consuming nature of this process and the difficulty of ascertaining much of the necessary information would create a tremendous administrative burden for these entities, many of which are already operating on a very limited budget; and

"Whereas, Congress recently passed legislation which would prohibit "Unfunded Mandates". One could argue that the Personal Responsibility Act is an unfunded mandate of enormous magnitude. Lawfully admitted immigrants in need of services to improve their futures will not suddenly disappear following enactment of the PRA, and it will fall to the states to pay the social and economic costs of relegating them to a new class of poor and downtrodden: Now, therefore, be it

"Resolved, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations hereby respectfully requests that the United States Senate not pass the "Personal Responsibility Act" for the reasons stated previously; and be it further

"Resolved, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the United States Senate."

POM-217. A resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Pinole, California relative to the semi-automatic assault weapons ban; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-218. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Hawaii; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

"Whereas, service-connected disability compensation for veterans from World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the Persian Gulf War and any other conflicts, as designated by the President of the United States, is compensation for wounds or injuries, or both, sustained while on active duty; and

"Whereas, social security disability compensation for these same veterans injured while in the service of their country is vital to the health and welfare of disabled veterans and their families; and

"Whereas, the reduction, taxation, or elimination of veterans' disability compensation and social security disability compensation would, in effect, penalize the service-connected disabled, who by the grace of opportunity and the success of unusual determination, have overcome or lessened the economic loss associated with their disabilities; and

"Whereas, any taxation, reduction, or elimination of these benefits will guarantee that disabled veterans and their families can never enjoy the potential to rise above a governmentally-mandated economic status and station in life without being penalized; and

"Whereas, veterans are not responsible for the current federal deficit; and

"Whereas, these disabled veterans, in good faith, have served their country in support of those ideals upon which this country was founded and have answered the call to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States; and

"Whereas, this nation has a solemn contract with her veterans to provide health care and compensation for wounds or injuries sustained; Now, therefore, be it

"Resolved by the Senate of the Eighteenth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 1995, the House of Representatives concurring, That the Legislature urges Congress to support legislation to safeguard veterans' disability compensation and social security disability compensation from elimination, reduction, or taxation; and be it further

"Resolved That certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of the United States House of Representatives, the United States Secretary for Veterans' Affairs, the members of Hawaii's congressional delegation, and the Director of the State Office of Veterans' Services."

POM-219. A resolution adopted by the City Commission of the City of Lake Wales, Florida relative to tobacco; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted.

By Mr. HELMS, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. 908. An original bill to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal years 1996 through 1999 and to abolish the United States Information Agency, the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and the Agency for International Development, and for other purposes. (Rept. No. 104-95).

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. BRYAN (for himself and Mr. REID):

S. 903. A bill to designate the Nellis Federal Hospital in Las Vegas, Nevada, as the "Mike O'Callaghan Military Hospital", and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. LUGAR:

S. 904. A bill to provide flexibility to States to administer, and control the cost of, the food stamp and child nutrition programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 905. A bill to provide for the management of the airplane over units of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BRADLEY:

S. 906. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to add multiple deaths as an aggravating factor in determining whether a sentence of death as an aggravating factor in determining whether a sentence of death is to be imposed on a defendant, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. KYL, Mr. BROWN, Mr. GREGG, Mr. CRAIG, and Mr. DOMENICI):

S. 907. A bill to amend the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 to clarify the authorities and duties of the Secretary of Agriculture in issuing ski area permits on National Forest System lands and to withdraw lands within ski area permit boundaries from the operation of the mining and mineral leasing laws; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HELMS:

S. 908. An original bill to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal years 1996 through 1999 and to abolish the United States Information Agency, the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and the Agency for International Development, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Foreign Relations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN:

S. 909. A bill to amend part I of title 35, United States Code, to provide for the protection of inventors contracting for invention development services; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CHAFEE (for himself and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 910. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an election to exclude from the gross estate of a decedent the value of certain land subject to a qualified conservation easement, and to make technical changes to alternative valuation rules; to the Committee on Finance.