

attacked. It's time to level the playing field.

Third, it extends the right of victims to address the court concerning the sentence to all criminal cases.

Fourth, the bill establishes higher standards of professional conduct for lawyers in Federal cases to protect victims and other witnesses from abuse, and to promote the effective search for the truth. It does this by requiring hat lawyers in Federal cases: not engage in conduct for the purpose of increasing litigation expenses; not engage in conduct designed just to harass another person; not offer false evidence, or discredit true evidence; elicit a full account of the events from the lawyer's client; not necessarily delay litigation; must disclose information that the client intends to commit a crime of violence; and may disclose information that the client intends to commit other crimes.

Fifth, it removes the restriction that limits use of notices that violent Federal offenders will be released to law enforcement purposes. This will allow victims to be informed when their assailant is back in the community.

Finally, the bill requires that prosecutors have the same level of representation on committees that make court rules as defense attorneys do. This will ensure that fair, balanced rules are enacted, which do not favor criminals over prosecutors.

#### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

I also strongly believe that swift, sure action must be taken to stop domestic violence, and that penalties must be increased for those who commit this heinous crime.

This bill includes a provision to authorize capital punishment, under Federal interstate domestic violence offenses, for cases in which the offender murders the victim.

That's tough punishment for perpetrators who think domestic violence is something that goes on behind closed doors, where it's OK for them to beat their wives, or girlfriends, or mothers or sisters because it's their prerogative. Well, Mr. President, domestic violence is no one's prerogative and this bill provides tough punishment for criminals who deserve it.

This bill also makes two changes in the rules of evidence, to help victims of domestic violence. First, it allows evidence of the defendant's past crimes or wrongful acts against the victim to be introduced, to establish a pattern of abuse.

Second, it allows evidence of battered women's syndrome to be introduced, to show why some women are driven to retaliate against their abusers.

Finally, the bill fights those who transmit HIV in sexual assaults, by requiring that: sentences be toughened if the offender knew he was infected; upon request of the victim, the offender must be tested for HIV before he is released; and follow-up testing be done on sexual assailants.

#### CONCLUSION

Mr. President, right now too many women fear for their safety and too many women suffer physically and emotionally from domestic violence. We can do something about it. I urge my colleagues to support the Victim Rights and Domestic Violence Prevention Act of 1995.●

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 684

At the request of Mr. HATFIELD, the name of the Senator from Delaware [Mr. BIDEN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 684, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for programs of research regarding Parkinson's disease, and for other purposes.

S. 949

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Idaho [Mr. CRAIG] was added as a cosponsor of S. 949, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the death of George Washington.

S. 1212

At the request of Mr. COATS, the name of the Senator from Michigan [Mr. ABRAHAM] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1212, a bill to provide for the establishment of demonstration projects designed to determine the social, civic, psychological, and economic effects of providing to individuals and families with limited means an opportunity to accumulate assets, and to determine the extent to which an asset-based welfare policy may be used to enable individuals and families with low income to achieve economic self-sufficiency.

S. 1317

At the request of Mr. D'AMATO, the name of the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1317, a bill to repeal the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, to enact the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1995, and for other purposes.

S. 1360

At the request of Mr. BENNETT, the name of the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1360, a bill to ensure personal privacy with respect to medical records and health care-related information, and for other purposes.

S. 1392

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Idaho [Mr. CRAIG] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1392, a bill to impose temporarily a 25-percent duty on imports of certain Canadian wood and lumber products, to require the administering authority to initiate an investigation under title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930 with respect to such products, and for other purposes.

S. 1453

At the request of Mr. BURNS, the names of the Senator from North Da-

kota [Mr. DORGAN] and the Senator from North Dakota [Mr. CONRAD] were added as cosponsors of S. 1453, a bill to prohibit the regulation by the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Commissioner of Food and Drugs of any activities of sponsors or sponsorship programs connected with, or any advertising used or purchased by, the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association, its agents or affiliates, or any other professional rodeo association, and for other purposes.

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

##### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place Wednesday, December 20, 1995 at 9:30 a.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 594 and H.R. 1296, bills to provide for the administration of certain Presidio properties at minimal cost to the Federal taxpayer and to review a map associated with the San Francisco Presidio. Specifically, the purposes are to determine which properties within the Presidio of San Francisco should be transferred to the administrative jurisdiction of the Presidio Trust and to outline what authorities are required to ensure that the Trust can meet the objective of generating revenues sufficient to operate the Presidio without a Federal appropriation.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, 364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Jim O'Toole of the committee staff

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET.

##### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Friday, December 15, 1995, at 2:00 p.m.

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

##### COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet for hearing on the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Minimum Wage, during the session of the