

will open up the budget forecasting process and permit more tools of measurement, so that over time we will have a clearer and more accurate understanding of the effects of the laws we pass.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 773

At the request of Mrs. KASSEBAUM, the name of the Senator from Illinois [Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 773, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for improvements in the process of approving and using animal drugs, and for other purposes.

S. 1355

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin [Mr. KOHL] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1355, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to end deferral for U.S. shareholders on income of controlled foreign corporations attributable to property imported into the United States.

S. 1386

At the request of Mr. BURNS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota [Mr. GRAMS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1386, a bill to provide for soft-metric conversion, and for other purposes.

S. 1505

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the name of the Senator from Louisiana [Mr. JOHNSTON] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1505, a bill to reduce risk to public safety and the environment associated with pipeline transportation of natural gas and hazardous liquids, and for other purposes.

S. 1726

At the request of Mr. THOMAS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1726, a bill to promote electronic commerce by facilitating the use of strong encryption, and for other purposes.

S. 1908

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Maine [Ms. SNOWE] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1908, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the sale of personal information about children without their parents' consent, and for other purposes.

S. 1964

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Maine [Ms. SNOWE] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1964, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under part B of the Medicare Program of medical nutrition therapy services of registered dietitians and nutrition professionals.

AMENDMENT NO. 5059

At the request of Mr. D'AMATO his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 5059 proposed to H.R. 3540, a bill making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 283—RELATIVE TO THE CREATION OF A NEW POSITION IN THE WHITE HOUSE

Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. HELMS, Mr. BENNETT, and Mr. FAIRCLOTH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 283

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds that—
(1) Americans are increasingly concerned about anti-Christian persecution overseas, including rape, torture, enslavement, imprisonment, killings, mutilations, discrimination and mistreatment of Christians, and the fact that far too many foreign governments systematically deny their Christian citizens religious liberty;

(2) reports indicate that the Government of Sudan is currently involved in the enslavement of the Christian populations of southern Sudan. Today in Sudan, a human being can be bought for as little as fifteen dollars. It has been estimated that in the last six years, more than 30,000 children have been taken from their homes, forcibly interned in "cultural cleansing camps," forced to accept Islam and then moved to the front lines of Sudan's civil war;

(3) in China, there are reports of the imprisonment and detention of many Chinese Christians under a 1994 law which restricts religious freedom. It has been reported that in 1992, Protestant leader Zheng Yunsu was arrested and sentenced to twelve years in jail simply for practicing his religion. Additionally, between October 1994 and June 1995, more than 200 Christians were apparently detained in the Henan province. One of those arrested, Ren Ping, was sentenced, without trial, to three years of reeducation through labor. According to Amnesty International, more than thirty Chinese Catholics in Jiangzi province were arrested and severely beaten while celebrating Easter Mass earlier this year;

(4) in the Muslim-controlled Oromo region of Ethiopia, reports indicate that in 1994, officials raided the area's largest Christian Church and arrested most of its congregants. Many of those arrested died while in prison. The leader of the congregation was tortured and his eyes were plucked out;

(5) in several Islamic countries conversion to Christianity from Islam is a crime punishable by death;

(6) it has been reported that Christians have been effectively excluded from the political process in many countries. In Pakistan, for example, Christian can vote only for token representatives to the National Assembly;

(7) there is no Senior Advisor on religious persecution in the White House to ensure that anti-Christian persecution overseas is given top priority by White House and to coordinate efforts to combat such persecution; and

(8) the President had committed, in January 1996, to appoint a White House Senior Advisor on religious persecution, but has yet to do so.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the President should proceed forward as expeditiously as possible by appointing a White House Senior Advisor on religious persecution.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, on behalf of Senators HELMS, BENNETT, and FAIRCLOTH I am submitting a sense-of-the-Senate resolution to highlight the top priority that must be given to combating religious persecution in foreign countries. This resolution calls on

President Clinton to live up to his commitment, made in January 1996, to appoint a White House senior advisor on religious persecution.

The persecution of Christians and other religious minorities is a growing problem. In countries such as Saudi Arabia, Sudan, China, and Ethiopia, among other countries, Christians are systematically denied their religious liberties. Christians have been the victims of rape, torture, enslavement, imprisonment, killings, mutilations, and discrimination simply because of their religious beliefs. The governments of these countries all too often tacitly, or even openly, endorse this sectarian violence.

According to human rights organizations, the Sudanese Government is essentially waging a war against its Christian population. The government's campaign against the Christian and non-Muslim populations of southern Sudan has resulted in more than 1.3 million deaths and the displacement of over 3 million people. Equally shocking are reports that the Sudanese Government is involved in the enslavement and forced internment and conversion of the Christian populations from the southern regions of Sudan. In the last 6 years more than 30,000 non-Muslim children have reportedly been abducted by agents of the Sudanese Government, taken from their homes and families, forcibly interned in high-security "cultural cleansing" camps, forced to convert to Islam and then sent to the front lines of Sudan's civil war.

Of course anti-Christian persecution and sectarian violence extends far beyond Sudan. In the Muslim-controlled Oromo region of Ethiopia, reports indicate that government officials raided the area's largest Christian church and arrested most of its congregants. Many of those arrested in this 1994 raid died while in prison. The leader of the congregation was tortured and his eyes were torn from their sockets.

In Egypt, a country generally noted for its religious tolerance, Christians are increasingly the targets of militant Islamist terrorist attacks on the streets as well as more subtle persecution in the courts and businesses. Christians are also often denied participation in the Egyptian political process.

Persecution of Christians is by no means limited to the Islamic world. It is reported that the Chinese Government has harassed and imprisoned many Chinese Christians simply for practicing their religion. In 1992, Protestant leader Zheng Yunsu was arrested and sentenced to 12 years in prison because of his faith. Other reports indicate that between October 1994 and June 1995, more than 200 Christians were detained in the Hunan Province in a crackdown on unregistered Protestant house churches. One of those arrested, Ren Ping, was sentenced, without trial, to 3 years of "re-education" through labor. According to Amnesty International, more than 30