locates the root of the problem in financial management: ‘‘[O]ur work shows that outstanding charges or very large reimbursements routinely escape the controls and typically go unquestioned.’’ Even when fraudulent billing is discovered, Medicare usually has paid it first, and rarely acts effectively to recover it.

Together the Department of Defense, the IRS, and the Medicare Program are just a small part of a government so massive and complex that it controls and directs cash resources of almost $2 trillion per year, issuing 900 million checks and maintaining a payroll and benefits system for over 5 million government employees. Clearly it is imperative that the government use a uniform and widely accepted set of accounting standards across the hundreds of agencies and departments that make up this government.

Today we are taking a great step toward putting Federal financial management on a firmer footing. The Federal Financial Management Improvement Act of 1996 requires that all Federal agencies implement and maintain uniform accounting standards. The result will be a more accurate and reliable information for program managers and leaders in Congress, meaning better decisions will be made: tax dollars will be put to better use, and a measure of confidence in the government will be restored. While this is not the kind of legislation that makes headlines, it is of great significance and I am proud that the Senate has passed it. I am very grateful to Senator STEVENS for steering the bill through his Committee.

Mr. GLENN. Mr. President, over the last 6 years, we have enacted several laws to improve Federal agency financial management. The Chief Financial Officers Act of 1990 put into place the first requirements for agencies to prepare annual audited financial statements. These requirements were strengthened by the Government Management Reform Act of 1994, and now all the major agencies are covered by the CFO Act requirements.

In oversight hearings conducted by the Governmental Affairs Committee, both when I was Chair and now as Ranking Minority Member, we have seen how these laws are making significant improvements in agency financial management. Unfortunately, we also have seen that many agencies still have a ways to go to make the necessary reforms.

The legislation before us today, the ‘‘Federal Financial Management Improvement Act’’ (S. 1130), which I cosponsored, helps agencies go those final miles to put into place of great significance and I am proud that the Senate has passed it. I am very grateful to Senator STEVENS for steering the bill through his Committee.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee substitute be agreed to, the bill be deemed read the third time, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statement relating to this bill appear at the appropriate place in the Record.

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

The bill (S. 1130), as amended, was deemed read the third time and passed.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AMENDMENT ACT OF 1996

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of calendar S. 42, S. 1873.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S. 42, S. 1873) to amend the National Environmental Education Act to extend programs under the Act, and for other purposes.

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 Environment and Public Works, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be cited as the ‘‘National Environmental Education Amendments Act of 1996’’.

SECTION 2. OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION. Section 6 of the National Environmental Education Act (20 U.S.C. 5503) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1) by inserting after ‘‘support the following: ‘balanced and scientifically sound’’;

(B) by striking paragraph (6);

(C) by redesignating paragraphs (7) through (13) as paragraphs (6) through (12), respectively; and

(D) in paragraph (12) (as so redesignated), by inserting before the period the following: ‘‘through the headquarters and the regional offices of the Agency’’;

(2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

‘‘(c) STAFF.—The Office of Environmental Education shall—

‘‘(1) include a headquarters staff of not more than 10 full-time equivalent employees; and

‘‘(2) be supported by 1 full-time equivalent employee in each Agency regional office.

‘‘Activities.—The Administrator may carry out the activities specified in subsection (b) directly or through awards of grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts.’’;

SECTION 3. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION GRANTS. Section 6 of the National Environmental Education Act (20 U.S.C. 5505) is amended—

(1) in the second sentence of subsection (i), by striking ‘‘25 percent’’ and inserting ‘‘15 percent’’; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(y) LOBBYING ACTIVITIES.—A grant under this section may not be used to support a lobbying activity (as described in the documents issued by the Office of Management and Budget and designated as OMB Circulars No. A-21 and No. A-122).’’;

SECTION 4. ENVIRONMENTAL INTERNSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS. (a) IN GENERAL.—The National Environmental Education Act is amended—

(1) by striking section 7 (20 U.S.C. 5506); and

(2) by redesignating sections 8 through 11 as items relating to sections 7 through 10, respectively.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The National Environmental Education Act is amended—

(1) in the table of contents in section 1(b) (20 U.S.C. 5501) as follows:

(A) by striking the item relating to section 7; and

(B) by redesignating the items relating to sections 8 through 11 as items relating to sections 7 through 10, respectively;

(2) in section 4(b) (20 U.S.C. 5503(b)—

(A) in paragraph (6) (as redesignated by section 2(1)(C), by striking ‘‘section 8 of this Act’’ and inserting ‘‘section 7’’; and

(B) in paragraph (7) (as so redesignated), by striking ‘‘section 9 of this Act’’ and inserting ‘‘section 8’’;

(3) in section 6(c)(3) (20 U.S.C. 5505(c)(3)), by striking ‘‘section 9(d) of this Act’’ and inserting ‘‘section 8(d)’’;

(4) in the matter preceding subsection (c)(3)(A) of section 9 (as redesignated by subsection (a)(2)), by striking ‘‘section 10(a) of this Act’’ and inserting ‘‘subsection (a)’’; and

(5) in subsection (c)(2) of section 10 (as redesignated by subsection (a)(2)), by striking ‘‘section 10(d) of this Act’’ and inserting ‘‘section 9(d)’’;

SECTION 5. NATIONAL EDUCATION AWARDS. Section 7 of the National Environmental Education Act (as redesignated by section 4(a)(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking the titles ‘‘Science, Technology, and Environmental Education Act’’ and ‘‘American Heritage Leadership Awards’’ and inserting in lieu thereof—

‘‘SEC. 7. NATIONAL EDUCATION AWARDS.

‘‘The Administrator may provide for awards to be known as the ‘President’s Environmental
Youth Awards’ to be given to young people in grades kindergarten through 12 for outstanding projects to promote local environmental awareness.”.

SEC. 6. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL AND TASK FORCE.

Section 8 of the National Environmental Edu-
cation Act (as redesignated by section 4(a)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(2), by striking the first and second sentences and inserting the follow-
ing: “The Advisory Council shall consist of not more than 11 members appointed by the Ad-
ministrator after consultation with the Sec-
retary. To the extent practicable, the Adminis-
trator shall appoint to the Advisory Council at least 1 member from each of the following sectors: primary and secondary education; col-
leges and universities; not-for-profit organiza-
tions involved in environmental education; State departments of education and natural resources; busi-
ness and industry; and senior Americans.”;

(2) in subsection (c), by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) MEMBERSHIP.—Membership on the Task 
Force shall be open to representatives of any 
Federal agency actively engaged in environ-
mental education.”; and

(3) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the follow-
ing:

“(1) BIENNAL MEETINGS.—The Advisory Council shall hold a biennial meeting on timely issues relating to the environmental education and issue a report and recommendations on the pro-
ceedings of the meeting.”.

SEC. 7. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOUNDATION.

(a) CHANGE IN NAME.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The first sentence of sub-
section (a)(1)(A) of section 9 of the National 
Environmental Education Act (as redesignated by 
section 4(a)(2)) is amended by striking “Na-
tional Environmental Education and Training 
Foundation” and inserting “Foundation for En-
vironmental Education”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The National 
Environmental Education and Training Act (20 U.S.C. 5501 et seq.) is amended—

(A) in the item relating to section 9 (as redesig-
nated by section 4(b)(1)(B) of the table of con-
tents in section 1(b) (20 U.S.C. pre 5501), by striking “National Environmental Education and Training Foundation” and inserting “Foundation for Environmental Education”;

(B) in section 3 (20 U.S.C. 5502)—

(i) by striking paragraph (12) and inserting the follow-
ing:

“(12) FOUNDATION.—‘Foundation’ means the 
Foundation for Environmental Education estab-
lished by section 9; and”;

(ii) by striking paragraph (11), and inserting 
“National Environmental Education and Train-
ing Foundation” and inserting “Foundation for En-
vironmental Education”.

(C) in the heading of section 9 (as redesig-
nated by section 4(a)(2)), by striking “Na-
tional ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOUNDATION” and inserting “FOUNDATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION”;

(D) in subsection (c) of section 10 (as redesig-
nated by section 4(a)(2)), by striking “National Environmental Education and Training Foun-
dation” and inserting “Foundation for En-
vironmental Education”.

(b) BOARD OF DIRECTORS; NUMBER OF DIREC-
TORS.—The first sentence of subsection (b)(1)(A) of section 9 of the National Environmental Edu-
cation Act (as redesignated by section 4(a)(2)) is amended by striking “13” and inserting “19”.

(c) FUNDING OF DONATIONS.—Section 9(d) of the National Environmental Edu-
cation Act (as redesignated by section 4(a)(2)) is amended by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DONORS.—The Foundation may acknowledge receipt of dona-
tions by means of a listing of the names of do-
nors in materials distributed by the Foundation, but any such acknowledgment:

(A) shall not appear in educational material to be presented to students; and

(B) shall not identify a donor by means of a logo, letterhead, or other corporate commercial symbol, slogan, or product.”.

SEC. 8. APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 10 of the National Environmental Edu-
cation Act (as redesignated by section 4(a)(2)) is amended by striking subsections (a) and (b) and inserting the following:

“(a) General Authority.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out this Act—

(1) for the following grants for fiscal years 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002: and

(2) such sums as are necessary for each of 
fiscal years 2003 through 2007.

(b) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), of the amounts appropriated under subsection (a) for a fiscal year—

(A) not more than 25 percent may be used for the activities of the Office of Environmental Education;

(B) not more than 25 percent may be used for the operation of an environmental education and training program;

(C) not less than 40 percent shall be used for environmental education grants; and

(D) 10 percent shall be used for the Foundation for Environmental Education.

(2) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Of the amounts made available under paragraph (1) for a fiscal year for the activities of the Office of Environmental Education, not more than 25 percent may be used for administrative expenses.”.

SEC. 9. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this Act shall take effect as of the later of—

(1) October 1, 1996; or

(2) the date of enactment of this Act.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, today the Senate is passing an important piece of legislation, S. 1873, the Na-
ton Environmental Education Act amendments. I introduced this bill on 
June 13 along with my colleagues, Sen-
ators CHAFEE, LIEBERMAN, FAIRCLOTH, KEMPTHORNE, MOYNIHAN, REID, and LUGAR. Since the first 
co-sponsors have joined me in this bipartisan show of support for this legislation.

This bill will reauthorize the edu-
cational efforts at the National Envi-
rnonmental Education and Training 
Foundation and the EPA’s Office of En-
vironmental Education. These pro-
grants support environmental edu-
cation at the local level. They provide 
grant money and seed money to en-
courage local primary and secondary 
schools and universities to educate 
our children so that they truly under-
stand how the environment func-
tions.

With the importance of the environ-
ment and the continuing debate on how 
best to protect it, it is vital to educate 
our children so that they truly under-
stand how the environment functions.

Over the last few years environ-
mental education has been criticized 
for being one-sided and heavy-handed. 
People have accused environmental ad-
vocates of trying to brainwash children and of pushing an environmental agen-
da that is not supported by the facts or 
by scientific evidence. The Obama Fed-
eral Government of setting one cur-
riculum standard and forcing all 
schools to subscribe to their views.

This is not how these two environ-
mental education programs have 
worked, and I have taken specific steps 
to ensure that they never work this 
way.

The programs that this act reauthor-
izes are targeted to their grants at 
The teachers in our community schools 
to design their environmental programs 
to teach our children, and this is where 
the decisions should be made. In addi-
tion, the grants have not been used for 
advocacy or to influence the local govern-
ment, as other grant programs have been ac-
cused of doing.

This legislation accomplishes two 
important functions. First, it cleans 
up the current law to make the programs 
run more efficiently. And second, it 
places two very important safeguards in 
The program to ensure its integrity in 
the future.

I have placed in this bill language to 
ensure that the EPA programs are bal-
anced and scientifically sound. It is 
important that environmental education 
is presented in an unbiased and bal-
anced manner. The personal values and 
prejudices of the educators should not 
be instilled in our children. Instead we 
must teach them to think for them-
selves after they have been presented 
with all of the facts and information. 
Environmental issues must be grounded in 
sound science and not emotional bias. 
While these programs have not been guilty of this in the past, this is 
an important safeguard to protect the 
future of environmental education.

Second, I have included language 
which prohibits any of the funds to be 
used for lobbying efforts. While these 
programs have not used the grant proc-
cess to lobby the Government, there 
are other programs which have been ac-
cused of this and this language will en-
sure that this program never becomes a 
vehicle to lobby Congress or the Execu-
tive branch.

This bill also makes a number of 
housekeeping changes to the programs 
which are supported by both the EPA 
and the Education Foundation which 
will both streamline the programs and 
make them more efficient.

For those people who remain con-
cerned about the Federal role in envi-
rnonmental education let me assure ev-
everyone that I will be personally moni-
toring these programs. If there are 
any questions or concerns about these 
programs I will be the first to call for an 
investigation or to invoke the over-
sight functions of Congress. Educating 
our children is a serious matter and 
should not be abused by anyone. It is 
my intent and goal that these pro-
grants provide objective material in a 
balanced and scientifically sound man-
ner that does not instill any particular 
viewpoint in our Nation’s youths. We 
need to teach our children the facts 
and let them reach their own conclu-
sions, and I believe this bill accom-
plishes this goal.

I thank my colleagues for supporting 
this bill and I hope the House can act
quickly and this legislation can be signed into law.

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I join Senator INHOFE in urging the Senate to pass S. 1873, the National Environmental Education Act Amendments of 1996. Senator INHOFE has kept leadership on this bill. Mr. INHOFE and other members of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee have crafted a reauthorization of the National Environmental Education Act of 1990. It is a bipartisan bill sponsored by 11 members of the Environment and Public Works Committee, including myself and Senators INHOFE, BAUCUS, LIEBERMAN, FAIRCLOTH, KEMPTHORNE, MOUNTAN, REID, LAUTENBERG, SMITH, and GRAHAM.

S. 1873 extends the authorization for programs authorized by the National Environmental Education Act until 2007. The bill also includes a number of changes to make programs authorized under the act operate more effectively and efficiently.

The goal of the National Environmental Education Act is to increase public understanding of the environment and to advance and develop environmental education and training.

The act has been successful in supporting environmental education through grants and training programs aimed at schools, nature centers, museums, and other educational organizations. The act has benefited thousands of teachers and millions of students—children and adults.

Educational programs supported through this act increase the public’s awareness and knowledge about environmental issues, and provide them with the skills needed to make informed decisions.

I urge my colleagues to support passage of this important environmental education legislation.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be agreed to, the bill be deemed read the third time, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to this bill appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 1873), as amended, was deemed read the third time and passed.

AUTHORIZING PRODUCTION OF RECORDS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of a Senate resolution 287 submitted earlier today by Senators LOTT and DASCHLE.

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

The bill (S. 1873), as amended, was deemed read the third time and passed.

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

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations has received a request from the New Jersey Attorney General’s Office for copies of subcommittee records relevant to a background investigation that the office is conducting in connection with a solid waste disposal company’s licensing application.

In the course of drug enforcement hearings in the mid-1970’s, the subcommittee received allegations relating to an individual who was then a Federal drug enforcement official and is now a principal in the solid waste firm seeking licensure from the State of New Jersey. The Attorney General’s Office is seeking access to subcommittee records to enable the office to fulfill its responsibilities under State law to conduct a thorough background investigation of this individual.

Mr. President, this resolution would authorize the ranking minority member of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, acting jointly, to provide subcommittee records in response to this request.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements relating to this resolution appear at this point in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 287) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

S. Res. 287

Whereas the Office of the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey has requested that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations provide it with copies of subcommittee records in connection with a licensing investigation that the office is currently conducting;

Whereas the privileges of the Senate of the United States and rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate can, by administrative or judicial process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas when it appears that documents, papers, and records under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistently with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the chairman and ranking minority member of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, acting jointly, are authorized to provide to the office of the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey copies of subcommittee records that the office has been requested to use in connection with its pending licensing investigation.

DAY OF NATIONAL CONCERN ABOUT YOUNG PEOPLE AND GUN VIOLENCE

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of Senate Resolution 282, designating October 10, 1996, as “Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence,” and that the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration of the resolution.

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

The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 282) to designate October 10, 1996, as the “Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence.”

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

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

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 282) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

S. Res. 282

Whereas violent crime among juveniles in American society has dramatically escalated in recent years;

Whereas between 1989 and 1994, juvenile arrest rates for murder in this country skyrocketed 42 percent;

Whereas in 1993, more than 10 children were murdered each day in America;

Whereas America’s young people are this country’s most important resource, and Americans have a vested interest in helping children survive, free from fear and violence, to become healthy adults;

Whereas America’s young people can, by taking individual and collective responsibility for their own decisions and actions, help chart a new and less violent direction for the entire country;

Whereas American school children will be invited to participate in a national observance involving millions of their fellow students and will thereby be empowered to see themselves as the agents of positive social change; and

Whereas this observance will give American school children the opportunity to make a solemn decision about their future and control their destiny by voluntarily signing a pledge promising that they will never take a gun to school, will never use a gun to resolve a dispute, and will use their influence to prevent friends from using guns to settle disputes; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designates October 10, 1996, as the “Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence.” The President is authorized and requested to issue proclamation declaring this day as a national observance in recognition of this occasion.