

with the challenge of breaking through a glass ceiling, but also a glass wall.

Women are breadwinners in over half of all American families. The fact that over a lifetime, this difference in pay can equal over a quarter of a million dollars has a direct impact on America's families—families struggling to send their children to school, to pay their mortgages, to save for retirement. Women who receive 71 cents on the dollar in wages are not able to pay 71 cents on the dollar for groceries or child care. Equal pay is a survival issue for America's families.

Women live longer than men. Women are going to spend more years in retirement and will have to make their fixed incomes stretch even further. The impact of lower lifetime earnings mean that only a third of female retirees today earn private pension benefits and the median pension benefit for women is half that of men's. In addition, while Social Security covers most female retirees, women's benefits are lower than men's. Even with full benefits, Social Security was never meant to provide for a secure retirement, it is only a floor. Today, women make up three-quarters of the elderly poor because they continue to earn less in retirement.

Women make up the majority of the population, are breadwinners in the majority of families and live longer than men. These facts combined with the reality of women's lower earnings result in a system of inequity that hurts America's families.

It is for these reasons that I joined my colleagues in sponsoring a sense-of-the-Senate amendment recognizing the important contributions women make to our country, recognizing the strides that employers have made in the area, and calling on all employers to address the issue of equal pay in their workplaces so that America's families can prosper. This is a resolution I believe we can all support.

I am also the cosponsor of legislation in this Congress that will make it easier for women to challenge unfair pay practices and for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to pursue cases of unequal compensation. This legislation is a basic remedy for a problem we all agree should not exist. I urge my colleagues to join me in sponsoring S. 71.

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be considered read a third time and passed, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill appear at this point in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 11) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

The preamble was agreed to.

The joint resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S.J. RES. 11

Whereas news of the end of slavery came late to frontier areas of the country, especially in the American Southwest;

Whereas the African-Americans who had been slaves in the Southwest thereafter celebrated June 19 as the anniversary of their emancipation;

Whereas their descendants handed down that tradition from generation to generation as an inspiration and encouragement for future generations;

Whereas Juneteenth celebrations have thus been held for 130 years to honor the memory of all those who endured slavery and especially those who moved from slavery to freedom; and

Whereas their example of faith and strength of character remains a lesson for all Americans today, regardless of background or region or race: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the annual observance of June 19 as Juneteenth Independence Day is an important and enriching part of our country's history and heritage.

That the celebration of Juneteenth provides an opportunity for all Americans to learn more about our common past and to better understand the experiences that have shaped our Nation.

That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the National Association of Juneteenth Lineage as an expression of appreciation for its role in promoting the observance of Juneteenth Independence Day.

PERMITTING THE USE OF THE ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL FOR A CEREMONY AS PART OF THE COMMEMORATION OF THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE OF VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 11, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 11) permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution appear at this point in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 11) was considered and agreed to.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—INSPECTORS GENERAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that nominations to the Office of Inspector General, excepting the Office of Inspector General for the Central Intelligence Agency, be referred during the 105th Congress in each case to the committee having sub-

stantive jurisdiction over the department, agency or entity, and if and when reported in each case, then to the Committee on Governmental Affairs for not to exceed 20 calendar days.

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

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 14, 1997

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until the hour of 10 a.m. on Monday, April 14. I further ask unanimous consent that on Monday, immediately following the prayer, the routine requests through the morning hour be granted, and there then be a period for the transaction of morning business until the hour of 12 noon, with Senators to speak for up to 5 minutes each, with the following exceptions: Senator COVERDELL, or his designee, 60 minutes; Senator DASCHLE, or his designee, 30 minutes; Senator DURBIN, 10 minutes; Senator CONRAD, 20 minutes; Senator HAGEL, 20 minutes.

I further ask unanimous consent that at 12 noon on Monday, the Senate resume consideration of S. 104, the Nuclear Waste Policy Act.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, the leader has asked me to state for the information of all Senators that the Senate will not be in session on Friday and will reconvene on Monday. As announced earlier, there will be no rollcall votes occurring during Monday's session of the Senate. All Senators should be aware that rollcall votes will occur early on Tuesday, April 15, beginning at 9 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, APRIL 14, 1997, AT 10 A.M.

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 8:11 p.m., adjourned until Monday, April 14, 1997, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate April 10, 1997:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PETE PETERSON, OF FLORIDA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM.

THE ABOVE NOMINATION WAS APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEE'S COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.