

I join her children, her 7 grandchildren, her great grandchild and her many friends in wishing Anna Trebil a very happy 100th birthday.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Thursday, February 26, 1998, the Federal debt stood at \$5,525,033,799,622.62 (Five trillion, five hundred twenty-five billion, thirty-three million, seven hundred ninety-nine thousand, six hundred twenty-two dollars and sixty-two cents).

One year ago, February 26, 1997, the Federal debt stood at \$5,345,590,000,000 (Five trillion, three hundred forty-five billion, five hundred ninety million).

Five years ago, February 26, 1993, the Federal debt stood at \$4,197,003,000,000 (Four trillion, one hundred ninety-seven billion, three million).

Ten years ago, February 26, 1988, the Federal debt stood at \$2,473,373,000,000 (Two trillion, four hundred seventy-three billion, three hundred seventy-three million).

Twenty-five years ago, February 26, 1973, the Federal debt stood at \$453,599,000,000 (Four hundred fifty-three billion, five hundred ninety-nine million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,071,404,799,622.62 (Five trillion, seventy-one billion, four hundred four million, seven hundred ninety-nine thousand, six hundred twenty-two dollars and sixty-two cents) during the past 25 years.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:12 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, with amendments, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 493. An act to amend section 1029 of title 18, United States Code, with respect to cellular telephone cloning paraphernalia.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration on February 26, 1998, following the adoption of the motion to proceed to the bill (S. 1173) to authorize funds for construction of highways, for highway safety programs, and for mass transit programs, and for other purposes:

S. 1663. A bill to protect individuals from having their money involuntarily collected and used for politics by a corporation or labor organization.

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. GORTON:

S. 1691. A bill to provide for Indian legal reform, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. NICKLES (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. MURKOWSKI):

S. 1692. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide software trade secrets protection; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. THOMAS (for himself and Mr. ABRAHAM):

S. 1693. A bill to renew, reform, reinvigorate, and protect the National Park System; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. MOYNIHAN (for himself, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. ROBB, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. KYL, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. MACK, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. BURNS, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. DODD, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. REID, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. ENZI, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Mr. HELMS, Mr. BAUCUS, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. COATS):

S. Res. 186. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding Israeli membership in a United Nations regional group; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GORTON:

S. 1691. A bill to provide for Indian legal reform, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

AMERICAN INDIAN EQUAL JUSTICE ACT

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I introduce the American Indian Equal Justice Act and ask unanimous consent that the full text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1691

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; FINDINGS; PURPOSE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "American Indian Equal Justice Act".

(b) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) a universal principle of simple justice and accountable government requires that all persons be afforded legal remedies for violations of their legal rights;

(2) the fifth amendment of the Constitution builds upon that principle by guaranteeing that "... no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law";

(3) sovereign immunity, a legal doctrine that has its origins in feudal England when it was policy that the "King could do no wrong", affronts that principle and is incompatible with the rule of law in democratic society;

(4) for more than a century, the Government of the United States and the States have dramatically scaled back the doctrine of sovereign immunity without impairing their dignity, sovereignty, or ability to conduct valid government policies;

(5) the only remaining governments in the United States that maintain and assert the full scope of immunity from lawsuits are Indian tribal governments;

(6) according to the 1990 decennial census conducted by the Bureau of the Census, nearly half of the individuals residing on Indian reservations are non-Indian;

(7) for the non-Indian individuals referred to in paragraph (6) and the thousands of people of the United States, Indian and non-Indian, who interact with tribal governments everyday, the rights to due process and legal remedy are constantly at risk because of tribal immunity;

(8) by providing a complete shield from legal claims, the doctrine of sovereign immunity frustrates justice and provokes social tensions and turmoil inimical to social peace;

(9) the Supreme Court has affirmed that Congress has clear and undoubted constitutional authority to define, limit, or waive the immunity of Indian tribes; and

(10) it is necessary to address the issue referred to in paragraph (9) in order to—

(A) secure the rights provided under the Constitution for all persons; and

(B) uphold the principle that no government should be above the law.

(c) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to assist in ensuring due process and legal rights throughout the United States and to strengthen the rule of law by making Indian tribal governments subject to judicial review with respect to certain civil matters.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term "Indian tribe" means any Indian tribe or band with a governing body duly recognized by the Secretary of the Interior.

(2) TRIBAL IMMUNITY.—The term "tribal immunity" means the immunity of an Indian tribe from jurisdiction of the courts, judicial review of an action of that Indian tribe, and other remedies.

SEC. 3. COLLECTION OF STATE TAXES.

Section 1362 of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting "(a)" before "The district courts";

(2) by inserting "(referred to in this section as an 'Indian tribe')" after "Interior"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(b)(1) An Indian tribe, tribal corporation, or member of an Indian tribe, shall collect, and remit to a State, any excise, use, or sales tax imposed by the State on nonmembers of the Indian tribe as a consequence of the purchase of goods or services by the nonmember from the Indian tribe, tribal corporation, or member.

"(2) A State may bring an action in a district court of the United States to enforce the requirements under paragraph (1).

"(3) To the extent necessary to enforce this subsection with respect to an Indian tribe, tribal corporation, or member of an Indian tribe, the tribal immunity of that Indian tribe, tribal corporation, or member is waived."

SEC. 4. INDIAN TRIBES AS DEFENDANTS.

(a) PROVISIONS TO PARALLEL THE PROVISIONS THAT ARE POPULARLY KNOWN AS THE TUCKER ACT.—Section 1362 of title 28, United States Code, as amended by section 3, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"(c)(1) The district courts of the United States shall have original jurisdiction in any