

deal with the neglected veterans issues unique to the Vietnam war. This culminated in the dedication of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in November, 1982. The activities around the Memorial rekindled a sense of camaraderie among the veterans and the feeling of a shared experience too significant to ignore.

Since then, the VVA has made great strides in the kinds of services it provides to its membership, including the founding of the Vietnam Veterans of America Legal Services that provides assistance to veterans seeking benefits and services from the government. VVA has also published critical information around benefits for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Agent Orange illnesses.

I can personally vouch for the incredible efforts of people like Albert and Mary Trombley, Jake Jacobsen, Dennis Ross, Clark Howland, and of course the late Mike Dodge and Don Bodette to establish and foster the growth of grassroots organizations like Chapter 1 in Rutland, Vermont. This individual leadership has ensured a steady growth in VVA's size, stature, and prestige.

The legislative accomplishments of the VVA through its high-profile presence on Capitol Hill have been impressive. Organizations like Vietnam-era Veterans in Congress, which now boasts 70 members, have served the overall membership well by supporting the pragmatic agenda of the VVA and sticking to its founding principle that "Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another."

Today, the VVA has a national membership of 51,000 with more than 500 chapters. VVA state councils in 43 states coordinate the activities and programs of its national organization, ensuring that grassroots input to Congress continues to ensure that the federal government meets its obligations to its Vietnam veterans.

Mr. President, this Resolution expresses the Senate's gratitude to the organization for its advocacy for its members and wishes it continued success in the years to come.

Resolved,

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a special committee of the Senate to be known as the Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem (hereafter in this resolution referred to as the "special committee").

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the special committee is—

- (1) to study the impact of the year 2000 technology problem on the Executive and Judicial Branches of the Federal Government, State governments, and private sector operations in the United States and abroad;
- (2) to make such findings of fact as are warranted and appropriate; and
- (3) to make such recommendations, including recommendations for new legislation and amendments to existing laws and any administrative or other actions, as the special committee may determine to be necessary or desirable.

No proposed legislation shall be referred to the special committee, and the committee

shall not have power to report by bill, or otherwise have legislative jurisdiction.

(c) TREATMENT AS STANDING COMMITTEE.—For purposes of paragraphs 1, 2, 7(a)(1)–(2), and 10(a) of rule XXVI and rule XXVII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and section 202 (i) and (j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, the special committee shall be treated as a standing committee of the Senate.

SEC. 2. MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

(a) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The special committee shall consist of 7 members of the Senate—

(A) 4 of whom shall be appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate from the majority party of the Senate upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader of the Senate; and

(B) 3 of whom shall be appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate from the minority party of the Senate upon the recommendation of the Minority Leader of the Senate.

The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Appropriations Committee shall be appointed ex-officio members.

(2) VACANCIES.—Vacancies in the membership of the special committee shall not affect the authority of the remaining members to execute the functions of the special committee and shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments to it are made.

(3) SERVICE.—For the purpose of paragraph 4 of rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, service of a Senator as a member, chairman, or vice chairman of the special committee shall not be taken into account.

(b) CHAIRMAN.—The chairman of the special committee shall be selected by the Majority Leader of the Senate and the vice chairman of the special committee shall be selected by the Minority Leader of the Senate. The vice chairman shall discharge such responsibilities as the special committee or the chairman may assign.

SEC. 3. AUTHORITY OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of this resolution, the special committee is authorized, in its discretion—

- (1) to make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;
- (2) to employ personnel;
- (3) to hold hearings;
- (4) to sit and act at any time or place during the sessions, recesses, and adjourned periods of the Senate;
- (5) to require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance of witnesses and the production of correspondence, books, papers, and documents;
- (6) to take depositions and other testimony;
- (7) to procure the services of individual consultations or organizations thereof, in accordance with the provisions of section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946; and
- (8) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, to use on a nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) OATHS FOR WITNESSES.—The chairman of the special committee or any member thereof may administer oaths to witnesses.

(c) SUBPOENAS.—Subpoenas authorized by the special committee may be issued over the signature of the chairman after consultation with the vice chairman, or any member of the special committee designated by the chairman after consultation with the vice chairman, and may be served by any person designated by the chairman or the member signing the subpoena.

(d) OTHER COMMITTEE STAFF.—The special committee may use, with the prior consent of the chairman of any other Senate committee or the chairman of any subcommittee of any committee of the Senate and on a nonreimbursable basis, the facilities or services of any members of the staff of such other Senate committee whenever the special committee or its chairman, following consultation with the vice chairman, considers that such action is necessary or appropriate to enable the special committee to make the investigation and study provided for in this resolution.

(e) USE OF OFFICE SPACE.—The staff of the special committee may be located in the personal office of a Member of the special committee.

SEC. 4. REPORT AND TERMINATION.

The special committee shall report its findings, together with such recommendations as it deems advisable, to the Senate at the earliest practicable date.

SEC. 5. FUNDING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—From the date this resolution is agreed to through February 29, 2000, the expenses of the special committee incurred under this resolution shall not exceed \$575,000 for the period beginning on the date of adoption of this resolution through February 28, 1999, and \$575,000 for the period of March 1, 1999 through February 29, 2000, of which amount not to exceed \$200,000 shall be available for each period for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof, as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946.

(b) PAYMENT OF BENEFITS.—The retirement and health benefits of employees of the special committee shall be paid out of the contingent fund of the Senate.

SENATE RESOLUTION 209—PROVIDING SECTION 302 ALLOCATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Ms. COLLINS submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 209

Resolved, That (a) for the purposes of section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 the estimated allocation of the appropriate levels of budget totals for the Senate Committee on Appropriations shall be—

For non-defense: (1) \$289,547,000,000 in total budget outlays, (2) \$255,450,000,000 in total new budget authority;

For defense: (1) \$266,635,000,000 in total budget outlays, (2) \$271,570,000,000 in total new budget authority;

For Violent Crime Reduction: (1) \$4,953,000,000 in total budget outlays; and (2) \$5,800,000,000 in total new budget authority;

For mandatory: (1) \$291,731,000,000 in total budget outlays; and (2) \$299,159,000,000 in total new budget authority.

until a concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1999 is agreed to by the Senate and the House of Representatives pursuant to section 301 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET

HUTCHINSON AMENDMENT NO. 2279

Mr. HUTCHINSON proposed an amendment to amendment No. 2218