

for the Arts (NEA). As a member of this committee, and as a Tennessean, I believe Bill Ivey will bring a much needed, new voice to this agency.

Many people in my home State have viewed the NEA as an elitist agency. Bill Ivey brings a new vision with a perspective of the real world. In fact, a newspaper in Tennessee noted that the "Country Music Foundation director would provide 'Heart of America' leadership."

Bill Ivey has been the Director of the Country Music Foundation in Nashville, Tennessee since 1971. He has played an integral role in the Nashville music community. He has taught at Vanderbilt University's Blair School of Music and has written a variety of essays on America's musical traditions.

The National Endowment for the Arts has come under increased scrutiny in recent years. Both the American people and Congress have questioned its stewardship of the taxpayers' dollar. Through committee work and the appropriations process, many innovative reform options have been considered, but few have been adopted. Bill Ivey offers the prospect of a fresh start for the National Endowment for the Arts so that all Americans will have pride and a stake in its activities.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

OFFICIAL SITE OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES MEMORIAL SERVICE

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 171, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 171) declaring the city of Roanoke, Virginia, to be the official site of the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Service.

The Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to; that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; and that any statements relating to the resolution appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 171) was agreed to.

SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING EUROPEAN UNION

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Finance Committee be discharged from further

consideration of S. Con. Res. 73 and, further, that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 73) expressing the sense of Congress that the European Union is unfairly restricting the importation of United States agriculture products and the elimination of such restrictions should be a top priority in trade negotiations with the European Union.

The Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to; that the preamble be agreed to; that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; and that any statements relating to the resolution appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 73) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

S. CON. RES. 73

Whereas on a level playing field, United States producers are the most competitive suppliers of agricultural products in the world;

Whereas increased United States agricultural exports are critical to the future of the farm, rural, and overall economy of the United States;

Whereas the opportunities for increased agricultural exports are undermined by the unfair subsidies provided by trading partners of the United States, and by various tariff and nontariff trade barriers imposed on highly-competitive United States agricultural products;

Whereas United States agricultural exports reached a record-level \$60,000,000,000 in 1996 compared to a total United States merchandise trade deficit of \$170,000,000,000;

Whereas the United States is currently engaged in a number of outstanding trade disputes with the European Union regarding agriculture matters and the disputes involve the most intractable issues between the United States and the European Union;

Whereas the outstanding trade disputes include the failure to finalize a veterinary equivalency program, which jeopardizes an estimated \$3,000,000,000 in trade in livestock products between the United States and the European Union;

Whereas the World Trade Organization has ruled that the European Union must allow the importation of beef with growth hormones produced in the United States;

Whereas the European Union has yet to fulfill its commitment under the Agreement on Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures reached as part of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade;

Whereas the European Union has promulgated regulations regarding the use of "specified risk materials" for livestock products which have a disputed scientific basis and which serve to impede the importation of United States livestock products despite the fact that no cases of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (mad cow disease) have been documented in the United States;

Whereas the European Union has hindered trade in products grown with the benefit of

biogenetics based on claims that also have a disputed scientific basis;

Whereas these barriers to biogenetic trade could have a profound negative impact on agricultural trade in the long run; and

Whereas there are also continuing disputes regarding European Union subsidies for dairy, wheat gluten, and canned fruits: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the European Union unfairly restricts the importation of United States agricultural products;

(2) the restrictions imposed on United States agricultural exports to the European Union are the most vexing problems facing United States exporters in Europe;

(3) the elimination of restrictions imposed on United States agricultural exports should be a top priority of any current or future trade negotiations between the United States and the European Union; and

(4) the United States Trade Representative should not engage in any trade negotiations with the European Union that undermines the ability of the United States to achieve the elimination of unfair restrictions imposed upon United States agricultural exports to the European Union.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF SENATE REGARDING EUROPEAN UNION

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Finance Committee be discharged from consideration of S. Res. 232 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 232) to express the sense of the Senate that the European Union should waive the penalty for failure to use restitution subsidies for barley to the United States and ensure that restitution or other subsidies are not used for similar sales in the United States and that the President, the United States Trade Representative, and the Secretary of Agriculture should conduct an investigation of and report on the sale and subsidies.

The Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 232) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

S. RES. 232

Whereas, in an unprecedented sale, the European Union entered into a contract with a United States buyer to sell heavily subsidized European barley to the United States;

Whereas the sale of almost 1,400,000 bushels (30,000 metric tons) of feed barley was shipped from Finland to Stockton, California;