

used for legitimate purposes of verification and news reporting. It offers special exceptions to nonprofit users, such as researchers, scientists, and educators. The bill also states clearly that no one is precluded from gathering the same facts contained on one database owner's product and creating another database—but again, as long as those facts are not stolen from the original database owner. Finally, the bill recognizes the importance of unfettered public access to Government databases by specifically denying protection to any database created by a governmental entity—whether Federal, State, or local—or any database that a Government agency seeks to have created and distributed under an exclusive licensing arrangement. Mr. President, the concepts that lie behind the Collections of Information Antipiracy Act, and many of its specific provisions, have been debated for more than 2 years now. The House-passed bill now before the Senate Judiciary Committee was the subject of two hearings that included witnesses from nearly every affected community—both producers and users of databases. Indeed, the bill I introduce today is a much-improved version of the legislation first introduced in the House, and many provisions have been added that strike a fair balance between the needs of database producers for adequate protection and the also requirements that users have fair access to these private-sector products and services. There should be no fear that database producers will exert extraordinary control over their products and services. But, this legislation contains not only a special savings clause preserving our antitrust laws, but it also specifies low penalties against any nonprofit user who may run afoul of this new law. In closing, Mr. President, I am convinced it is time for this body to act to protect the interests of database owners and users in the United States. The bill I am introducing today represents a reasonable and fair means of doing so, and I urge my colleagues to join with me in working during these few remaining days of the 105th Congress to consider and pass this very important piece of legislation.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 778

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. GRAMM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 778, a bill to authorize a new trade and investment policy for sub-Saharan Africa.

S. 1251

At the request of Mr. D'AMATO, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. COVERDELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1251, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the amount of private activity bonds which may be issued in each State, and to index such amount for inflation.

S. 1754

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1754, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to consolidate and reauthorize health professions and minority and disadvantaged health professions and disadvantaged health education programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1758

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1758, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to facilitate protection of tropical forests through debt reduction with developing countries with tropical forests.

S. 1976

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1976, a bill to increase public awareness of the plight of victims of crime with developmental disabilities, to collect data to measure the magnitude of the problem, and to develop strategies to address the safety and justice needs of victims of crime with developmental disabilities.

S. 2128

At the request of Mr. STEVENS, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2128, a bill to clarify the authority of the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation regarding the collection of fees to process certain identification records and name checks, and for other purposes.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 107

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. COATS) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 107, a concurrent resolution affirming United States commitments to Taiwan.

AMENDMENT NO. 3109

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3109 proposed to S. 1882, a bill to reauthorize the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

AFFIRMING U.S. COMMITMENTS UNDER THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

LOTT AMENDMENT NO. 3121

Mr. LOTT proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 107) affirming U.S. commitments under the Taiwan Relations Act; as follows:

On page 2, line 8, strike "with the consent of the people of Taiwan,".

RELATIVE TO TAIWAN ADMISSION TO MULTILATERAL ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS

HELMS AMENDMENT NO. 3122

Mr. GRAMS (for Mr. HELMS) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 30) expressing the sense of the Congress that the Republic of China should be admitted to multilateral economic institutions, including the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development; as follows:

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following: That it is the sense of the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring) that it should be United States policy to—

(1) support changes to the International Monetary Fund Charter that would allow the Republic of China on Taiwan and other qualified economies to become members of the International Monetary Fund; and

(2) support the admission of Taiwan to membership in other international economic organizations for which it is qualified, including the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas the Republic of China on Taiwan (hereafter referred to as "Taiwan") possesses a free economy with the 19th largest gross domestic product in the world;

Whereas Taiwan has the 14th largest trading economy in the world and the 7th largest amount of foreign investment in the world and holds one of the largest amounts of foreign exchange reserves in the world;

Whereas Taiwan is a democracy committed to the economic and political norms of the international community;

Whereas the purpose of the International Monetary Fund (hereafter referred to as "IMF") is to promote exchange stability, to establish a multilateral system of payments, to facilitate the expansion of world trade, and to provide capital to assist developing nations;

Whereas changes to the IMF Charter that would allow Taiwan and other qualified economies to become members of the IMF would benefit the world economy, especially those developing countries in need of capital, and would contribute to the purposes of the IMF;

Whereas the IMF aims to further economic liberalization and globalization and conducts conferences, exchanges, and training programs in international monetary management which would be beneficial to Taiwan;

Whereas membership in the IMF is a prerequisite for accession to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and to regional banks in which Taiwan's membership would be beneficial; and

Whereas Taiwan is already a member of regional multilateral economic institutions including the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum and the Asian Development Bank; Now, therefore, be it

Amend the title so as to read: "Expressing the sense of Congress that the rules of multilateral economic institutions, including the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, should be amended to allow membership for the Republic of China on Taiwan and other qualified economies."