

for the Northern Mariana Islands for a term of ten years. (Reappointment)

Edward J. Damich, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for term of fifteen years.

Nancy B. Firestone, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Emily Clark Hewitt, of Massachusetts, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Norman A. Mordue, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York.

Donnie R. Marshall, of Texas, to be Deputy Administrator of Drug Enforcement.

Harry Litman, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania for the term of four years.

Denise E. O'Donnell, of New York, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of New York for the term of four years.

Margaret Ellen Curran, of Rhode Island, to be United States Attorney for the District of Rhode Island for the term of four years.

Byron Todd Jones, of Minnesota, to be United States Attorney for the District of Minnesota for the term of four years.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

By Mr. CHAFEE, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

Robert W. Perciasepe, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. (Reappointment)

William Clifford Smith, of Louisiana, to be a Member of the Mississippi River Commission for a term expiring October 21, 2005.

Isadore Rosental, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years. (New Position)

Andrea Kidd Taylor, of Michigan, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years. (New Position)

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed, subject to the nominees' commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

By Mr. D'AMATO, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

Ira G. Peppercorn, of Indiana, to be Director of the Office of Multifamily Housing Assistance Restructuring. (New Position)

William C. Apgar, Jr., of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

Saul N. Ramirez, Jr., of Texas, to be Deputy Secretary of Housing, and Urban Development.

Cardell Cooper, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

Harold Lucas, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed, subject to the nominees' commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

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. KERRY:

S. 2577. A bill to amend section 313 of the Tariff Act of 1930 to allow duty drawback for grape juice concentrates, regardless of color or variety; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 2578. A bill to assist in the development and implementation of projects to provide for the control of drainage, storm, flood and other waters as part of water-related integrated resource management, environmental infrastructure, and resource protection and development projects in the Colusa Basin Watershed, California; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 2579. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to permit certain youth to perform certain work with wood products; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. HOLLINGS, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2580. A bill to amend the Trade Act of 1974, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. HOLLINGS):

S. 2581. A bill to authorize appropriations for the motor vehicle safety and information programs of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for fiscal years 1999-2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BREAUX (for himself and Mr. MACK):

S. 2582. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a prospective payment system for services furnished by psychiatric hospitals under the Medicare Program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 2583. A bill to provide disadvantaged children with access to dental services; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. SPECTER (for himself and Mr. SANTORUM):

S. 2584. A bill to provide aviator continuation pay for military members killed in Operation Desert Shield; considered and passed.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 2585. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to eliminate a threshold requirement relating to unreimbursable expenses for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KOHL:

S. 2586. A bill to amend parts A and D of title IV of the Social Security Act to require States to pass through directly to a family receiving assistance under the temporary assistance to needy families program all child support collected by the State and to disregard any child support that the family receives in determining the family's level of assistance under that program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 2587. A bill to protect the public, especially seniors, against telemarketing fraud and telemarketing fraud over the Internet and to authorize an educational campaign to improve senior citizens' ability to protect themselves against telemarketing fraud over the Internet; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself, Mr. NICKLES, and Mr. INOUE):

S. 2588. A bill to provide for the review and classification of physician assistant posi-

tions in the Federal Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S. 2589. A bill to provide for the collection and interpretation of state of the art, non-intrusive 3-dimensional seismic data on certain federal lands in Alaska, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. FAIRCLOTH (for himself, Mr. GRAMS, and Mr. GORTON):

S. 2590. A bill to enhance competition in financial services; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. KERREY:

S. 2591. A bill to provide certain secondary school students with eligibility for certain campus-based assistance under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. CONRAD):

S. 2592. A bill to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to permit a State to register a Canadian pesticide for distribution and use within that State; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. GRAHAM:

S. 2593. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit against tax for employers who provide child care assistance for dependents of their employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HARKIN:

S. 2594. A bill to establish a Food Safety Research Institute to coordinate the development of a Federal Governmentwide, inter-agency food safety research agenda to ensure the efficient use of food safety research resources and prevent duplication of efforts; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for himself and Mr. MURKOWSKI):

S. 2595. A bill to amend the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to provide affordable housing and community development assistance to rural areas with excessively high rates of outmigration and low per capita income levels; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN:

S. Res. 292. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding tactile currency for the blind and visually impaired; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. ROBB (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. WARNER, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. Res. 293. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that Nadia Dabbagh should be returned home to her mother, Ms. Maureen Dabbagh; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. HELMS, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. BURNS, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. MACK, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. HATCH):

S. Con. Res. 125. A concurrent resolution expressing the opposition of Congress to any

deployment of United States ground forces in Kosovo, a province in southern Serbia, for peacemaking or peacekeeping purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. D'AMATO (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Con. Res. 126. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the President should reassert the traditional opposition of the United States to the unilateral declaration of a Palestinian State; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 2579. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to permit certain youth to perform certain work with wood products; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

LEGISLATION AMENDING THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have sought recognition today to introduce legislation designed to permit certain youths (those exempt from attending school) between the ages of 14 and 18 to work in sawmills under special safety conditions and close adult supervision. While I realize that this legislation cannot be enacted so late in the session, I believe it is important to introduce the bill and promote a serious discussion on this issue.

As Chairman of the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations Subcommittee, I have strongly supported increased funding for the enforcement of the important child safety protections contained in the Fair Labor Standards Act. I also believe, however, that accommodation must be made for youths who are exempt from compulsory school-attendance laws after the eighth grade. It is extremely important that youths who are exempt from attending school be provided with access to jobs and apprenticeships in areas that offer employment where they live.

The need for access to popular trades is demonstrated by the Amish community. Earlier this week I toured an Amish sawmill in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and had the opportunity to meet with some of my Amish constituency. They explained that while the Amish once made their living almost entirely by farming, they have increasingly had to expand into other occupations as farmland disappears in many areas due to pressure from development. As a result, many of the Amish have come to rely more and more on work in sawmills to make their living. The Amish culture expects youth upon the completion of their education at the age of 14 to begin to learn a trade that will enable them to become productive members of society. In many areas work in sawmills is one of the major occupations available for the Amish, whose belief system limits the types of jobs they may hold. Unfortunately, these youths are currently prohibited by law from employment in this industry until they reach the age

of 18. This prohibition threatens both the religion and lifestyle of the Amish.

The House has already passed by a voice vote H.R. 4257, introduced by my distinguished colleague, Representative JOSEPH R. PITTS, which is similar to the bill I am introducing today. I am aware that concerns to H.R. 4257 exist: safety issues have been raised by the Department of Labor and Constitutional issues have been raised by the Department of Justice. I have addressed these concerns in my legislation.

Under my legislation youths would not be allowed to operate power machinery, but would be restricted to performing activities such as sweeping, stacking wood, and writing orders. My legislation requires that the youths must be protected from wood particles or flying debris and wear protective equipment, all while under strict adult supervision. The Department of Labor must monitor these safeguards to insure that they are enforced.

The Department of Justice has stated that H.R. 4257 would "raise serious concerns" under the Establishment Clause. The House measure confers benefits only to a youth who is a "member of a religious sect or division thereof whose established teachings do not permit formal education beyond the eighth grade." By conferring the "benefit" of working in a sawmill only to the adherents of certain religions, the Department argues that the bill appears to impermissibly favor religion to "irreligion." In drafting my legislation, I attempted to overcome such an objection by conferring permission to work in sawmills to all youths who "are exempted from compulsory education laws after the eighth grade." Indeed, I think a broader focus is necessary to create a sufficient range of vocational opportunities for all youth who are legally out of school and in need of vocational opportunities.

I also believe that the logic of the Supreme Court's 1972 decision in *Wisconsin v. Yoder* supports my bill. *Yoder* held that Wisconsin's compulsory school attendance law requiring children to attend school until the age of 16 violated the Free Exercise clause. The Court found that the Wisconsin law imposed a substantial burden on the free exercise of religion by the Amish since attending school beyond the eighth grade "contravenes the basic religious tenets and practices of the Amish faith." I believe a similar argument can be made with respect to Amish youth working in sawmills. As their population grows and their subsistence through an agricultural way of life decreases, trades such as sawmills become more and more crucial to the continuation of their lifestyle. Barring youths from the sawmills denies these youths the very vocational training and path to self-reliance that was central to the *Yoder* Court's holding that the Amish do not need the final two years of public education.

At this stage in the legislative process, so close to the end of the 105th

Congress, passage of my bill requires a unanimous consent agreement. I have already been notified that there are Senators who would object to such an agreement, and I do understand that a measure of this nature cannot be rushed through the Senate. Nevertheless, I offer my legislation in the hope of beginning a dialogue on this important issue.

By Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. HOLLINGS, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2580. A bill to amend the Trade Act of 1974, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

THE TRADE FAIRNESS ACT OF 1998

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have sought recognition today to introduce legislation responding to the critical steel import crisis along with my colleague from West Virginia, Senator ROCKEFELLER, who serves with me as co-chairman of the Senate Steel Caucus, Senator HOLLINGS, and Senator SANTORUM. Our bill is entitled the "Trade Fairness Act of 1998" because it would amend the Trade Act of 1974 to remove statutory provisions which put our domestic industry at a significant disadvantage compared to their foreign competitors. Specifically, this bill makes technical corrections to the so-called "Section 201" provisions of the Trade Act of 1974 to harmonize our laws with international laws administered by the World Trade Organization.

While I know it is very late in the 105th legislative session, we intend that the introduction of this legislation will demonstrate our bipartisan commitment to responding to the current steel import crisis. Further, this should send a strong signal to the administration that it is high time that we respond.

Yesterday, Senator JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, Congressman RALPH REGULA and Congressman JIM OBERSTAR, and I met with representatives of the Clinton administration, specifically Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, Commerce Secretary William Daley, United States Trade Representative Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky and National Economic Council Advisor Gene Sperling, to discuss the steel import issue. At that meeting, representatives of the Clinton administration assured us that they are looking into actions that the administration can take to respond to the illegal dumping of foreign steel on the U.S. market but have yet to make a final decision on their response.

While I appreciate their efforts to take a closer look at the problem, I am disturbed by the Administration's failure to take immediate action up to this time to prevent more cheap steel from flooding the American market. I am further disturbed by the fact that senior administration officials could