

standards for electronic communications, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 10, strike out line 7 and all that follows through page 18, line 10, and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Government Paperwork Elimination Act".

SEC. 2. AUTHORITY OF OMB TO PROVIDE FOR ACQUISITION AND USE OF ALTERNATIVE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES BY EXECUTIVE AGENCIES.

Section 3504(a)(1)(B)(vi) of title 44, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(vi) the acquisition and use of information technology, including alternative information technologies that provide for electronic submission, maintenance, or disclosure of information as a substitute for paper and for the use and acceptance of electronic signatures."

SEC. 3. PROCEDURES FOR USE AND ACCEPTANCE OF ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES BY EXECUTIVE AGENCIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In order to fulfill the responsibility to administer the functions assigned under chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, the provisions of the Clinger-Cohen Act of 1996 (divisions D and E of Public Law 104-106) and the amendments made by that Act, and the provisions of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall, in consultation with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration and not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, develop procedures for the use and acceptance of electronic signatures by Executive agencies.

(b) REQUIREMENTS FOR PROCEDURES.—(1) The procedures developed under subsection (a)—

(A) shall be compatible with standards and technology for electronic signatures that are generally used in commerce and industry and by State governments;

(B) may not inappropriately favor one industry or technology;

(C) shall ensure that electronic signatures are as reliable as is appropriate for the purpose in question and keep intact the information submitted;

(D) shall provide for the electronic acknowledgment of electronic forms that are successfully submitted; and

(E) shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, require an Executive agency that anticipates receipt by electronic means of 50,000 or more submittals of a particular form to take all steps necessary to ensure that multiple methods of electronic signatures are available for the submittal of such form.

(2) The Director shall ensure the compatibility of the procedures under paragraph (1)(A) in consultation with appropriate private bodies and State government entities that set standards for the use and acceptance of electronic signatures.

SEC. 4. DEADLINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION BY EXECUTIVE AGENCIES OF PROCEDURES FOR USE AND ACCEPTANCE OF ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES.

In order to fulfill the responsibility to administer the functions assigned under chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, the provisions of the Clinger-Cohen Act of 1996 (divisions D and E of Public Law 104-106) and the amendments made by that Act, and the provisions of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall ensure that, commencing not later than five years after the date of enactment of this Act, Executive agencies provide—

(1) for the option of the electronic maintenance, submission, or disclosure of informa-

tion, when practicable as a substitute for paper; and

(2) for the use and acceptance of electronic signatures, when practicable.

SEC. 5. ELECTRONIC STORAGE AND FILING OF EMPLOYMENT FORMS.

In order to fulfill the responsibility to administer the functions assigned under chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, the provisions of the Clinger-Cohen Act of 1996 (divisions D and E of Public Law 104-106) and the amendments made by that Act, and the provisions of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall, not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, develop procedures to permit private employers to store and file electronically with Executive agencies forms containing information pertaining to the employees of such employers.

SEC. 6. STUDY ON USE OF ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES.

(a) ONGOING STUDY REQUIRED.—In order to fulfill the responsibility to administer the functions assigned under chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, the provisions of the Clinger-Cohen Act of 1996 (divisions D and E of Public Law 104-106) and the amendments made by that Act, and the provisions of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall, in cooperation with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, conduct an ongoing study of the use of electronic signatures under this title on—

(1) paperwork reduction and electronic commerce;

(2) individual privacy; and

(3) the security and authenticity of transactions.

(b) REPORTS.—The Director shall submit to Congress on a periodic basis a report describing the results of the study carried out under subsection (a).

SEC. 7. ENFORCEABILITY AND LEGAL EFFECT OF ELECTRONIC RECORDS.

Electronic records submitted or maintained in accordance with procedures developed under this Act, or electronic signatures or other forms of electronic authentication used in accordance with such procedures, shall not be denied legal effect, validity, or enforceability because such records are in electronic form.

SEC. 8. DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION.

Except as provided by law, information collected in the provision of electronic signature services for communications with an executive agency, as provided by this Act, shall only be used or disclosed by persons who obtain, collect, or maintain such information as a business or government practice, for the purpose of facilitating such communications, or with the prior affirmative consent of the person about whom the information pertains.

SEC. 9. APPLICATION WITH INTERNAL REVENUE LAWS.

No provision of this Act shall apply to the Department of the Treasury or the Internal Revenue Service to the extent that such provision—

(1) involves the administration of the internal revenue laws; or

(2) conflicts with any provision of the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998 or the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

SEC. 10. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act:

(1) ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE.—The term "electronic signature" means a method of signing an electronic message that—

(A) identifies and authenticates a particular person as the source of the electronic message; and

(B) indicates such person's approval of the information contained in the electronic message.

(2) EXECUTIVE AGENCY.—The term "Executive agency" has the meaning given that term in section 105 of title 5, United States Code.

**PLANT PATENT AMENDMENTS
ACT OF 1998**

**LEAHY (AND OTHERS)
AMENDMENT NO. 3830**

Mr. GRAIG (for Mr. LEAHY for himself, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, and Mr. HATCH) proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 1197) to amend title 35, United States Code, to protect patent owners against the unauthorized sale of plant parts taken from plants illegally reproduced, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end of the bill add the following:

SEC. 4. ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC PATENT INFORMATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The United States Patent and Trademark Office shall develop and implement statewide computer networks with remote library sites in requesting rural States such that citizens in those States will have enhanced access to information in their State's patent and trademark depository library.

(b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term "rural States" means the States that qualified on January 1, 1997, as rural States under section 1501(b) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 379bb(b)).

**LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION
BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE
COIN ACT**

D'AMATO AMENDMENT NO. 3831

Mr. GRAIG (for Mr. D'AMATO) proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 1560) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the Lewis & Clark Expedition, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end of the bill, add the following new sections:

SEC. 11. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS FOR THE "LITTLE ROCK NINE".

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

(1) Jean Brown Trickey, Carlotta Walls LaNier, Melba Patillo Beals, Terrence Roberts, Gloria Ray Karlmark, Thelma Mothershed Wair, Ernest Green, Elizabeth Eckford, and Jefferson Thomas, hereafter in this section referred to as the "Little Rock Nine", voluntarily subjected themselves to the bitter stinging pains of racial bigotry;

(2) the Little Rock Nine are civil rights pioneers whose selfless acts considerably advanced the civil rights debate in this country;

(3) the Little Rock Nine risked their lives to integrate Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, and subsequently the Nation;

(4) the Little Rock Nine sacrificed their innocence to protect the American principle that we are all "one nation, under God, indivisible";

(5) the Little Rock Nine have indelibly left their mark on the history of this Nation; and

(6) the Little Rock Nine have continued to work toward equality for all Americans.

(b) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The President is authorized to present, on behalf of

Congress, to Jean Brown Trickey, Carlotta Walls LaNier, Melba Patillo Beals, Terrence Roberts, Gloria Ray Karlmark, Thelma Mothershed Wair, Ernest Green, Elizabeth Eckford, and Jefferson Thomas, commonly referred to the "Little Rock Nine", gold medals of appropriate design, in recognition of the selfless heroism that such individuals exhibited and the pain they suffered in the cause of civil rights by integrating Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.

(c) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the presentation referred to in subsection (b) the Secretary of the Treasury shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the Secretary for each recipient.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION.—Effective October 1, 1998, there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

(e) DUPLICATE MEDALS.—

(1) STRIKING AND SALE.—The Secretary of the Treasury may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medals struck pursuant to this section under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses, and the cost of the gold medal.

(2) REIMBURSEMENT OF APPROPRIATION.—The appropriation used to carry out this section shall be reimbursed out of the proceeds of sales under paragraph (1).

SEC. 12. FORD CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The President is authorized to present, on behalf of the Congress, to Gerald R. and Betty Ford a gold medal of appropriate design—

(1) in recognition of their dedicated public service and outstanding humanitarian contributions to the people of the United States; and

(2) in commemoration of the following occasions in 1998:

(A) The 85th anniversary of the birth of President Ford.

(B) The 80th anniversary of the birth of Mrs. Ford.

(C) The 50th wedding anniversary of President and Mrs. Ford.

(D) The 50th anniversary of the 1st election of Gerald R. Ford to the United States House of Representatives.

(E) The 25th anniversary of the approval of Gerald R. Ford by the Congress to become Vice President of the United States.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the Secretary.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated not to exceed \$20,000 to carry out this section.

(d) DUPLICATE MEDALS.—

(1) STRIKING AND SALE.—The Secretary of the Treasury may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to this section under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses, and the cost of the gold medal.

(2) REIMBURSEMENT OF APPROPRIATION.—The appropriation used to carry out this section shall be reimbursed out of the proceeds of sales under paragraph (1).

(e) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursuant to this section are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

SEC. 13. 6-MONTH EXTENSION FOR CERTAIN SALES.

Notwithstanding section 101(7)(D) of the United States Commemorative Coin Act of

1996, the Secretary of the Treasury may, at any time before January 1, 1999, make bulk sales at a reasonable discount to the Jackie Robinson Foundation of not less than 20 percent of any denomination of proof and uncirculated coins minted under section 101(7) of such Act which remained unissued as of July 1, 1998, except that the total number of coins of any such denomination which were issued under such section or this section may not exceed the amount of such denomination of coins which were authorized to be minted and issued under section 101(7)(A) of such Act.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

WORLD POPULATION AWARENESS WEEK

• Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise on behalf of myself and Senator JEFFORDS to acknowledge and celebrate World Population Awareness Week.

World population stands today at more than 5.9 billion and increases by more than 80 million per year, with virtually all of this growth in the least developed countries.

A total of 1.3 billion people—more than the combined population of Europe and North Africa—live in absolute poverty on the equivalent of one United States dollar or less a day; 1.5 billion people—nearly one-quarter of the world's population—lack an adequate supply of clean drinking water or sanitation; more than 840 million people—one-fifth of the entire population of the developing world—are hungry or malnourished.

Demographic studies and surveys indicate that in the developing world there are at least 120 million women who want more control over their fertility but lack access to family planning. This unmet need for family planning is projected to result in 1.2 billion unintended births.

The 1994 International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo determined that a combination of political commitment and appropriate programs designed to provide universal access to voluntary family planning information, education and services can ensure world population stabilization at 8 billion or less rather than 12 billion or more.

We are pleased to support the week of October 24–31, 1998 as World Population Awareness Week.●

ISLAMIC HOUSE OF WISDOM

• Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge an important event in the state of Michigan. The Islamic House of Wisdom will be holding its Semi-annual fundraising dinner Sunday, October 18, 1998.

The Islamic House of Wisdom, has served an invaluable role in educating both Muslims and non-Muslims on important moral and social issues. They have worked diligently to promote a positive image of Islam in the Detroit metropolitan area, and their interfaith

symposiums have helped to bridge the gap between the diverse peoples and faiths that make up our Metro Detroit community.

Again, I offer my congratulations to Imam Mohammad Ali Elahi and all the members of the Islamic House of Wisdom for hosting this successful event and wish them continued success in their journey of faith and teaching.●

TRIBUTE TO MOLLY ALLEN

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, it gives me great pleasure to recognize an outstanding young fifth grade student from Kansas, Molly Allen. Molly is a student at Sunset Ridge Elementary School in Shawnee Mission, and was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes in July. Since that time, Molly brought awareness about this disease to her fellow classmates by sharing her personal experience.

In addition, Molly organized her school's effort to raise money for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation's walk, which was Saturday, September 19, 1998. This courageous young lady exemplifies leadership and courage. I am proud to recognize one of Kansas' outstanding young leaders. I wish Molly continued success in her future endeavors, and I ask that the Kansas City Star article featuring Molly follow my remarks in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the Kansas City Star, Sept. 19, 1998]

STUDENT WALKING TO FIGHT DIABETES

(By Anne Christiansen)

When 10-year-old Molly Allen participates in the Walk to Cure Diabetes today, she'll have 4 miles ahead of her and 459 feet behind her.

That's how many paper sneakers cover the windows of her elementary school—the newly opened Sunset Ridge. They're put there as a visual indicator of how much money students have raised so far—\$459—only halfway through a six-day fund drive that ends Wednesday.

Molly was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes in July. Since that time, she's talked to classes at the school from her own fifth grade right down to kindergarten.

"They asked me why I have to wear this bracelet," she said, twirling the medical alert chain around her wrist. "They ask me if the (insulin) shots hurt. They were really pretty mature about it."

She's brought in the device that measures the glucose in her blood. She's taught her friends to look for signs of low blood sugar.

She's also spearheaded the school's effort to raise money for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation's walk, which begins at 10 a.m. today in Shawnee Mission Park.

Principal Jane Fletcher said she has been impressed with Molly's dedication.

"She got on the intercom, and she said, 'Thank you for helping me.' that took a lot of courage," Fletcher said.

When school first started, some of the students were afraid they would "catch" diabetes from Molly.

"I had to explain to them that it wasn't that kind of disease," she said.

She also had to explain to her class why she was allowed a mid-morning snack in class while the rest of the students salivated jealously.

"They said, 'What are you doing?' because only a few of the girls knew before school started that I had diabetes," she explained.