

allowed the six States to set artificially high prices for their producers, it allowed them to block entry of lower priced milk from producers in competing States. To give them an even bigger advantage, processors in the region get a subsidy to export their higher priced milk to noncompact States. It's a windfall for Northeast dairy farmers. It's also plainly unfair and unjust to the rest of the country.

Mr. President, the Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact (NEIDC) is set to expire at the implementation of USDA's new Federal Milk Market Order system. According to the Omnibus Appropriations measure passed last year, the expiration date of the NEIDC is scheduled for October 1, 1999. Now, Members of Congress are pushing for an extension and expansion of the existing milk cartel and for the authorization of another.

To make clear the magnitude of this legislation on producers and consumers we need to only look at the numbers. Currently, three percent of milk is under a compact, conceivably, under this new measure, over 40% of this country's milk will be affected. More importantly, one hundred percent of this country's milk prices will be affected—in Wisconsin, prices will be adversely affected.

These compacts amount to nothing short of government-sponsored price fixing. They are unfair, and bad policy. Now, my colleagues would like you to make this compact permanent, expand it to include other states, and authorize a southern dairy compact. After three years, we know that dairy compacts:

Blatantly interfere with interstate commerce and wildly distort the marketplace by erecting artificial barriers around one specially protected region of the Nation;

Arbitrarily provide preferential price treatment for farmers in the Northeast at the expense of farmers in other regions who work just as hard, who love their homes just as much and whose products are just as good—maybe better in Wisconsin;

Irresponsibly encourage excess milk production in one region without establishing effective supply control. This practice flaunts basic economic principles and ignores the obvious risk that it will drive down milk prices for producers everywhere else in the country;

Raises retail milk prices on the millions of consumers in the Compact region;

Imposes higher costs on every taxpayer because we all pay for nutrition programs such as food stamps and the national school lunch programs that provide milk and other dairy products.

As a price-fixing device, the Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact was unprecedented in the history of this Nation. As a dairy cartel, it is a poor legislative fix and bad precedent to deal with low milk prices.

Wisconsin's dairy farmers are being economically crippled by federal dairy

policies. It's time to bring justice to federal dairy policy, and give Wisconsin Dairy farmers a fair shot in the market place.

I urge my colleagues not to buy into the rhetoric surrounding this issue. I urge you to work together towards fair national dairy policy. A policy that provides all dairy producers a fair price for their commodity, a policy that allows all of this country's dairy producers to succeed on the basis of hard work and a good product.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation and to join me in the fight against its passage.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### REPORT OF AN EXECUTIVE ORDER RELATIVE TO RESERVE MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES TO ACTIVE DUTY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 20

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

#### *To the Congress of the United States:*

I have today, pursuant to section 12304 of title 10, United States Code, authorized the Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of Transportation with respect to the Coast Guard, when it is not operating as a service within the Department of the Navy, under their respective jurisdictions, to order to active duty any units, and any individual members not assigned to a unit organized to serve as a unit, of the Selected Reserve, or any member in the Individual Ready Reserve mobilizations category and designated essential under regulations prescribed by the Secretary concerned. These reserves will augment the active components in support of operations in and around the former Yugoslavia related to the conflict in Kosovo.

A copy of the Executive order implementing this action is attached.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, April 27, 1999.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:57 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by one of its reading clerks, announced

that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 92. Concurrent resolution Expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the tragic shooting at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado.

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 5:00 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 800. An act to provide for education flexibility partnerships.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-2706. A communication from the Managing Director of the Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Government in the Sunshine Act for calendar year 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2707. A communication from the Acting General Counsel of the Department of Defense, transmitting, proposed legislation relative to various management concerns; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2708. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Information Collection Budget of the U.S. Government for fiscal year 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2709. A communication from the General Counsel, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice of a vacancy in the OMB office; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2710. A communication from the Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, various reports issued or released during February 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2711. A communication from the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Government National Mortgage Association management report for fiscal year 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2712. A communication from the Chairman, U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual statistical report for fiscal year 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

#### PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-37. A resolution adopted by the City Council of Cincinnati, Ohio relative to awarding a gold medal to Rosa Parks; ordered to lie on the table.

POM-38. A petition from the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.