

By Mr. FEINGOLD:

S. 1917. A bill to abolish the death penalty under Federal law; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 1918. A bill to waive the 24-month waiting period for disabled individuals to qualify for medicare benefits in the case of individuals suffering from terminal illness with not more than 2 years to live; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 1919. A bill to permit travel to or from Cuba by United States citizens and lawful resident aliens of the United States; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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

S. 1920. A bill to combat money laundering and protect the United States financial system by addressing the vulnerabilities of private banking to money laundering, and for other purposes; 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 Mr. GRAHAM:

S. Res. 231. A resolution referring S. 1456 entitled "A bill for the relief of Rocco A. Trecosta of Fort Lauderdale, Florida" to the chief judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a report thereon; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. Res. 232. A resolution making changes to Senate committees for the 106th Congress; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. WELLSTONE:

S. Con. Res. 72. A concurrent resolution expressing condemnation of the use of children as soldiers and the belief that the United States should support and, where possible, lead efforts to establish and enforce international standards designed to end this abuse of human rights; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN:

S. Con. Res. 73. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding Freedom Day; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. 1899. A bill to redesignate the Federal Emergency Management Agency as the "Federal Fire and Emergency Management Agency," and to amend the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 to authorize the Director of the Federal Fire and Emergency Management Agency to make grants to local fire departments for the purpose of protecting the public and firefighting personnel against fire and fire-related hazards; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

THE FIREFIGHTER INVESTMENT AND RESPONSE ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1999

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, today I am introducing legislation which would better equip our nation's firefighters to fight the ever-increasing threat of property destruction and potential loss of life.

The "Firefighter Investment and Response Enhancement (FIRE) Act of 1999" would authorize the newly-named Federal Fire and Emergency Management Agency to make available matching grants on a competitive basis to fire departments for the purpose of protecting the public and firefighting personnel against fire and fire-related hazards. This bill is a companion to H.R. 1168, which was introduced by my colleague in the House of Representatives, Congressman PASCRELL.

Mr. President, each year approximately 100 of our nation's firefighters pay the ultimate sacrifice to preserve the safety of our communities. Increased demands on firefighting personnel have made it difficult for local governments to prepare for necessary fire safety precautions. The fire loss in the United States is serious, and the fire death rate is one of the highest per capita in the industrialized world. Fire kills more than 4,000 people and injures more than 25,000 people each year. Today, 11 people will die due to fire. Two of these people are likely to be children under the age of 5. Another 68 people will be injured due to fire. Financially, the impact of America's estimated 2.2 million fires annually is over \$9 billion in direct property losses. Those numbers are staggering, and many of these losses could have been prevented.

The bill I introduce today would make grants available to train firefighter personnel in firefighting, emergency response, arson prevention and detection, and the handling of hazardous substances or pollutants or contaminants associated with the illegal manufacture of amphetamine or methamphetamine.

This bill also creates partnerships by allowing for the effective use of the capabilities of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Department of Commerce, and the Consumer Product Safety Commission for research and development aimed at advancing the health and safety of firefighters; information technologies for fire management; technologies for fire prevention and protection; firefighting technologies; and burn care and rehabilitation.

In addition, this legislation would ensure that grants would be made to a wide variety of fire departments, including applicants from paid, volunteer, and combination fire departments, large and small, which are situated in urban, suburban and rural communities.

Mr. President, despite the risks, 1.2 million men and women firefighters willingly put their lives on the line responding to over 17 million calls, annually. Our greatest challenge is to put limited resources to work where they will make the most difference in saving lives and reducing losses.

I am pleased that the bill I introduce today has been endorsed by the Colorado State Fire Chief's Association.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important bill. I ask

unanimous consent that the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1899

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Firefighter Investment and Response Enhancement (FIRE) Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) increased demands on firefighting personnel have made it difficult for local governments to adequately fund necessary fire safety precautions;

(2) the Federal Government has an obligation to protect the health and safety of the firefighting personnel of the United States and to help ensure that the personnel have the financial resources to protect the public;

(3) the United States has serious fire losses, including a fire death rate that is one of the highest per capita in the industrialized world;

(4) in the United States, fire kills more than 4,000 people and injures more than 25,000 people each year;

(5) in any single day in the United States, on the average—

(A) 11 people will die because of fire;

(B) 2 of those people are likely to be children under the age of 5;

(C) 68 people will be injured because of fire; and

(D) over \$9,000,000,000 in property losses will occur from fire; and

(6) those statistics demonstrate a critical need for Federal investment in support of firefighting personnel.

SEC. 3. REDESIGNATION OF FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Emergency Management Agency is redesignated as the "Federal Fire and Emergency Management Agency".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall be deemed to be a reference to the Federal Fire and Emergency Management Agency.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO FEDERAL FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL ACT OF 1974.—Sections 4(4), 17, and 31(a)(5)(B) of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2203(4), 2216, and 2227(a)(5)(B)) are amended by striking "Federal Emergency Management Agency" each place it appears and inserting "Federal Fire and Emergency Management Agency".

SEC. 4. FIREFIGHTER INVESTMENT AND RESPONSE ENHANCEMENT.

The Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 33. FIREFIGHTER INVESTMENT AND RESPONSE ENHANCEMENT.

"(a) DEFINITION OF FIREFIGHTING PERSONNEL.—In this section, the term 'firefighting personnel' means individuals, including volunteers, who are firefighters, officers of fire departments, or emergency medical service personnel of fire departments.

"(b) GRANT PROGRAM.—

"(1) AUTHORITY.—In accordance with this section, the Director may make grants on a competitive basis to fire departments for the purpose of protecting the health and safety of the public and firefighting personnel against fire and fire-related hazards.