

one more year of Idaho State-authorized flow augmentation, which is the 427,000 acre feet of water that is used to facilitate salmon and steelhead migration, plus \$10 million to fund a water bank to store water for the purposes of fish passage and temperature reduction during low flow periods. The Bureau of Reclamation would also receive money to implement offsite mitigation measures called for in the Biological Opinion.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, \$56.9 million, increases for habitat improvements, habitat conservation planning, landowner assistance, Section 7 consultation, and hatchery retrofits.

In addition to the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service has major responsibilities for screening irrigation diversions. Its screening program provides help to individual landowners in the form of technical assistance and money to pay for fish screens over irrigation diversions.

There are many agencies with responsibilities for implementing salmon and steelhead recovery measures, and, frankly, these are just some of them. I also recommend funds for other agencies such as the Natural Resource Conservation Service and the Environmental Protection Agency to implement their piece of the anadromous fish restoration program.

This adds up to a grand total of \$688.2 million.

I anticipate that regional interests will examine the details of my proposal and will offer suggestions to improve this appropriations package. I encourage that discussion and look forward to the input that others will offer. There are processes currently underway in the region that could well result in changes to this proposal.

It is my hope and expectation that this funding will change what has been a decades-long, torturous, and expensive process into a success that will make the Pacific Northwest a role model for how to recover endangered species. I look forward to working with colleagues in the House and Senate to provide funds to support a successful Columbia Basin Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Wednesday, May 2, 2001, the Federal debt stood at \$5,655,955,997,201.31, Five trillion, six hundred fifty-five billion, nine hundred fifty-five million, nine hundred ninety-seven thousand, two hundred one dollar and thirty-one cents.

One year ago, May 2, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,669,551,000,000, Five trillion, six hundred sixty-nine billion, five hundred fifty-one million.

Five years ago, May 2, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,100,093,000,000, Five trillion, one hundred billion, ninety-three million.

Ten years ago, May 2, 1991, the Federal debt stood at \$3,438,851,000,000,

Three trillion, four hundred thirty-eight billion, eight hundred fifty-one million.

Fifteen years ago, May 2, 1986, the Federal debt stood at \$2,015,491,000,000, Two trillion, fifteen billion, four hundred ninety-one million, which reflects a debt increase of more than \$3.5 trillion, \$3,640,464,997,201.31, Three trillion, six hundred forty billion, four hundred sixty-four million, nine hundred ninety-seven thousand, two hundred one dollar and thirty-one cents during the past 15 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

THE QUEST PROGRAM

• Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, today, there is much focus on the problems in our schools but, I would like to bring to your attention the students and citizens in the great State of New Jersey who are doing something to make our schools a better place to learn and grow. The Quest Program is an amazing group of 11- and 12-year-olds who are positively affecting the student body and facilities at Dr. John Howard Jr. Unique School of Excellence in East Orange, NJ.

Noting the rise of suspensions and other discipline issues in their school, a group of 13 fourth and fifth graders gathered under the leadership of their teacher, Ms. Christine McAdams, and created the Quest Program. They developed this program to find ways to improve student behavior. Volunteering more than 400 hours toward the goal of bettering the student body, these young people established 14 enrichment programs through which students could positively direct their youthful energy and exuberance. These exceptional students even successfully bought property to expand their school playground by researching grant and funding opportunities in their community.

The Quest Program placed first in New Jersey in the junior division of the Community Problem Solving Component of the International Future Problem Solving Program. The Dr. John Howard Community Problem Solving Team will represent New Jersey at the International Competition in Athens, Georgia this June.

These 13 students are an excellent example of the creativity and dedication of which America's young people are capable. Joshua Baily, Sabre Burroughs, Teri Jones, Orion Khan, Kamiah Mitchell, Shanteea Moore, Chetachi Odelugo, Cory Patterson, Rubi Ramirez, Katiria Torres, Raymond Torres, John Wilson, and Minette Wilson are a credit to their families, their school, and the State of New Jersey.

As a Senator who believes very strongly in the importance of education, I am exceptionally proud of these prodigious young people and their decision to spend their time and

energy making their school a better place to learn. It is my hope that you will join me in wishing them good luck in June and in all of their future endeavors.●

SUPPORTING FARMER EDUCATION

• Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise today to commend Farmland Industries for their leadership in educating farmers on the importance of international trade, through the program "Support Trade, for Farmers, For Farmland, For You." I also congratulate them for receiving the 2001 National Agri-Marketing Association's award for Best of Show.

I ask that the letter of congratulations I sent to Farmland Industries be printed in the RECORD.

The letter follows.

UNITED STATES SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE,
Washington, DC, May 2, 2001.

Mr. ROBERT HONSE,
President & CEO, Farmland Industries, Inc.,
Kansas City, MO.

I recently read that Farmland's trade education program, "Support Trade, For Farmers, For Farmland, For You" was selected to receive the 2001 National Agri-Marketing Association's award for Best of Show. Congratulations on this impressive achievement!

Farmland Industries clearly understands the important role of international trade to the agriculture industry. As the only working family farmer in the United States Senate and Chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance, I also appreciate the importance of international trade to America's farmers. International trade has a significant impact on my home state of Iowa, with agriculture exports contributing more than \$5 billion a year to Iowa's economy. Nationwide, approximately \$6 billion in agriculture products, such as grains, oilseed, cotton, meats, and vegetables are processed for export every day. These exports generate more than \$100 billion in total business activity, and sustain nearly a million American jobs.

Trade is vital to the United States economy generally, and to our farmers in particular, as agriculture makes an enormous and valuable contribution as our third largest export. Increased market opportunities in agricultural trade are of tremendous importance to American farmers and to our economy. That is why I applaud your efforts to inform and mobilize the farming community in support of open markets.

The "Support Trade" program sponsored by Farmland Industries, and the communications team led by Sherlyn Manson and David Eaheart, addressed a vitally important issue through a program that has informed and enlightened farmers at the grassroots level on the importance of international trade.

You are to be highly commended for your leadership. Too few companies appreciate the importance of trade education at the grassroots level. Farmland Industries is truly a leader whose example I hope others will emulate.

I look forward to working with you during this session of Congress as we address such important international trade issues as renewing Trade Promotion Authority for President Bush, continuing normal trade relations for the People's Republic of China, passing normal trade relations for Vietnam, and preparing for the launch of a new round of World Trade Organization negotiations this November.