

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY, TERRORISM
AND GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism and Government Information be authorized to meet on Thursday, December 13, 2001, at 2 p.m. in Dirksen 226, to conduct a hearing on "Protecting Our Homeland Against Terror: Building a New National Guard for the 21st Century."

Panel I: Senator Christopher S. "Kit" Bond, Co-Chair, National Guard Caucus, United States Senate.

Panel II: Lieutenant General Frank G. Libutti (Retired), Special Assistant for Homeland Security, Office of the Secretary of Defense, United States Department of Defense; Lieutenant General Russell C. Davis, Chief, National Guard Bureau, Arlington, VA; Major General Richard C. Alexander (Retired), Executive Director, National Guard Association of the United States, Washington, DC; Major General Paul D. Monroe, Jr., Adjutant General, California National Guard, Sacramento, CA.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

INCLUSION OF AFGHAN WOMEN IN
INTERIM ADMINISTRATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 191 submitted earlier today by Senators BOXER, BROWNBACK, and others.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 191) expressing the sense of the Senate commending the inclusion of women in the Afghan Interim Administration and commending those who met at the historic Afghan Women's Summit for Democracy in Brussels.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 191) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The text of the resolution is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN
ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL RE-
CONSTRUCTION OF AFGHANI-
STAN

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to Calendar No. 279, S. Con. Res. 86.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 86) expressing the sense of Congress that women from all ethnic groups in Afghanistan should participate in the economic and political reconstruction of Afghanistan.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 86) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 86

Whereas until 1996 women in Afghanistan enjoyed the right to be educated, work, vote, and hold elective office;

Whereas women served on the committee that drafted the Constitution of Afghanistan in 1964;

Whereas during the 1970s women were appointed to the Afghan ministries of education, health, and law;

Whereas in 1977 women comprised more than 15 percent of the Loya Jirga, the Afghan national legislative assembly;

Whereas during the war with the Soviet Union as many as 70 percent of the teachers, nurses, doctors, and small business owners in Afghanistan were women;

Whereas in 1996 the Taliban stripped the women of Afghanistan of their most basic human and political rights;

Whereas under Taliban rule women have become one of the most vulnerable groups in Afghanistan, accounting for 75 percent or more of all Afghan refugees;

Whereas a study conducted by Physicians for Human Rights and released in May 2001 indicates that more than 90 percent of Afghan men and women believe that women should have the right to receive an education, work, freely express themselves, enjoy legal protections, and participate in the government; and

Whereas restoring the human and political rights that were once enjoyed by Afghan women is essential to the long-term stability of a reconstructed Afghanistan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) a portion of the humanitarian assistance provided to Afghanistan should be targeted to Afghan women and their organizations;

(2) Afghan women from all ethnic groups in Afghanistan should be permitted to participate in the economic and political reconstruction of Afghanistan; and

(3) any constitution or legal structure of a reconstructed Afghanistan should guarantee the human and political rights of Afghan women.

PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE
FAMILIES AMENDMENTS OF 2001

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consideration of Calendar No. 227, H.R. 2873.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2873) to extend and amend the program entitled Promoting Safe and Stable Families under title IV-B, subpart 2 of the Social Security Act, and to provide new authority to support programs for mentoring children of incarcerated parents; to amend the Foster Care Independent Living program under title IV-E of that Act to provide for educational and training vouchers for youths aging out of foster care, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, the Senate is passing the House bill to reauthorize the Safe and Stable Families Program. This is necessary action to protect funding that is fundamental for promoting adoptions and preventing child abuse and neglect. By acting today, the Senate can secure \$1.5 billion over the next 5 years for vital priorities. It would be wrong to leave Washington without taking action to ensure long-term support for such vulnerable children.

Earlier this year, I joined with Senator MIKE DEWINE and a bipartisan group in introducing an even better legislative package to boldly expand this vital program. Our bill, which was based on President Bush's own proposal, would have increased the basic funding for the Safe and Stable Families Program from \$305 million to \$505 million of guaranteed annual funding. This would have provided an additional \$1 billion over the next 5 years, including \$60 million in funding for scholarships for teens aging out of foster care. It would also have provided authority to create a new program designed to mentor the children of prisoners. I truly wish we were moving the Senate bill today, but since that is not possible, I believe enacting the House bill is essential for the long-term security of this program.

The House version provides a 5-year reauthorization of the Safe and Stable Families Program. The House bill also authorizes scholarships for teens aging out of foster care and new programs for mentoring children of prisoners.

Thanks to the leadership of Senators HARKIN and SPECTER, there is a \$70 million increase in this year's Senate Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations. That is good news for families who need adoption support services and prevention services. I am proud of this increase, and enormously grateful for the support and cooperation of the Appropriations Committees in both the House and Senate.

Throughout my years of legislative work on child welfare, I have worked hard to forge bipartisan compromise and consensus. I strongly believe that we must maintain such bipartisanship. The best news is that we have more money to provide more services to families next year. But the challenge remains for us to work and achieve the goals of the original Senate bill and President Bush's proposal. I remain