

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States.

CONCERNING RACIAL MINORITIES IN IRAN

SCHUMER AMENDMENT NO. 734

Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 39) expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the treatment of religious minorities in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and particularly the recent arrests of members of that country's Jewish community; as follows:

On page 3, line 3, strike "Clinton Administration" and insert "United States".

On page 3, strike line 4 to line 5 before "continue".

On page 3, beginning with line 7, strike the word "recommendation" and insert "the recommendation of resolution 1999/13."

On page 3, line 9, insert after "(2)" "continue to".

FUELS REGULATORY RELIEF ACT

CHAFEE AMENDMENT NO. 735

Mr. GRASSLEY (for Mr. CHAFEE) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 880) to amend the Clean Air Act to remove flammable fuels from the list of substances with respect to which reporting and other activities are required under the risk management plan program; as follows:

Strike section 4 and insert the following:

SEC. 4. PUBLIC ACCESS TO OFF-SITE CONSEQUENCE ANALYSIS INFORMATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 112(r)(7) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7412(r)(7)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(H) PUBLIC ACCESS TO OFF-SITE CONSEQUENCE ANALYSIS INFORMATION.—

"(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this subparagraph:

"(I) COVERED PERSON.—The term 'covered person' means—

"(aa) an officer or employee of the United States;

"(bb) an officer or employee of an agent or contractor of the Federal Government;

"(cc) an officer or employee of a State or local government;

"(dd) an officer or employee of an agent or contractor of a State or local government;

"(ee) an individual affiliated with an entity that has been given, by a State or local government, responsibility for preventing, planning for, or responding to accidental releases and criminal releases;

"(ff) an officer or employee of an agent or contractor of an entity described in item (ee); and

"(gg) a qualified researcher under clause (vii).

"(II) CRIMINAL RELEASE.—The term 'criminal release' means an emission of a regulated substance into the ambient air from a stationary source that is caused, in whole or in part, by a criminal act.

"(III) OFFICIAL USE.—The term 'official use' means an action of a Federal, State, or local government agency or an entity referred to in subclause (I)(ee) intended to carry out a function relevant to preventing, planning for, or responding to accidental releases or criminal releases.

"(IV) OFF-SITE CONSEQUENCE ANALYSIS INFORMATION.—The term 'off-site consequence analysis information' means those portions of a risk management plan, excluding the executive summary of the plan, consisting of an evaluation of 1 or more worst-case scenario or alternative scenario accidental releases, and any electronic data base created by the Administrator from those portions.

"(V) RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The term 'risk management plan' means a risk management plan submitted to the Administrator by an owner or operator of a stationary source under subparagraph (B).

"(ii) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subparagraph, the President shall—

"(I) assess—

"(aa) the increased risk of terrorist and other criminal activity associated with the posting of off-site consequence analysis information on the Internet; and

"(bb) the incentives created by public disclosure of off-site consequence analysis information for reduction in the risk of accidental releases and criminal releases; and

"(II) based on the assessment under subclause (I), promulgate regulations governing the distribution of off-site consequence analysis information in a manner that, in the opinion of the President, minimizes the likelihood of accidental releases and criminal releases and the likelihood of harm to public health and welfare, and—

"(aa) allows access by any member of the public to paper copies of off-site consequence analysis information for a limited number of stationary sources located anywhere in the United States;

"(bb) allows other public access to off-site consequence analysis information as appropriate;

"(cc) allows access for official use by a covered person described in any of items (cc) through (ff) of clause (i)(I) (referred to in this subclause as a 'State or local covered person') to off-site consequence analysis information relating to stationary sources located in the person's State;

"(dd) allows a State or local covered person to provide, for official use, off-site consequence analysis information relating to stationary sources located in the person's State to a State or local covered person in a contiguous State; and

"(ee) allows a State or local covered person to obtain for official use, by request to the Administrator, off-site consequence analysis information that is not available to the person under item (cc).

"(iii) AVAILABILITY UNDER FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.—

"(I) FIRST YEAR.—Off-site consequence analysis information, and any ranking of stationary sources derived from the information, shall not be made available under section 552 of title 5, United States Code, during the 1-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this subparagraph.

"(II) AFTER FIRST YEAR.—If the regulations under clause (ii) are promulgated on or before the end of the period described in subclause (I), off-site consequence analysis information covered by the regulations, and any ranking of stationary sources derived from the information, shall not be made available under section 552 of title 5, United States Code, after the end of that period.

"(III) APPLICABILITY.—Subclauses (I) and (II) apply to off-site consequence analysis information submitted to the Administrator before, on, or after the date of enactment of this subparagraph.

"(iv) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION DURING TRANSITION PERIOD.—The Administrator shall

make off-site consequence analysis information available to covered persons for official use in a manner that meets the requirements of items (cc) through (ee) of clause (ii)(II), and to the public in a form that does not make available any information concerning the identity or location of stationary sources, during the period—

"(I) beginning on the date of enactment of this subparagraph; and

"(II) ending on the earlier of the date of promulgation of the regulations under clause (ii) or the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this subparagraph.

"(v) PROHIBITION ON UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION BY COVERED PERSONS.—

"(I) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date of enactment of this subparagraph, a covered person shall not disclose to the public off-site consequence analysis information in any form, or any statewide or national ranking of identified stationary sources derived from such information, except as authorized by this subparagraph (including the regulations promulgated under clause (ii)). After the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this subparagraph, if regulations have not been promulgated under clause (ii), the preceding sentence shall not apply.

"(II) CRIMINAL PENALTIES.—

"(aa) KNOWING VIOLATIONS.—A covered person that knowingly violates a restriction or prohibition established by this subparagraph (including the regulations promulgated under clause (ii)) shall be fined not more than \$5,000 for each unauthorized disclosure of off-site consequence analysis information. The disclosure of off-site consequence analysis information for each specific stationary source shall be considered a separate offense. Section 3571 of title 18, United States Code, shall not apply to an offense under this item. The total of all penalties that may be imposed on a single person or organization under this item shall not exceed \$100,000 for violations committed during any 1 calendar year.

"(bb) WILLFUL VIOLATIONS.—A covered person that willfully violates a restriction or prohibition established by this subparagraph (including the regulations promulgated under clause (ii)) shall be fined under section 3571 of title 18, United States Code, for each unauthorized disclosure of off-site consequence analysis information, but shall not be subject to imprisonment. The total of all penalties that may be imposed on a single person or organization under this item shall not exceed \$1,000,000 for violations committed during any 1 calendar year.

"(III) APPLICABILITY.—If the owner or operator of a stationary source makes off-site consequence analysis information relating to that stationary source available to the public without restriction—

"(aa) subclauses (I) and (II) shall not apply with respect to the information; and

"(bb) the owner or operator shall notify the Administrator of the public availability of the information.

"(IV) LIST.—The Administrator shall maintain and make publicly available a list of all stationary sources that have provided notification under subclause (III)(bb).

"(vi) GUIDANCE.—

"(I) ISSUANCE.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this subparagraph, the Administrator, after consultation with the Attorney General and the States, shall issue guidance that describes official uses of off-site consequence analysis information in a manner consistent with the restrictions in items (cc) through (ee) of clause (ii)(II).

“(II) RELATIONSHIP TO REGULATIONS.—The guidance describing official uses shall be modified, as appropriate, consistent with the regulations promulgated under clause (ii).

“(III) DISTRIBUTION.—The Administrator shall transmit a copy of the guidance describing official uses to—

“(aa) each covered person to which off-site consequence analysis information is made available under clause (iv); and

“(bb) each covered person to which off-site consequence analysis information is made available for an official use under the regulations promulgated under clause (ii).

“(vii) QUALIFIED RESEARCHERS.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this subparagraph, the Administrator, in consultation with the Attorney General, shall develop and implement a system for providing off-site consequence analysis information, including facility identification, to any qualified researcher, including a qualified researcher from industry or any public interest group.

“(II) LIMITATION ON DISSEMINATION.—The system shall not allow the researcher to disseminate, or make available on the Internet, the off-site consequence analysis information, or any portion of the off-site consequence analysis information, received under this clause.

“(viii) READ-ONLY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEM.—In consultation with the Attorney General and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies, the Administrator shall establish an information technology system that provides for the availability to the public of off-site consequence analysis information by means of a central data base under the control of the Federal Government that contains information that users may read, but that provides no means by which an electronic or mechanical copy of the information may be made.

“(ix) VOLUNTARY INDUSTRY ACCIDENT PREVENTION STANDARDS.—The Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Justice, and other appropriate agencies may provide technical assistance to owners and operators of stationary sources and participate in the development of voluntary industry standards that will help achieve the objectives set forth in paragraph (1).

“(x) EFFECT ON STATE OR LOCAL LAW.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subclause (II), this subparagraph (including the regulations promulgated under this subparagraph) shall supersede any provision of State or local law that is inconsistent with this subparagraph (including the regulations).

“(II) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION UNDER STATE LAW.—Nothing in this subparagraph precludes a State from making available data on the off-site consequences of chemical releases collected in accordance with State law.

“(xi) REPORT ON ACHIEVEMENT OF OBJECTIVES.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this subparagraph, the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a report that describes the extent to which the regulations promulgated under this paragraph have resulted in actions, including the design and maintenance of safe facilities, that are effective in detecting, preventing, and minimizing the consequences of releases of regulated substances that may be caused by criminal activity.

“(II) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this subparagraph, the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress an interim report that includes, at a minimum—

“(aa) the preliminary findings under subclause (I);

“(bb) the methods used to develop those findings; and

“(cc) an explanation of the activities expected to occur that could cause the findings of the report under subclause (I) to be different from the preliminary findings.

“(xii) SCOPE.—This subparagraph—

“(I) applies only to covered persons; and

“(II) does not restrict the dissemination of off-site consequence analysis information by any covered person in any manner or form except in the form of a risk management plan or an electronic data base created by the Administrator from off-site consequence analysis information.

“(xiii) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator and the Attorney General such sums as are necessary to carry out this subparagraph (including the regulations promulgated under clause (ii)), to remain available until expended.”

(b) REPORTS.—

(1) DEFINITION OF ACCIDENTAL RELEASE.—In this subsection, the term “accidental release” has the meaning given the term in section 112(r)(2) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7412(r)(2)).

(2) REPORT ON STATUS OF CERTAIN AMENDMENTS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report on the status of the development of amendments to the National Fire Protection Association Code for Liquefied Petroleum Gas that will result in the provision of information to local emergency response personnel concerning the off-site effects of accidental releases of substances exempted from listing under section 112(r)(4)(B) of the Clean Air Act (as added by section 3).

(3) REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN INFORMATION SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report that—

(A) describes the level of compliance with Federal and State requirements relating to the submission to local emergency response personnel of information intended to help the local emergency response personnel respond to chemical accidents or related environmental or public health threats; and

(B) contains an analysis of the adequacy of the information required to be submitted and the efficacy of the methods for delivering the information to local emergency response personnel.

(c) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority provided by this section and the amendment made by this section terminates 6 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet on Wednesday, June 23, 1999, at 9:30 a.m. in open session, to receive testimony on recommendations to reorganize Department of Energy national security programs in response to espionage threats.

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

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 23, 1999, to conduct a hearing on “Export Administration Act Reauthorization: Government Views.”

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Wednesday, June 23, 1999, at 9:30 a.m. on pending committee business.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, the Finance Committee requests unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, June 23, 1999, beginning at 10 a.m. in room 215 Dirksen.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 23, 1999, at 4 p.m. to hold a hearing.

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Governmental Affairs Committee be permitted to meet on Wednesday, June 23, 1999, at 10 a.m. for a hearing on the Interagency Inspectors General Report on the Export-Control Process for Dual-Use and Munitions List Commodities.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet for a hearing on “ESEA: Title VI” during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 23, 1999, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 23, 1999, at 9:30 a.m. to conduct a hearing on the Report of the National Gambling Impact Study Commission. The hearing will be held in room 485, Russell Senate Building.