

No issue is more important to our relationship than aid to Israel. It is one of America's most cost-effective foreign policy investments. The economic and military aid that America provides Israel serves the interests of both countries by promoting peace, security, and trade. Israel recently initiated an agreement with the United States under which the United States will gradually reduce the amount of economic aid in the coming years while ensuring an adequate amount of military assistance. I commend Israel for this initiative, and I believe that the United States should stand by it.

The Middle East's unstable mixture of unconventional weaponry, advanced military technology, political instability, and radical fundamentalism threatens both Israel's security and America's vital interests in the region and around the world. I am committed to the expansion of the United States-Israel strategic cooperation that was formalized in 1983.

In addition, it is our national interest to help ensure that Israel maintains her qualitative military edge. Furthermore, the United States should not sell sophisticated weaponry that could erode that edge to nations hostile toward Israel. And, of course, the United States must do all it can to stop the development or acquisition of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons by rogue states such as Libya, Iraq and Iran.

True and lasting peace between Israel and her neighbors can be achieved only through direct negotiations between the parties. Nevertheless, the United States has played a critical role with Israel and her neighbors in helping bridge the differences between them. We must continue to invest the time and energy necessary to help continue this very complex series of negotiations.

Israel's capital of Jerusalem is important to Jews, Christian, and Muslims. I commend Israel for allowing all three faiths open access to worship at their holy places. Jerusalem is and ought to remain a united city under Israeli sovereignty.

Israel is the only country where the United States chooses not to locate our embassy in that country's capital city. I support the Jerusalem Embassy Act that recognizes the united city of Jerusalem as Israel's capital and mandates the moving of our embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Finally, I want to discuss Israel's special relationship with my home state of North Carolina. Since 1993, North Carolina and Israel have had one of the most comprehensive official exchange programs in the country. Both North Carolina and Israel have economies that depend on high technology, agriculture, and education. Both states benefit from their ongoing economic, social, and cultural exchanges. I look

forward to doing all I can to promote this valuable relationship between Israel and the great state of North Carolina.

Mr. President, I look forward to working with Israel's soon-to-be formed government to pursue our nations' many mutual interests. I wish Mr. Barak and his government the best as he pursues peace, security, and prosperity in the twenty-first century.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF HEARINGS

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, for the information of the Senate I would like to announce that S. 1273, the Federal Power Act Amendments of 1999; and S. 1284, the Electric Consumer Choice Act have been added to the hearing to be held before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on Tuesday, June 29 at 9:30 a.m. I would also like to announce that the hearing before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources previously scheduled for July 1, 1999 has been postponed until July 15, 1999 at 9:30 a.m. in SH-216 of the Hart Senate Office Building. The Committee will receive testimony on S. 161, the Power Marketing Administration Reform Act of 1999; S. 282, the Transition to Competition in the Electric Industry Act; S. 516, the Electric Utility Restructuring Empowerment and Competitiveness Act of 1999; S. 1047, the Comprehensive Electricity Competition Act; S. 1273, the Federal Power Act Amendments of 1999; and S. 1284, the Electric Consumer Choice Act. For additional information you may write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510.

Mr. President, I also announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the full Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place on Tuesday, July 27, 1999, at 9:30 a.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1052, to implement further the Act (Public Law 94-241) approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, and for other purposes.

Those wishing to testify or who wish to submit written statements should contact the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Washington, D.C. For further information, please call James Beirne, Deputy Chief Counsel at (202) 224-2564, or Betty Nevitt, Staff Assistant at (202) 224-0765.

#### COSPONSORSHIP OF S. 680

Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, I am happy to announce that I have decided to cosponsor S. 680. This bill, which

was introduced by Senators HATCH and BAUCUS, makes the tax credit for research and development permanent so as to encourage investment by companies and external investors in research activities. It has been shown through studies conducted by the General Accounting Office and the Bureau of Labor Statistics that R&D tax credit stimulates domestic R&D spending by U.S. companies. This continued spending on R&D is very important for the U.S. economy as we head into the next century, and I believe this bill serves an important purpose in achieving this goal.

I look forward to cosponsoring this bill and gaining support for it in the days ahead.

#### THE MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION AND LOCAL AUTHORITY ACT OF 1999

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, on June 10, 1999 I joined as a co-sponsor of legislation introduced by my Midwestern colleagues, the Junior Senator from Ohio, Mr. VOINOVICH, and the Junior Senator from Indiana, Mr. BAYH, S. 872, The Municipal Solid Waste Interstate Transportation and Local Authority Act of 1999. I am pleased to be working with them on this very important issue. I know that they, as former Governors, are intimately aware of the concerns that the growing trash trade poses for the States we represent.

We in the Midwest, especially those of us fortunate enough to be from the Great Lakes States, enjoy a very high quality of life—beautiful scenery, small, neighborly towns, and spectacular natural resources. We hold it as a particular point of pride that we, in many instances, have the luxury of avoiding many environmental problems and we have structured our State and local governments in Wisconsin to try to be sure that we continue to avoid them. However, Mr. President, we in Wisconsin are unable to protect our communities, which have done a good regulatory job, from having to deal with the solid waste mess created by our neighboring communities in other States. Instead, my State has been forced to accept other States' municipal solid waste in ever increasing amounts.

We need to enact legislation to reempower States to be able to control the flow of waste into state-licensed landfills from out-of-state sources. This legislation would give States the tools to do just that. It gives states, like mine, the power to freeze solid waste imports at the 1993 levels. States that did not accept out of State waste in 1993 would be presumed to prohibit receipt of out-of-State waste until the affected unit of local government approves it. Facilities that already have a host community agreement or permit

that accepts out-of-State waste would remain exempt from the ban. States would also be allowed to set a State-wide percentage limit on the amount of waste that new or expanding facilities could accept. The limit can not be lower than 20 percent. Finally, States, under this bill, are also given the ability to deny the creation of either new facilities or the expansion of existing in-State facilities if it is determined that there is no in-State need for the new capacity.

My home State has tried to address this issue repeatedly on its own, without success. On January 25, 1999, a federal appeals court struck down as unconstitutional a 1997 Wisconsin law that prohibits landfills from accepting out-of-State waste from communities that don't recycle in compliance with Wisconsin's law. We are now examining options for limiting out-of-State trash in Wisconsin including: appealing the decision to the United States Supreme Court, which refused to hear an appeal of a similar Wisconsin case in 1995, passing new State legislation, or pursuing the option before us today—seeking specific authority from Congress to regulate trash from other States.

Wisconsin's law bans 15 different recyclables from State landfills. Under the law, communities using Wisconsin landfills must have a recycling program similar to those required of Wisconsin communities under Wisconsin law, regardless of the law in their home State. About 27 Illinois towns rely on southern Wisconsin landfills. Since the law took effect, waste haulers serving those communities have had to find alternative landfills for their clients, incurring higher transportation costs in the process. IL-based Waste Management Inc. and the 1,300-member National Solid Waste Management Association were the entities that challenged Wisconsin's law, arguing that the law violated the Interstate Commerce Clause.

By recycling, Wisconsin residents have reduced the amount of municipal waste heading to landfills. Since the State's previous out-of-State waste law was struck down by the appeals court in 1995, the amount of non-Wisconsin waste in Wisconsin landfills has tripled. When the law was in effect, 7.7 percent of the municipal waste in Wisconsin came from out of State. That has risen to more than 22.9 percent since the law was struck down. Though this legislation will not afford Wisconsin the ability to block garbage containing recyclables from our landfills, it will at least give my State the ability to address the overall volume of waste entering our State.

In 1995, I supported flow control legislation sponsored by the Senator from New Hampshire, Mr. SMITH, and drawn substantially from the work of the former Senator from Indiana, Mr. Coats. I have been shocked that the

Senate, which passed that bill by a significant majority vote of 94-6, has not taken up legislation to address this issue since that time, shocked until I examined the relationship between the interests opposing that legislation and political campaigns. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, in the 1998 election cycle, one of the interests that opposes flow control legislation, Waste Management Inc., contributed \$422,275 in soft money to the two major political parties—\$85,000 to the Democratic Party and \$337,275 to the Republican Party. Mr. President, the issue of interstate waste control effects my home State and 23 other States. For years States have been faced with the challenge of ensuring safe responsible management of out-of-State waste, and the need for State control is even more acute today than in was in 1995. Congress is the only body that can give the States the relief they need from being overwhelmed by a tidal wave of trash. We have not acted on a problem that effects nearly half of our States, and citizens are left to try to understand our inaction by following the money trail behind the trash truck.

We need to take prompt action on this matter, and I think this legislation is a good first step. I urge my other colleagues to consider lending this bill their support.

#### THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Monday, June 28, 1999, the federal debt stood at \$5,600,865,929,234.63 (Five trillion, six hundred billion, eight hundred sixty-five million, nine hundred twenty-nine thousand, two hundred thirty-four dollars and sixty-three cents).

Five years ago, June 28, 1994, the federal debt stood at \$4,603,690,000,000 (Four trillion, six hundred three billion, six hundred ninety million).

Ten years ago, June 28, 1989, the federal debt stood at \$2,781,451,000,000 (Two trillion, seven hundred eighty-one billion, four hundred fifty-one million).

Fifteen years ago, June 28, 1984, the federal debt stood at \$1,506,943,000,000 (One trillion, five hundred six billion, nine hundred forty-three million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion—\$4,093,922,929,234.63 (Four trillion, ninety-three billion, nine hundred twenty-two million, nine hundred twenty-nine thousand, two hundred thirty-four dollars and sixty-three cents) during the past 15 years.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, on June 28, I was unavoidably detained due to inclement weather which prevented my flight from taking off in Hartford, CT. Had I not been delayed, I would have voted "no" on all four cloture votes, numbers 184, 185, 186, and 187.

#### EXPLANATION OF MISSED VOTE

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, on Monday June 28, 1999, I was not present during Senate action on rollcall vote No. 184, a motion to invoke cloture on S. 1233, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000, because my flight was delayed by inclement weather.

Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted "no."

#### CORRECTION TO THE RECORD

In the RECORD of June 24, 1999, on page S7590, the introduction of S. 1280, a bill to terminate the exemption of certain contractors, and other entities from civil penalties for violations of nuclear safety requirements under Atomic Energy Act of 1954, and for other purposes, was incorrectly attributed to Mrs. BOXER. The permanent RECORD will be corrected to reflect the following:

By Mr. BRYAN:

S. 1280. A bill to terminate the exemption of certain contractors and other entities from civil penalties for violations of nuclear safety requirements under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

#### 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 treaty which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### REPORT ON THE NATIONAL EMERGENCIES WITH RESPECT TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA (SERBIA AND MONTE-NEGRO) AND KOSOVO—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 43

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 Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

*To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c) and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) as declared in Executive Order