TRIBUTE TO RICHARD TORTORELLI
Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Richard Tortorelli of Milford, New Hampshire, who has retired from the Milford Fire Department after 41 years of service.

Richard began his career with the Milford Fire Department while in high school. At the age of 21, he joined the fire department as an on-call fire fighter. In 1966, he became the first full-time Fire Chief in Milford’s history. Under his leadership, the fire department has seen many changes: a move from Town Hall in 1974 into the current station, a change from a one-town dispatch center to the regional Milford Area Communication Center, and equipment updates along with specialized training.

Even though Richard works in one of the most dangerous professions in the country, he has never lost a member of his department. One of the most rewarding aspects of his career is that the number of fire calls in Milford has decreased over the years. He acknowledges that teaching fire prevention is not as thrilling as fighting a fire, however, it is very important.

I would like to thank Chief Tortorelli for his service to the Town of Milford, and his dedication and leadership to the Milford Fire Department. I commend Richard for his exemplary career and tireless efforts. I wish him luck in his future endeavors. It is an honor to represent him in the United States Senate.

APPOINTMENT
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 100-458, appoints the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) to the Board of Trustees of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development, for a term ending October 11, 2004.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 335
Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 1 p.m. on Monday, August 2, the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 191, S. 335, and that it be considered under the following limitations: 2 hours of total debate on the legislation equally divided between Senator COLLINS and Senator LEVIN or their designees; the only amendment in order be a managers’ amendment offered by Senators COLLINS and LEVIN or their designees; any statements relating to this bill be printed in the Record, and any statements relating to this bill be considered as read.

If the bill (S. 1467) be passed, as follows:

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, ETC.
(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 44310 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking "$2,050,000,000 for the period beginning August 6, 1999." and inserting "$2,410,000,000 for the period beginning August 6, 1999." and $2,410,000,000 for the period beginning October 1, 1999, and $34,000,000 for the period beginning October 1, 1999, and ending October 5, 1999.

(b) OBLIGATIONAL AUTHORITY.—Section 47104(c) of such title is amended by striking "August 6, 1999," and inserting "October 5, 1999, as the date on which such transfers may be made.

(c) EXTENSION OF AVIATION INSURANCE PROGRAM.—Section 44310 of such title is amended by striking "August 6, 1999," and inserting "October 5, 1999, as the date on which such transfers may be made.

(d) AIRWAY FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.—Section 48103 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking "January 1, 2000, and ending October 5, 1999."

ORDER FOR PRINTING OF S. 1344
Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that S. 1344, the Patrons’ Bill of Rights Plus Act, as amended and passed by the Senate on July 15, 1999, be printed as a document of the Senate.

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

ORDER FOR PRINTING OF S. 1344
Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that S. 1344, the Patrons’ Bill of Rights Plus Act, as amended and passed by the Senate on July 15, 1999, be printed as a document of the Senate.

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

EXTENSION OF FUNDING LEVELS FOR AVIATION PROGRAMS
Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 1467 introduced earlier today by Senator TORRISI.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1467) to extend the funding levels for aviation programs for 60 days.

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

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, I rise in support of S. 1467. This bill will extend the Federal Aviation Administration’s, FAA, Airport Improvement Program, AIP, for sixty days. It is critical that Congress complete the authorization for this program for this fiscal year.

Otherwise, the FAA will be prohibited from issuing much-needed grants to airports in every state, regardless of whether or not funds have been appropriated. In fact, there are still nearly $300 million in currently available AIP funds for the current fiscal year that cannot be spent because AIP authority expires on August 6.

If we do not act to reauthorize this program for at least the remainder of this fiscal year, we will cause harm to the transportation infrastructure of our country. AIP grants play a critical part in airport development. Without these grants, important safety, security, and capacity projects will be hampered throughout the country. Therefore, we must act swiftly.

The safety of the traveling public depends upon the continued flow of AIP monies. For example, airports use these funds to install instrument landing systems, which help guide airplanes to safe landings when visibility is impaired. AIP funds are also used for airport safety projects related to runway approach lighting; aircraft deicing equipment; snow removal equipment; repair of damaged runways; rescue and firefighting equipment; and fireproof safety areas for aircraft that have trouble stopping after a landing.

It is my understanding that AIP funds were spent because AIP authority expires on August 6, and we do not have the money to pay for these projects. If we do not act to reauthorize this program, our troops may not have been adequately supported.

This extension will also give us more time to work on a more comprehensive aviation bill that is still desperately needed. We have been working hard to accommodate the concerns that many Senators have with respect to provisions in S. 82, the Air Transportation Improvement Act. I believe we can bring a bill to the floor that will require very little of the Senate’s time.

Mr. President, I urge all of my colleagues to support swift passage of this short-term extension of the AIP. If we fail to act, the FAA will not be able to address vital security and safety needs in every State in the Nation. We must reaffirm our commitment to providing the public with a safe and efficient air transportation system. This bill will help us meet that goal.

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to this bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 1467) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 1467
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, ETC.
(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(b) OBLIGATIONAL AUTHORITY.—

(c) EXTENSION OF AVIATION INSURANCE PROGRAM.—

(d) AIRWAY FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.—

July 30, 1999

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE