

nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 13, 1999.

Army nominations beginning Herbert J. Andrade, and ending Nathan A. K. Wong, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 13, 1999.

Army nominations beginning Richard P. Anderson, and ending Gary F. Wainwright, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 13, 1999.

Army nominations beginning *Rodney H. Allen, and ending *Clifton E. Yu, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 13, 1999.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will return to legislative session.

ORDER FOR STAR PRINT—S. 1574

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a star print of S. 1574 be made with the changes that are already at the desk.

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

ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT AMENDMENTS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to consideration of Calendar No. 287, S. 1051.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1051) to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to manage the Strategic Petroleum Reserve more effectively, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. Title I of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6211-6251) is amended—

(a) In section 166 (42 U.S.C. 6246), by inserting “through 2003” after “1999”.

(b) In section 181 (42 U.S.C. 6251), by striking “1999” each place it appears and inserting “2003”.

SEC. 2. Title II of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6261-6285) is amended—

(a) In section 256(h) (41 U.S.C. 6276(h)), by inserting “through 2003” after “1997”.

(b) In section 281 (42 U.S.C. 6285), by striking “1999” each place it appears and inserting “2003”.

Mr. SPECTER. I ask unanimous consent that the committee substitute be agreed to.

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

The committee amendment was agreed to.

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

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

The bill (S. 1051), as amended, was read the third time and passed.

AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY SENATE COMMITTEES

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 289, S. Res. 189.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 189) authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the periods of October 1, 1999, through September 30, 2000, and October 1, 2000, through February 28, 2001.

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

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I am pleased to support the resolution before the Senate today which authorizes funding for 18 Senate standing committees through the remainder of the biennium ending on February 28, 2001.

This resolution marks another milestone in the development of the biennial funding authority for committees, first authorized in the 100th Congress. Since 1989, the Senate has funded committees on a two-year basis. The two-year budget has given the authorizing committees, and the Rules Committee in its capacity as the oversight committee, a management tool for efficiently operating the Senate committees. The two-year budget process allows for a continuity of funding which provides greater flexibility in allocating committee funds and scheduling committee business. Although the Rules Committee has adjusted the biennial funding authority in the past to provide greater flexibility to committees, the Senate has consistently approved a biennial budget for committee funding in each of the last six Congresses.

In the 106th Congress, changes in the Senate financial management system required to address Y2K issues necessitated a departure from the Senate rules and past practices. In the past, the Rules Committee completed action on the biennial committee funding resolution prior to the beginning of the new biennium on March 1 of the new Congress, as provided for in Rule XXVI of the Senate Rules. Due to the pressing business of the Senate at the beginning of the Congress, and in light of a number of unresolved issues regarding the implementation of the new financial management system in the Senate, the majority and minority staff of the Committee jointly recommended de-

laying committee action on the biennial budget until later in the year. Consequently, the Committee proposed, and the Senate adopted, S. Res. 38 on February 12 of this year, which authorized the Rules Committee to report a continuing resolution for committee funding for the period of March 1, 1999 through September 30, 1999. Subsequently, the Committee adopted, and the Senate passed, S. Res. 49 which funded 18 standing committees on a continuing basis for this period. In June, the Senate passed S. Res. 122, which required the authorizing committee to report their funding resolution by July 15 of this year and authorized the Rules Committee to report an omnibus funding resolution for the remainder of the biennium, ending on February 28, 2001. S. Res. 189 before us today is the culmination of this process.

This resolution preserves the overall flexibility of a two-year budget while modifying past practices to reflect changes in the Senate's financial management system. At the recommendation of the Senate Disbursing Office, this resolution moves the committee budget year from two equal funding periods, within the overall two-year budget, of March 1 through February 28, to three varying funding periods which track the Senate's fiscal year period. S. Res. 49 provided funding for the first of the three periods, March 1 through September 30, 1999. S. Res. 189 authorizes committee spending during each of the next two periods of the biennium: October 1, 1999 through September 30, 2000, and finally, October 1, 2000 through February 28, 2001. It is anticipated that the biennial funding resolution adopted in the 107th Congress will once again follow Senate Rule XXVI and be adopted prior to March 1, 2001, providing funding for committees for the three fiscal year periods occurring during the biennium ending February 28, 2003.

Most importantly, this resolution continues a practice begun by the Rules Committee in 1993 referred to as the “special reserves.” Special reserves result from the overlap in the end of the committee funding year on February 28 and the end of the fiscal year on September 30. The unobligated balances of the authorizing committee budgets which are unspent at the end of the biennium on February 28, but which remain available through the end of the fiscal year on September 30, are reprogrammed into special reserves and made available to the committees to meet their unforeseen needs.

The Rules Committee first authorized the use of special reserves in the 103rd Congress in S. Res. 71, section 23. In that resolution, the Senate authorized special reserves to be reprogrammed as carry-over funds for the committees. In the 104th Congress, the Rules Committee reported S. Res. 73,