

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, an referred as indicated:

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. 1774. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to regulate certain 50 caliber sniper weapons in the same manner as machine guns and other firearms; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. HELMS):

S. 1775. A bill to amend section 490 of the Foreign Assistance Act to 1961 to modify the matters taken into account in assessing the cooperation of foreign countries with the counterdrug efforts of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. GRAMS):

S. 1776. A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to revise the energy policies of the United States in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, advance global climate science, promote technology development, and increase citizen awareness, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. 1777. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives for the voluntary reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and to advance global climate science and technology development; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 1778. A bill to provide for equal exchanges of land around the Cascade Reservoir; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CLELAND:

S. 1779. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel M/V SANDPIPER; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HOLLINGS:

S. 1780. A bill for the relief of Raul Morales-Torna; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 1781. A bill to amend the Act that established the Keweenaw National Historical Park to require the Secretary of the Interior to consider nominees of various local interests in appointing members of the Keweenaw National Historic Park Advisory Commission; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. FRIST:

S. 1782. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the work opportunity credit to small business employees working or living in areas of poverty; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COCHRAN:

S. 1783. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a prospective payment system for inpatient longstay hospital services under the medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself and Mr. LEVIN):

S. 1784. A bill entitled the "Saint Helena Island National Scenic Area Act"; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. LOTT (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. REED, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. BYRD, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. INOUE, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. ROTH, Mr. HELMS, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. HATCH, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DODD, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. BREAUX, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. REID, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BOND, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. GORTON, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. MACK, Mr. KERREY, Mr. ROBB, Mr. BURNS, Mr. KOHL, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DORGAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. GREGG, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BENNETT, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. THOMPSON, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. KYL, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. FRIST, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. CLELAND, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. HAGEL, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. ENZI, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. BAYH, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. FITZGERALD, and Mr. EDWARDS):

S. Res. 206. A resolution relative to the death of the Honorable JOHN H. CHAFEE, of Rhode Island; considered and agreed to.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. 1774. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to regulate certain 50 caliber sniper weapons in the same manner as machine guns and other firearms; to the Committee on Finance.

MILITARY SNIPER WEAPON REGULATION ACT OF 1999

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today on behalf of myself and Senator LAUTENBERG to introduce the Military Sniper Weapon Regulation Act of 1999. This bill will reclassify powerful .50 caliber military sniper rifles under the National Firearms act, thus making it much more difficult for terrorists, doomsday cults, and criminals to obtain these guns for illegitimate use.

Let me just talk a little bit about what a .50 caliber gun is, and then I will describe why I believe it is vital to tighten the rules surrounding their use and purchase.

These .50 caliber firearms are weapons of such range and destructive capa-

bility that it seems unthinkable for them to fall into civilian hands. These .50 caliber guns, manufactured by a small handful of companies and individuals, are deadly, military style assault rifles. The M82A1, one common example of these guns, was manufactured with one purpose in mind—the efficient destruction of enemy armaments and personnel. These guns, weighing 28 pounds and capable of piercing light armor at more than 4 miles, enable a single shooter to destroy enemy jeeps, tanks, personnel carriers, bunkers, fuel stations, and even communication centers. As a result, their use by military organizations worldwide has been rapidly spreading during the course of this decade.

But with the increasing military use of the gun, we have also seen increased use of the weapon by violent criminals and terrorists around the world.

The weapons are deadly accurate up to 2,000 yards. This means that a shooter using a .50 caliber weapon can reliably hit a target more than a mile away. In fact, according to a training manual for military and police snipers published in 1993, a bullet from this gun "even at one and a half miles crashes into a target with more energy than Dirty Harry's famous .44 magnum at point-blank" range.

And the gun is "effective" up to 7,500 yards. In other words, although it may be hard to aim at that distance, the gun will have its desired destructive effect at that distance—more than 4 miles from the target.

The weapon can penetrate several inches of steel, concrete, or even light armor.

Many ranges used for target practice do not even have enough safety features to accommodate these guns—it is just too powerful.

This gun was used extensively in the gulf war by American troops. Ideal for long range destruction of personnel, light armor or communications, there is no question that this gun is an effective wartime tool.

Recent advances in weapons technology, however, allow this gun to be used by civilians against armored limousines, bunkers, individuals, and even aircraft—in fact, one advertisement for the gun apparently promoted the weapon as able to "wreck several million dollars' worth of jet aircraft with one or two dollars' worth of cartridge."

One new version of the .50 caliber weapon is a modified machine gun capable of accepting ammunition belts, and yet is still allowed for civilian use by BATF.

This gun is so powerful that one dealer told undercover GAO investigators "You'd better buy one soon. It's only a matter of time before someone lets go a round on a range that travels so far, it hits a school bus full of kids. The government will definitely ban .50 calibers. This gun is just too powerful."