

“(5)(A) In the case of a person who continues to serve as member of the Selected Reserve as of the end of the 10-year period applicable to the person under subsection (a), as extended, if at all, under paragraph (4), the period during which the person may use the person’s entitlement shall expire at the end of the 5-year period beginning on the date the person is separated from the Selected Reserve.

“(B) The provisions of paragraph (4) shall apply with respect to any period of active duty of a person referred to in subparagraph (A) during the 5-year period referred to in that subparagraph.”

TITLE V—REPORT

SEC. 501. ANNUAL REPORT ON EFFECTS OF INITIATIVES ON RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I spoke with Senator JEFFORDS earlier about being added as a cosponsor to both amendments 12 and 13.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the Senator will be added as a cosponsor.

The question is on agreeing to the amendments en bloc.

The amendments (Nos. 12 and 13) were agreed to.

Mr. WARNER. I move to reconsider the vote.

Ms. LANDRIEU. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. WARNER. Now, I have indicated that this Senator would not accept the question of the transfer of amendment, the third amendment. Do I understand the Senator will not present that amendment?

Mr. JEFFORDS. That is correct, I will not offer that amendment.

Mr. WARNER. That completes all of the amendments of the Senator from Vermont?

Mr. JEFFORDS. That does, and I appreciate your cooperation as well as the cooperation your staff has shown in allowing us to proceed.

Ms. LANDRIEU. I will make a brief comment. First, I thank the Senator from Vermont for bringing these two important amendments for our Guard and Reserve, and I thank the chairman for accepting them.

I will make, just for the record, a comment about the amendment that we are unable to accept because of its fairly high cost—stipulated to be about \$900 million.

My staff has informed me and the staff for the committee on our side that this seems to be a very, very important issue to the rank and file. One of the more popular aspects of our bill is the fact that we are now going to allow, at some additional cost, but I, frankly, believe, and I think most Members on both sides believe, it is well worth it to allow this Montgomery GI bill to be transferred to spouses and children—perhaps the most important incentive for people to remain in the military and to be active participants for a longer period of time. I hope we

will consider perhaps next year, if not this year, extending the same benefits to the Guard and Reserve.

The retention issues are somewhat different, but let me say that the Guard and Reserve are very, very important components to our military forces as we redesign and reorganize our military and depend more on the Guard and Reserve to step in, particularly in terms of our peacekeeping missions.

It is very important that we maintain good and adequate benefits for the Guard and Reserve. So while we cannot accept that amendment at this time, I wanted to put this statement in the RECORD and ask our chairman to perhaps consider next year that we offer the same benefits to our Guard and Reserve unit.

I thank the Chair.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I, likewise, would like to see this. But I have to do what I have to do to keep the cost of this bill down. It is very large at this time.

Ms. LANDRIEU. I understand that.

Mr. WARNER. Next year, we will take a fresh look. Momentarily, I will advise the Senate on the balance of the amendments that the managers know of. Hopefully, we can get to final passage very early this afternoon.

We still have the amendment of the Senator from Iowa, Mr. HARKIN, and that is, I am certain, going to be accepted on both sides. It relates to the costs. I think we will have a good estimate of the costs now coming in from the Department of Defense before we ask for passage of that amendment.

Senator COVERDELL has an important amendment—a sense of the Senate—to codify some extension of tax filing deadlines for men and women of the Armed Forces.

Mr. LEVIN may have an amendment, which is sort of generic to the entire bill, is my understanding. There is some indication that the Senator from Florida may wish to address an amendment. I have looked at it, and as soon as I have the opportunity to speak with him, I will express my strong concerns regarding that amendment on this bill. I will withhold those comments for now.

Is the Senator finished?

Ms. LANDRIEU. Yes.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, the leadership has authorized me to say that the bill now will be laid aside until the hour of 2 o’clock. Between now and then, I ask unanimous consent that there be a period for morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each.

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

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as the Senator from Colorado, I ask unanimous consent that the quorum call be rescinded.

Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess until 2 p.m.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 12:46 p.m., recessed until 2 p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. GREGG).

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. RES. 45

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I have a unanimous-consent request to propound. It has been cleared with the Democratic side of the aisle, and so I would ask unanimous consent that at 11 a.m. on Thursday the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 45 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration under the following limitations: 1 hour of debate equally divided between Senators HUTCHINSON and WELLSTONE, no amendment in order to the resolution or preamble; and I further ask unanimous consent that following the conclusion of the debate the Senate proceed to a vote on the adoption of the resolution with no intervening action or debate.

I might say this is expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the human rights situation in the People’s Republic of China.

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

SOLDIERS’, SAILORS’, AIRMEN’S AND MARINES’ BILL OF RIGHTS ACT OF 1999

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I have not spoken on the bill pending before us, so if I need to have time yielded, I would like to speak on this issue.

Mr. President, S. 4, the Soldiers’, Sailors’, Airmen’s and Marines’ Bill of Rights Act of 1999 is a much needed first step in fixing the problems of a military that I fear has been in a death spiral, quite frankly, after continued years of underfunding by the two previous administrations, both this one and the previous one. It started some 10 years ago, slowly, in the aftermath of the wall coming down and the Soviet Union being broken apart. But it has been a continuing slow process that has really started having a profound impact.