to combat methamphetamine production, trafficking, and abuse in the United States, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. HATCH, his name, and the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 486, supra.

S. 1020
At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1020, a bill to amend chapter 1 of title 9, United States Code, to provide for greater fairness in the arbitration process relating to motor vehicle franchise contracts.

S. 1109
At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. Kyl) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) were added as cosponsors of S. 1109 to bill to control global bear populations by prohibiting the importation, exportation, and interstate trade of bear viscera and items, products, or substances containing, or labeled or advertised as containing, bear viscera, and for other purposes.

S. 1197
At the request of Mr. ROTH, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1197, a bill to prohibit the importation of products made with dog or cat fur, to prohibit the sale, manufacture, offer for sale, transportation, and distribution of products made with dog or cat fur in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1287
At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1287, a bill to amend statutory damages provisions of title 17, United States Code.

S. 1380
At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ROBB) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1380, a bill to provide for a study of long-term care needs in the 21st century.

S. 1419
At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. NICKLES), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. THOMPSON), and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1419, a bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to designate May as “National Military Appreciation Month.”

S. 1497
At the request of Mr. WELLSTONE, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1497, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for nondiscriminatory coverage for substance abuse treatment service under private group and individual health coverage.

S. 1500
At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1500, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an additional payment for services provided to certain high-cost individuals under the prospective payment system for skilled nursing facility services, and for other purposes.

S. 1590
At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1590, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to modify the authority of the Surface Transportation Board, and for other purposes.

S. 1668
At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. MOYNIHAN), the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH), and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1668, a bill to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to establish provisions with respect to religious accommodation in employment, and for other purposes.

S. 1708
At the request of Mr. MOYNIHAN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1708, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require plans which adopt amendments that significantly reduce future benefit accruals to provide participants with adequate notice of the changes made by such amendments.

S. 1812
At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL), the Senator from New York (Mr. MOYNIHAN), the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH), and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1812, a bill to establish a commission on a nuclear testing treaty, and for other purposes.

S. 1823
At the request of Mr. DeWINE, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1823, a bill to revise and extend the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1994.

S. 1990
At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD), and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1990, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit to holders of qualified bonds issued by Amtrak, and for other purposes.

S. 1954
At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. Frist) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1954, a bill to establish a compensation program for employees of the Department of Energy, its contractors, subcontractors, and beryllium vendors, who sustained beryllium-related illness due to the performance of their duty; to establish a compensation program for certain workers at the Paducah, Kentucky, gaseous diffusion plant; to establish a pilot program for examining the possible relationship between workplace exposure to radiation and hazardous materials and illnesses or health conditions; and for other purposes.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 51
At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mr. Gorton) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 51, a concurrent resolution condemning all prejudice against individuals of Asian and Pacific Island ancestry in the United States and supporting political and civic participation by such individuals throughout the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 118
At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. Lincoln) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 118, a resolution designating December 12, 1999, as “National Children’s Memorial Day.”

SENATE RESOLUTION 128
At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Good) and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. Reid) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 128, a resolution designating March 2000, as “Arts Education Month.”

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 76—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE CONFLICT IN THE STATE OF CHIAPAS, MEXICO AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. KERRY, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 76
Whereas the United States and Mexico have a long history of friendly relations and share a wide range of interests; Whereas a democratic, peaceful and prosperous Mexico is of vital importance to the security of the United States; Whereas the United States Government provides assistance and licenses exports of...
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military equipment to Mexican security forces for counter-narcotics purposes; and

Whereas the Department of State’s 1998 Country Report on Human Rights Practices in Mexico stated that a “culture of impunity pervades justice” and that “political and paramilitary groups and the EZLN have resulted in the forced displacement of thousands of indigenous people and exacerbated the impersonal violence that has plagued the region for years;”

Whereas the conflict has its roots in the poverty and injustice suffered by the indigenous people of Chiapas, and shared by the poor in the neighboring states of Oaxaca and Guerrero;

Whereas the lack of progress in implementing a preliminary peace agreement signed in 1996 and the intimidating level of military threats by the Mexican army, paramilitary groups and the EZLN has resulted in the forced displacement of thousands of indigenous people and exacerbated the impersonal violence that has plagued the region for years;

Whereas on September 14, 1999, the Commission for Peace and Reconciliation in Chiapas of the Conference of Mexican Catholic Bishops urged the Government of Mexico to consider relocating military forces in Chiapas to only those positions absolutely necessary to maintaining the integrity and security of Mexico;

Whereas the Government of Mexico has devoted resources to reduce poverty in Chiapas, but the breakdown in peace negotiations and confrontation of trust between Mexican Government and some indigenous communities have limited the impact of that assistance;

Whereas on September 7, 1999, the Government of Mexico pledged to renew dialogue with the EZLN, support the formation of a new mediation team, and investigate human rights abuses in Chiapas;

Whereas the EZLN has not yet accepted the Government of Mexico’s overtures to resume negotiations;

Whereas the summary expulsions of American citizens and human rights monitors from Mexico are inconsistent with the freedoms of association and expression; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of State should—

(1) take effective measures to ensure that United States assistance and exports of equipment to Mexican security forces—

(A) are used primarily for counter-narcotics purposes; and

(B) are not provided to units of security forces that have been implicated in human rights violations, unless the Governor-General of Mexico is taking effective measures to bring the individuals responsible to justice;

(2) encourage the EZLN and the Government of Mexico to take steps to create conditions for good faith negotiations that address the root causes of the conflict in Chiapas, to achieve a peaceful and lasting resolution of the conflict, and to vigorously pursue such negotiations;

(3) commend the Government of Mexico for its renewed commitment to negotiations and for establishing a date for the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to visit Mexico to discuss human rights concerns there;

(4) give a higher priority in discussions with the Government of Mexico to criminal justice reforms that protect human rights, emphasizing United States concerns about arbitrary detention, torture, extrajudicial killings, and disappearances, by these forces;

(5) urge the Government of Mexico to implement the recommendations of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, particularly with regard to American citizens and others who have been summarily expelled from Mexico and international law.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am today submitting a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding measures to achieve a peace settlement of the conflict in the state of Chiapas, Mexico.

This resolution is cosponsored by Senators KENNEDY, FEINSTEIN, JEFFORDS, TORRICELLI, MURRAY, DURBIN, WELLESTONE, BYRD, HARKIN, KERRY, MIKULSKI, and BOXER.

This resolution is cosponsored by Senators KENNEDY, FEINSTEIN, JEFFORDS, TORRICELLI, MURRAY, DURBIN, WELLESTONE, BYRD, HARKIN, KERRY, MIKULSKI, and BOXER.

Congresswoman NANCY PELOSI is introducing an identical resolution today in the House of Representatives.

The purpose of this resolution is to convey our support for a peaceful settlement of the conflict in Chiapas that has been simmering since the Zapatista uprising in 1994. Since then, and despite repeated attempts at negotiations, the situation remains tense and prospects for productive dialogue remain remote. In August, armed confrontations between members of the Mexican military and Zapatista supporters in Chiapas was a reminder of the political violence that has plagued the region over a year ago and, unfortunately, the situation remains largely unchanged.

This resolution does not attempt to take sides or to dictate an outcome of the conflict, but rather to recognize the complex one that has social, ethnic, economic and political dimensions. It is a manifestation of years of Mexican history. It is for the Mexican people to resolve.

But despite its complexities, there is no doubt that the indigenous people of Chiapas have been the victims of injustices for centuries. Most do not own any land and they live as their parents and grandparents did—in abject poverty. The 1994 Zapatista uprising, in which some 150 people died, was a reflection of that injustice and despair, and the political tension and violence of recent years has only exacerbated their plight.

To his credit, President Zedillo has devoted considerable financial resources to address the poverty and lack of basic services in Chiapas. In September, 1996, he made a major breakthrough when he established a dialogue with the Zapatistas and investigated human rights abuses there. The scheduled November 23rd visit to Mexico by Mary Robinson, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, is an important and welcome development. I was told that the Mexican Government will engage in an open dialogue with Ms. Robinson and that progress can be made on ways to further promote and protect human rights in Mexico.

Despite these positive steps, however, Mexican officials indicate that they expect little progress toward resolving the conflict before the presidential elections in July 2000. This is very disquieting. While mistrust runs deep on both sides, a great deal can be accomplished in eight months if the parties to the conflict are willing to take the steps to create conditions for good faith negotiations to succeed, and then sit down at the table together.

There is little evidence that the Mexican Government’s strategy is working. Since early 1998, the Zedillo administration has, on the one hand, lavishly funded social programs in the indigenous communities in Chiapas that are willing to accept them. On the other hand, Mexican troops have tightened their grip on the impoverished communities of Zapatista supporters. They patrol the roads in and out of Chiapas in armed vehicles, brandishing weapons and establishing military check points and bases when it is abundantly clear that neither the communities, nor the Zapatistas themselves, pose a credible threat to the Mexican Government. In addition, paramilitary forces, responsible for some of the worst atrocities, continue to operate in the region.

Human rights monitors, including Mexican citizens, have been harassed, and foreigners, including American citizens, have been summarily expelled from Mexico for activities that amount to nothing more than criticizing the policies of the Mexican Government.

The Zapatista uprising has also contributed to the isolation of the Zapatistas. They refused to accept the Mexican Government’s recent overtures to resume dialogue and seem resigned to wait in their jungle stronghold until there is a new government before considering a return to talks. Again, July is a long way away, especially for the Zapatistas’ supporters who struggle every day just to find food and shelter for themselves and their families. They have suffered long enough.

Mr. President, this resolution calls on our Secretary of State to encourage the Mexican Government and the Zapatistas to support negotiations that address the underlying causes of the conflict, to achieve a peaceful settlement that is acceptable to all, and to work toward a stable, peaceful and prosperous Mexico.
of all Mexicans, it is also in the
economic and security interests of the
United States. And human rights abuses,
wherever and however they occur,
deserve our attention.

The resolution urges the Secretary of
State to ensure that the United States
is not contributing to the political vio-
ence, by reaffirming current law which
limits assistance and exports of equip-
ment only to Mexican security forces
who are primarily involved in counter-
narcotics activities and who do not com-
mit human rights abuses. In order
to ensure that the law is faithfully im-
plemented, the State Department
needs to know who we train and who
receives our equipment.

It calls on the Mexican Government
to respect the freedoms of movement,
association and expression by imple-
menting the recommendations of the
Inter-American Commission on Human
Rights, particularly with regard to
American citizens and others who have
been summarily expelled from Mexico
in violation of Mexican law and interna-
tional law.

And it urges both sides to take ini-
tiatives for peace.

Mr. President, some may ask why we
are submitting this resolution today,
when this conflict has been simmering
for years, It is my hope that in con-
junction with Mary Robinson's visit next
week, this Resolution will send a
strong message to the Mexican Govern-
ment, the Zapotistas, our own admin-
istration and the international commu-
nity that an intensified effort is needed
urgently to resolve the conflict peace-
fully.

SENATE RESOLUTION 233—EX-
PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE
SENATE REGARDING THE UR-
GENT NEED FOR THE DEPART-
MENT OF AGRICULTURE TO RE-
SOLVE CERTAIN MONTANA CIVIL
RIGHTS DISCRIMINATION CASES

Mr. BAUCUS (for himself and Mr.
BURNS) submitted the following resolu-
tion; which was referred to the Com-
mittee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and
Forestry:

S. RES. 233

Whereas there exists a strong public policy
against discrimination against minority
groups, whether the discrimination is com-
mitted by private individuals or by the Fed-
eral Government in the operation of its pro-
grams;

Whereas, whenever discrimination occurs
in the conduct of a Federal Government pro-
gram, the responsible Federal Government
agency should take quick and aggressive ac-
tion to resolve it;

Whereas, last year, the Department of Ag-
riculture was held accountable for certain
civil rights violations against United States
agricultural producers in connection with
their attempted participation in lending pro-
grams of the Department;

Whereas, a significant number of Montana
civil rights petitioners have not received a
timely, and equitable resolution of their
claims;

Whereas the agricultural community has
faced a series of hardships, including record
low prices, extreme weather disasters, and
a shortage of farm loan opportunities;

Whereas additional frustration and finan-
cial difficulties caused by inade-
quate review process has further imposed
undue hardship on the Montana civil rights
petitioners;

Whereas the mission of the Office of Civil
Rights of the Department of Agriculture re-
quires the Office to facilitate the fair and eq-
uitable treatment of customers and employ-
es of the Department for the delivery and
efficient enforcement of civil rights pro-
grams and activities;

Whereas the Department of Agriculture
should be committed to the policy of treat-
ing its customers with dignity and respect as
well as to providing high quality and timely
products and services; and

Whereas an urgent need exists for the De-
partment of Agriculture to resolve certain
Montana civil rights discrimination cases,
many backlogged, by a date certain in fur-
nish implementation of the provisions therefor, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate
that, not later than March 1, 2000, the Sec-
retary of Agriculture should resolve or take
other action to resolve, all cases pending on
the date of approval of this resolution of al-
eged civil rights discrimination by the De-
partment of Agriculture against agricultural
producers located in the State of Montana.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise
today to submit a sense-of-the-Senate
Resolution regarding the urgent need
for the U.S. Department of Agriculture
to resolve Montana civil rights discrimina-
tion cases. On behalf of Senator BURNS,
the bill's cosponsor, and myself, I urge
the Senate to recognize the urgency of
this situation.

Mr. President, there exists a strong
public policy against discrimination
against minority groups, whether the
discrimination is committed by private
individuals or by the Government in
the operation of its programs, and it is
our firmly held belief that whenever
discrimination occurs in the conduct of
Government programs, the responsible
Government agencies should take
quick and aggressive action to remedy
such discrimination.

I am most concerned that over the
past year, such action has not been
taken by the U.S. Department of Agri-
culture's Office of Civil Rights. In fact,
many Montana civil rights cases that
my office and that of Senator's BURNS
have been working with are seriously
backlogged in the system and have
consequently remained unsatis-
factorily addressed.

We have worked hard with the Mon-
tana Department of Agriculture's Farm
Agency to resolve these cases. The
Director of the FSA and the State
FSA Committee has worked hard to re-
solve the outstanding problems con-
cerning its programs and have made
certain that these kinds of problems to
not occur in Montana. I commend their
outreach efforts in ensuring the equi-
table delivery of the Agency's pro-
grams to all eligible Montana recipi-
ents.

We need a better working relation-
ship with the USDA's Office of Civil
Rights to bring the outstanding cases
to resolution in a timely manner. Re-
peated phone calls and requests have
yielded no results. I am offering this resolu-
tion which binds the agency to its mission of facili-
tating the fair and equitable treatment of
USDA customers and employees
while ensuring the delivery and en-
focement of civil rights programs and
activities. Further we hope to commit
the USDA to treating its customers
with dignity and respect as well as to
providing quality and timely products
and services. Finally, the resolution
resolves that not later than March 1,
2000, the Secretary should resolve all
the outstanding cases of alleged civil
rights discrimination by the Depart-
ment of Agriculture.

It is high time to bring this issue to
resolution, and I appreciate the Sen-
ate's consideration of this important
matter.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President. I am pleased to be joined by Mr. BAUCUS, in
spiring a sense-of-the-Senate resolu-
tion which addresses a number of
Montana civil rights complaints at the
U.S. Department of Agriculture
(USDA).

Last year, a finding was made that
the USDA had, for decades, been guilty
of violating many of America's pro-
ducer's civil rights. When these
producers tried to take advantage of
the programs offered by the USDA they
were treated differently than their
friends and neighbors. We enacted Leg-
islation last fall, that was intended to
right this wrong. Even with passage of
this provision, it remains a difficult
challenge to ensure that those who
have been harmed by USDA will re-
ceive a prompt and balanced resolution
of their complaints.

It appears that a number of those
previously investigated complaints
have fallen into some sort of “black
hole”. Despite numerous phone calls
and concerted pressure, no progress has
been made in resolving these cases. We
have been contacted by a number of
Montanans who have shared horror sto-
ries about the treatment their cases
have received from the USDA's Office
of Civil Rights. These complaints are
simply being ignored. The inadequacy
of the process is adding insult to in-
jury, keeping these producers in limbo
and allowing their complaints to rest,
unresolved. These constituents cannot
get on with their lives until the USDA
takes action. For those who have justifi-
ced complaints, this delay is another
slap in the face.

This resolution expresses the sense
of the Senate that USDA's delays must
stop. These cases must be resolved
soon. It is our intent that they be re-
solved by March 1, 2000. These pro-
ducers have suffered too much already.
They cannot afford to wait any longer.
We look forward to working with
members of other states affected by