

this abuse of the civil rights program to resolve these complaints as quickly as possible.●

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

FURTHER CONTINUING
RESOLUTION, 2000

BYRD (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT
NO. 2780

Mr. BYRD (for himself, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. REID, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. ENZI, Mr. BURNS, Mr. KYL, Mr. BREAU, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. GRAMM, and Mr. GRAMS) proposed an amendment to the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 82) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2000, and for other purposes, as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

**SEC. . . DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL AND COAL
MINE WASTE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including any regulation or court ruling), hereafter—

(1) in rendering permit decisions for discharges of excess spoil and coal mine waste into waters of the United States from surface coal mining and reclamation operations, the permitting authority shall apply section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) and the section 404(b)(1) guidelines pursuant to section 404(b)(1) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1344(b)(1)) and implementing regulations set forth in part 230 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on October 19, 1999);

(2) the permitted disposal of such spoil or waste meeting the requirements of the section 404(b)(1) guidelines referred to in paragraph (1) shall be deemed to satisfy the criteria for granting a variance under regulations set forth in sections 816.57 and 817.57 of title 30, Code of Federal Regulations, and applicable State regulations; and

(3) Federal and State water quality standards shall not apply to the portions of waters filled by discharges permitted pursuant to the procedures set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2); all applicable Federal and State water quality standards shall apply to all portions of waters other than those filled pursuant to the permitting procedures set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2).

(b) DURATION OF EFFECTIVENESS.—The permitting procedures specified in subsection (a) shall remain in effect until the later of—

(1) the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act; or

(2) the effective date of regulations promulgated to implement recommendations made as a result of the environmental impact statement relating to the permitting process, the preparation of which was announced at 64 Fed. Reg. 5800 (February 5, 1999).

(c) EFFECT OF SECTION.—Nothing in this section modifies, supersedes, undermines, displaces, or amends any requirement of, or regulation issued under, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (commonly known as the "Clean Water Act") (33 U.S.C. 1251 et

seq.) or the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.), as applied by the responsible Federal agencies on October 19, 1999.

(d) PERIOD OF EFFECTIVENESS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law repealing or terminating the effectiveness of this Act, this section shall remain in effect until the date of termination of the effectiveness of the permitting procedures in accordance with subsection (b).

SEC. . . HARDROCK MINING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of section 1000(a)(3) of division B of the Act enacting H.R. 3194 of the 106th Congress, in lieu of section 357 of title III of H.R. 3423 of the 106th Congress, as introduced on November 17, 1999, regarding the issuance of regulations on hardrock mining, the following shall apply:

(1) HARDROCK MINING.—None of the funds made available under this Act or any other Act shall be used by the Secretary of the Interior to promulgate final regulations to revise subpart 3809 of 43, Code of Federal Regulations, except that the Secretary, after the end of the public comment period required by section 3002 of the 1999 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act (Public Law 106-31; 113 Stat. 89), may issue final regulations to amend that subpart if the regulations are consistent with—

(A) the regulatory gap findings identified in the report of the National Research Council entitled "Hardrock Mining on Federal Lands"; and

(B) statutory authorities in effect as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this section expands the statutory authority of the Secretary of the Interior in effect as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) PERIOD OF EFFECTIVENESS.—This section—

(1) takes effect 1 day after the date of enactment of the Act enacting H.R. 3194 referred to in subsection (a); and

(2) notwithstanding any other provision of law repealing or terminating the effectiveness of this Act, shall remain in effect unless repealed by Act of Congress that makes specific reference to this section.

SEC. . . MILLSITES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of section 1000(a)(3) of division B of the Act enacting H.R. 3194 of the 106th Congress, in lieu of section 337 of title III of H.R. 3423 of the 106th Congress, as introduced on November 17, 1999, regarding the millsites opinion, the following shall apply:

(1) MILLSITES OPINION.—No funds shall be expended by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture, for fiscal years 2000 and 2001, to limit the number or acreage of millsites based on the ratio between the number or acreage of millsites and the number or acreage of associated lode or placer claims with respect to—

(A) any patent application excluded from the operation of section 112 of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1995, by section 113 of that Act (108 Stat. 2519);

(B) any operation or property for which a plan of operations has been approved before the date of enactment of this Act; or

(C) any operation or property for which a plan of operations, or amendment or modification to an existing plan, was submitted to the Bureau of Land Management or the Forest Service before May 21, 1999.

(2) NO RATIFICATION.—Nothing in this Act or the 1999 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act (Public Law 106-31) shall be

construed as an explicit or tacit adoption, ratification, endorsement, approval, rejection, or disapproval of the opinion dated November 7, 1997, by the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior concerning mill-sites.

(b) PERIOD OF EFFECTIVENESS.—This section—

(1) takes effect 1 day after the date of enactment of the Act enacting H.R. 3194 referred to in subsection (a); and

(2) notwithstanding any other provision of law repealing or terminating the effectiveness of this Act, shall remain in effect unless repealed by Act of Congress that makes specific reference to this section.

HELMS (AND OTHERS)
AMENDMENT NO. 2781

Mr. LOTT (for Mr. HELMS (for himself, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mr. ROBB)) proposed an amendment to the joint resolution, H.J. Res. 82, supra; as follows:

At the appropriate place insert:

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION PRODUCER-
OWNED MARKETING ASSOCIATIONS FORGIVENESS

SEC. 1. The Secretary of Agriculture shall reduce the amount of any principal due on a loan made to marketing association incorporated in the State of North Carolina for the 1999 crop of an agricultural commodity by at least 75 percent if the marketing association suffered losses of the agricultural commodity in a county with respect to which—(1) a natural disaster was declared by the Secretary for losses due to Hurricane Dennis, Floyd, or Irene; or (2) a major disaster or emergency was declared by the President for losses due to Hurricane Dennis, Floyd, or Irene under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.)

If the Secretary assigns a grade quality for the 1999 crop of an agricultural commodity marketed by an association described in subsection (a) that is below the base quality of the agricultural commodity, the Secretary shall compensate the association for losses incurred by the association as a result of the reduction in grade quality.

Up to \$81,000,000 of the resources of the Commodity Credit Corporation may be used for the cost of this provision: Provided, That the entire amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) and prevent sequestration of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

SEC. 2. In administering \$50,000,000 in emergency supplemental funding for the Emergency Conservation Program, the Secretary shall give priority to the repair of structures essential to the operation of the farm.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO GRAHAM STILES
NEWELL

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, it gives me great pleasure to stand before the Senate today and pay tribute to a man who has greatly influenced the cultural maturity of my home state of Vermont. Graham Stiles Newell will be honored as Citizen of the Year by the Vermont Chamber of Commerce on December 4, 1999. Graham has made extraordinary contributions to Vermont