congressional record—senate  
November 19, 1999

and section 3(33) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1002(33)).

(2) Reimburse costs from general church assets.—The term "reimburse costs from general church assets" means engaging in an activity that is not the spreading of risk solely for the purposes of the provisions of State insurance laws described in subsection (b).

(3) Welfare plan.—The term "welfare plan"—

(A) means any church plan to the extent that such plan provides medical, surgical, or hospital care or benefits, or benefits in the event of sickness, accident, disability, death or unemployment, or vacation benefits, apprenticeship or other training programs, or day care centers, scholarship funds, or prepaid legal services; and

(B) does not include any entity, such as a health insurance issuer described in section 9832(b)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or a health maintenance organization described in section 9832(b)(3) of such Code, or any other organization that does business with the church plan or organization sponsoring or maintaining such a plan.

(d) Enforcement authority.—Notwithstanding any provision of this section, enforcing the provisions of State insurance laws that apply to a church plan for purposes of enforcing provisions of State insurance laws that apply to a church plan that is a welfare plan, the church plan shall be subject to State enforcement as if the church plan were an insurer licensed by the State.

(e) Application of section.—Except as provided in subparagraph (d), the application of this section is limited to determining the status of a church plan that is a welfare plan under the provisions of State insurance laws described in subsection (b). This section shall not otherwise be construed to recharacterize the status, or modify or affect the rights, of any plan participant or beneficiary, including participants or beneficiaries who make plan contributions.

LEGISLATION TO AMEND THE CONSOLIDATED FARM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT ACT TO IMPROVE SHARED APPRECIATION ARRANGEMENTS

BURNS AMENDMENT NO. 2789

Ms. COLLINS (for Mr. BURNS) proposed amendment to the bill (S. 961) to amend the Consolidated Farm And Rural Development Act to improve shared appreciation arrangements, as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHARED APPRECIATION ARRANGEMENTS

(a) In general.—Section 335(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2001(e)) is amended by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

"(2) Term. — A shared appreciation agreement entered into by a borrower under this subsection shall—

(A) have a term not to exceed 10 years;

(B) provide for recapture based on the difference between—

(i) the appraised value of the real security property at the time of restructuring; and

(ii) the time of recapture, except that value shall not include the value of any capital improvements made to the real security property by the borrower after the time of restructuring; and

(C) allow the borrower to obtain a loan, in addition to any other outstanding loans under this title, to pay any amounts due on a shared appreciation agreement, at a rate of interest that is not greater than the rate of interest on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States of a maturity comparable to that of the loan."

(b) Application.—The application made by subsection (a) shall apply to a shared appreciation arrangement entered into under section 335(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2001(e)) that matures on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

DIGITAL THEFT DETERRENCE AND COPYRIGHT DAMAGES IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1999

HATCH (AND LEAHY) AMENDMENT NO. 2790

Ms. COLLINS (for Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. LEAHY)) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 1257) to amend statutory damages provisions of title 17, United States Code; as follows:

On page 1, line 2, insert "Digital Theft Deterrence andCopyright".

On page 2, strike lines 2 through 26 and insert the following:

"Within 120 days after the first date on which there is a sufficient number of voting members of the Sentencing Commission to constitute a quorum, whichever is later, the Commission shall promulgate emergency guide-line amendments to implement section 2(g) of the No Electronic Theft (NET) Act (28 U.S.C. 994 note) in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 21(a) of the Sentencing Act of 1987, as though the authority under that Act had not expired."  

CONDEMNING THE VIOLENCE IN CHECHNYA

HELMS AMENDMENT NO. 2791

Ms. COLLINS (for Mr. HELMS) proposed an amendment to the preamble of the resolution (S. Res. 223) condemning the violence in Chechnya; as follows:

In the second whereas clause of the preamble, strike "is" and insert "are".

DESIGNATING "NATIONAL BIOTECHNOLOGY WEEK"

GRAMS AMENDMENT NO. 2792

Ms. COLLINS (for Mr. GRAMS) proposed an amendment to the resolution (S. Res. 200) designating the week of February 14-20 as "National Biotechnology Week"; as follows:

In the Heading of S. Res. 200: strike "the week of February 14-20" and insert "January 2000;" strike the word "week" and insert "Month."

On page 2, line 2 strike "the week of February 14-20;" and insert "January.

On page 2, line 3, strike "Week" and insert "Month."

On page 2 line 7, strike the word "week" and insert "month."