November 19, 1999

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

with the most effective and worthwhile services their State agencies can pro-
vide.

Authority is critical in any human undertaking. It provides an en-
vironment for those doing well to be commended and recognized. And, it
sheds light on those acting irrespon-
sibly. We in Congress have the respon-
sibility to see that taxpayer money is
spend wisely. I see a no more critical
responsibility than in ensuring States
are responsibly spending money on vul-
nerable youth in foster care.

November is National Adoption Month. Earlier this month, I joined my
colleagues with the Congressional Coa-
lition on Adoption in celebrating those
who have made a difference through
adoption. I was able to honor three
worthy individuals from the great
State of Iowa: Ruth Ann Gaines and
Jeff and Earletta Morris. Ruth Ann
adopted an autistic boy more than 14
years ago, and the Morrises adopted a
teenager just over a year ago. I am
grateful to their efforts and heartfelt
belief in the value of family, and I am
glad to announce them “Angels in
Adoption.”

In closing, I want to reaffirm my
commitment to finding permanent,
loving families for each boy and girl
currently without a loving and safe
home. I am disappointed the Foster
Care Independence Act did not contain
more provisions supporting perma-
nency. However, I will continue my ef-
forts in support of permanency for chil-
dren in foster care. Among others, Con-
gresswoman NANCY JOHNSON has
given me her word that she will work with
me to improve accountability in the child
welfare system. I look forward to
working with all my colleagues in the
next session to that end.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask
unanimous consent that the Senate
turn to the resolution convening the
second session of the 106th Congress,
House Joint Resolution 85, that the
resolution be read a third time and
passed and the motion to reconsider be
laid upon the table, and any statements related to
objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The
Chair announces on behalf of the chair-
man of the Finance Committee, pursu-
ant to section 8002 of title 26, U.S.
Code, the designation of the Senator
from Utah (Mr. HATCH) as a member of
the Joint Committee on Taxation, in
lieu of the late Senator from Rhode Is-
land (Mr. Chafee).

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO
FILE REPORTED LEGISLATIVE
AND EXECUTIVE MATTERS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask
unanimous consent that, notwithstanding
the adjournment of the Senate,
committees have from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Tuesday, December 7,
and on Friday, January 7, in order to
file reported legislative and executive
matters.

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

CONVENING THE SECOND SESSION
OF THE 106TH CONGRESS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask
unanimous consent that Senate
majority leader of the Senate be, and
the minority leader of the Senate be,
and the majority leader of the Senate pro
tempore, the majority leader of the Senate,
and the minority leader of the Senate be, and
they are hereby authorized, to make
appointments to commissions, commit-
tees, boards, conferences, and inter-
parliamentary conferences authorized by
law of the Congress, to adjourn and resume the
sessions of the Senate in the Senate, and by order of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. With
objection, it is so ordered.

AUTHORITY TO MAKE
APPOINTMENTS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask
unanimous consent that, notwithstanding
the sine die adjournment of the
present session of the Senate, the
President of the Senate, the President
of the Senate pro tempore, the major-
ity leader of the Senate, and the mi-
nority leader of the Senate be, and
they are hereby authorized, to make
appointments to commissions, commit-
tees, boards, conferences, and inter-
parliamentary conferences authorized by
law of the Congress, to adjourn and resume the
sessions of the Senate in the Senate, and by order of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. With
objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE
CALENDAR—S. 1982

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask
unanimous consent that S. 1982 be
placed on the Calendar.