

after a public comment period, Secretary Glickman authorized the implementation of the Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact, finding that it was indeed in the compelling public interest to do so.

In addition, the Agriculture Appropriations Act for FY1998 directed the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to study the economic effects of the Compact and especially its effects on the federal food and nutrition programs, such as the Womens, Infants and Children program. Key findings of the OMB study released in February of 1998, showed that, for the first six months of the Compact, New England retail milk prices were five cents per gallon lower than retail milk prices nationally. Also, the Compact did not add any costs to federal nutrition programs like the WIC program and the school breakfast and lunch programs. The GAO study also stated that the Compact economically benefitted the dairy producers, increasing their income from milk sales by about six percent, with no adverse affects to dairy farmers outside the Compact region.

Mr. President, the consumers in the Northeast Compact area, and now other areas around the country, are showing their willingness to pay more for their milk if the additional money is going directly to the dairy farmer. Environmental organizations have also supported dairy compacting as compacts help to preserve dwindling agricultural land and open spaces that help combat urban sprawl.

I ask for the support of my colleagues for the reauthorization of the Northeast Compact and the ratification of the Southern Compact.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I am proud to join with 35 of my fellow Senators to introduce legislation to reauthorize the Northeast Dairy Compact and extend it to New York State. This legislation is vital to the Northeast Region and it will strengthen the economy of upstate New York.

The Compact may add a couple of cents to the consumer price of milk during months when the retail price of milk falls below a federally set minimum price, but it is a small price to pay to preserve the family dairy farm in rural New York.

The purpose of the Compact is to stabilize dairy prices and therefore enable small dairy farmers to budget their expenditures and plan for the future. The Northeast Dairy Compact works by ensuring a minimum retail price for milk producers. The price paid to farmers for milk has fallen from \$2.77 in 1960 to \$1.36 in 1997. These low milk prices have forced many small farmers into insolvency over the years and have put the entire concept of family farms in peril.

The Northeast Dairy Compact will preserve the American tradition of local family farms in every region. I

believe that this is a tiny price to pay to keep local farmers in business, and keep New York State's rural identity intact.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 38

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. COVERDELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 38, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to phase out the estate and gift taxes over a 10-year period.

S. 51

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 51, a bill to reauthorize the Federal programs to prevent violence against women, and for other purposes.

S. 98

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) were added as cosponsors of S. 98, a bill to authorize appropriations for the Surface Transportation Board for fiscal years 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, and for other purposes.

S. 296

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. COVERDELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 296, a bill to provide for continuation of the Federal research investment in a fiscally sustainable way, and for other purposes.

S. 333

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 333, a bill to amend the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 to improve the farmland protection program.

S. 395

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 395, a bill to ensure that the volume of steel imports does not exceed the average monthly volume of such imports during the 36-month period preceding July 1997.

S. 434

At the request of Mr. BREAUX, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 434, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to simplify the method of payment of taxes on distilled spirits.

S. 459

At the request of Mr. BREAUX, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. GRAMS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 459, a bill to amend the Internal

Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the State ceiling on private activity bonds.

S. 472

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 472, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide certain medicare beneficiaries with an exemption to the financial limitations imposed on physical, speech-language pathology, and occupational therapy services under part B of the medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 487

At the request of Mr. GRAMS, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 487, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide additional retirement savings opportunities for small employers, including self-employed individuals.

S. 540

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) were added as cosponsors of S. 540, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that housing assistance provided under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 be treated for purposes of the low-income housing credit in the same manner as comparable assistance.

S. 704

At the request of Mr. KYL, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 704, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to combat the overutilization of prison health care services and control rising prisoner health care costs.

S. 746

At the request of Mr. THOMPSON, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. COVERDELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 746, a bill to provide for analysis of major rules, to promote the public's right to know the costs and benefits of major rules, and to increase the accountability of quality of Government.

S. 763

At the request of Mr. THURMOND, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 763, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to increase the minimum Survivor Benefit Plan basic annuity for surviving spouses age 62 and older, and for other purposes.

S. 791

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 791, a bill to amend the Small Business Act with respect to the women's business center program.

S. 795

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan

(Mr. ABRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 795, a bill to amend the Fastener Quality Act to strengthen the protection against the sale of mismarked, misrepresented, and counterfeit fasteners and eliminate unnecessary requirements, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. ROBB, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 795, supra.

S. 823

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 823, a bill to establish a program to assure the safety of processed produce intended for human consumption, and for other purposes.

S. 836

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 836, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that group health plans and health insurance issuers provide women with adequate access to providers of obstetric and gynecological services.

S. 873

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 873, a bill to close the United States Army School of the Americas.

S. 876

At the request of Mr. HOLLINGS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 876, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require that the broadcast of violent video programming be limited to hours when children are not reasonably likely to comprise a substantial portion of the audience.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 21

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM) and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) were added as cosponsors of Senate Joint Resolution 21, a joint resolution to designate September 29, 1999, as "Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Day."

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 22

At the request of Mr. DODD, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ROBB) were added as cosponsors of Senate Concurrent Resolution 22, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress with respect to promoting coverage of individuals under long-term care insurance.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 30—RECOGNIZING THE SACRIFICIAL AND DEDICATION OF MEMBERS OF AMERICA'S NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PRIVATE VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS THROUGHOUT THEIR HISTORY AND SPECIFICALLY IN ANSWER TO THEIR COURAGEOUS RESPONSE TO RECENT DISASTERS IN CENTRAL AMERICA AND KOSOVO

Mr. SMITH of Oregon (for himself, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. BROWNBAC) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

S. CON. RES. 30

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Congress—*

(1) recognizes and commends the sacrifice, dedication, and commitment of those serving with, and those who have served with, American non-governmental organizations (NGO's) and private volunteer organizations (PVO's) that provide humanitarian relief to millions of the world's poor and displaced;

(2) urges all Americans to join in commemorating and honoring those serving in, and those who have served in, America's NGO and PVO community for their sacrifice, dedication and commitment; and

(3) calls upon the people of the United States to appreciate and reflect upon the commitment and dedication of relief workers, that they often serve in harm's way with threats to their own health and safety, and their organizations who have responded to recent tragedies in Central America and Kosovo with great care, skill and speed, and to take appropriate steps to recognize and encourage awareness of the contributions that these relief workers and their organizations have made in helping ease human suffering.

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to submit S. Con. Res. 30, in order to recognize the sacrifice and dedication of members of America's non-governmental organizations and private volunteer organizations throughout their history and specifically in answer to their courageous response to recent disasters in Central America and Kosovo. I am pleased to be joined by Senators WELLSTONE, THOMAS, SARBANES and BROWNBAC as original cosponsors.

While much time on the Senate floor has been devoted to America's response to the natural disaster wrought by Hurricane Mitch in Central America and the human disaster wrought by the horrifying aggression in the Balkans, little has been devoted to those organizations conducting humanitarian relief efforts in those areas.

I am proud to note that several Oregon humanitarian organizations have been on the front lines in both Central America and the Balkans—particularly in Kosovo. Mercy Corps International based in Portland, Oregon, is one of the largest humanitarian agencies helping Kosovar Albanian refugees and first

began work in that area in 1993. Over the past six years, the agency has provided more than \$30 million in relief and development aid to 250,000 people in the area.

Whether it be providing food, blankets, clothing, hygiene and cooking utensils to the first onslaught of refugees, or managing refugee camps in Senekos, Mercy Corps International has made humanitarian aid a priority in a desperate situation.

In Central America, Mercy Corps' Hurricane Mitch relief efforts included evacuating thousands of children and families, delivering housing materials for tents and temporary shelter, and providing more than 200,000 pounds of food to the hungry and 60 tons of clothing and blankets to the homeless. I am truly proud of Oregon's Mercy Corps International.

Mercy Corps is not alone as a humanitarian presence in Oregon. Portland's Northwest Medical Team International has provided disaster response and emergency relief to refugees of wars and to victims of hurricanes, floods and famines. Each year, Northwest Medical Teams International recruits, equips and dispatches volunteer surgical, medical and redevelopment teams to areas of the world in need of this type of humanitarian aid and assistance.

Northwest Medical Teams International ships more than \$50 million in humanitarian assistance to over 50 countries each year. Currently, Northwest Medical Teams International is helping to manage the flow of humanitarian aid and to assist refugees in the Balkans and is collecting donations for humanitarian aid in the region through its Kosovo Relief Fund.

These two Oregon humanitarian organizations embody what is good in America—the noble effort to reach out and help a neighbor in need, regardless of geography, cultural or linguistic differences. This outreach from non-governmental organizations deserves far more than this resolution, it deserves the sincere acknowledgment and thanks from each citizen of this country.

SENATE RESOLUTION 86—SUPPORTING THE NATIONAL RAILROAD HALL OF FAME, INC. OF GALESBURG, ILLINOIS

Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. FITZGERALD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 86

Whereas Galesburg, Illinois, has a profound link to the history of railroading beginning in 1849 when the Peoria and Oquawka Railroad organized;

Whereas the citizens of Galesburg supported a railroad to Chicago which was chartered as the Central Military Tract Railroad in 1851;