CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

May 25, 1999

(Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 512, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the expansion, intensification, and coordination of the activities of the Department of Health and Human Services with respect to research on autism.

S. 514

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DeWINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 514, a bill to improve the National Writing Project.

S. 635

At the request of Mr. MACK, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 635, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to more accurately codify the depreciable life of printed wiring board and printed wiring assembly equipment.

S. 676

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 676, a bill to locate and secure the return of Zachary Baumen, a citizen of the United States, and other Israeli soldiers missing in action.

S. 694

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 694, a bill to amend title 11, United States Code, to provide for family fishermen, and to make chapter 12 of title 11, United States Code, permanent.

S. 693

At the request of Mr. HELMS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 693, a bill to assist in the enhancement of the security of Taiwan, and for other purposes.

S. 738

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 738, a bill to amend chapters 83 and 84 of title 5, United States Code, to extend the civil service retirement provisions of such chapter which are applicable to law enforcement officers, to inspectors of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, inspectors and canine enforcement officers of the United States Customs Service, and revenue officers of the Internal Revenue Service.

S. 800

At the request of Mr. BURNS, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAX) were added as cosponsors of S. 800, a bill to promote and enhance public safety through the use of 9–1–1 as the universal emergency assistance number, further deployment of wireless 9–1–1 service, support of States in upgrading 9–1–1 capabilities and related functions, encouragement of construction and operation of seamless, ubiquitous, and reliable networks for personal wireless services, and for other purposes.

S. 820

At the request of Mr. CHAFFEE, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. GRAMS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 820, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the 4.3-cent motor fuel excise taxes on railroads and inland waterway transportation which remain in the general fund of the Treasury.

S. 870

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 870, a bill to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) to increase the efficiency and accountability of Offices of Inspector General within Federal departments, and for other purposes.

S. 879

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELL) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 879, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a shorter recovery period for the depreciation of certain leasehold improvements.

S. 881

At the request of Mr. BENNETT, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McCONNELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 881, a bill to ensure confidentiality with respect to medical records and health care–related information, and for other purposes.

S. 908

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 908, a bill to establish a comprehensive program to ensure the safety of food products intended for human consumption that are regulated by the Food and Drug Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 1017

At the request of Mr. MACK, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1017, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the State ceiling on the low-income housing credit.

S. 1023

At the request of Mr. MOYNIHAN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1023, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to carve out from payments to Medicare+Choice organizations amounts attributable to disproportionate share hospital payments and pay such amounts directly to those disproportionate share hospitals in which their enrollees receive care.

S. 1025

At the request of Mr. MOYNIHAN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. BOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1025, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure the proper payment of approved nursing and allied health education programs under the medicare program.

S. 1053

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. GRAMM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1053, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to incorporate certain provisions of the transportation conformity regulations, as in effect on March 1, 1999.

S. 1070

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. Frist) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1070, a bill to require the Secretary of Labor to wait for completion of a National Academy of Sciences study before promulgating a standard, regulation or guideline on ergonomics.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 21

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI), the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. BONATTI), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. Frist), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD), and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) 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 RESOLUTION 59

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Kennedy), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. Levin), and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. Bayh) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 59, a bill designating both July 2, 1999, and July 2, 2000, as “National Literacy Day.”

SENATE RESOLUTION 103

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 103, a
Whereas to date 633 Americans have met the criteria for eligibility to be honored by the "In Memory" Program; and
Whereas the Americans who have been named by the "In Memory" Program are honored each year during a ceremony at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial: Now, therefore, be it
Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring). That it is the sense of Congress that "In Memory" Day should be observed on the third Monday in April each year, the day on which Patriots Day is also observed, in honor of the men and women of the United States whose deaths had a basis in their service in Vietnam during the Vietnam War and who are thereby true examples to the Nation of patriotism and sacrifice.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, today I submit a concurrent resolution which would express the Sense of the Congress that the third Monday in April be designated "In Memory Day." In Memory Day will be a time for family and friends to gather and commemorate the supreme sacrifice made by their loved ones as their names are read from the In Memory Honor Roll at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, as was done most recently on April 19, 1999. I feel this to be a small yet fitting tribute to those whose lives were ultimately claimed by the war in Vietnam.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is a solemn reminder that the defense of liberty is not without loss. The 58,214 service members who gave their lives in Vietnam will forever be memorialized in a most fitting manner. Their names, inscribed in granite walls, symbolize the reality that our nation's military personnel protects America behind walls built with the blood of patriots. We must keep them in our memory always.

Not all of those who died, however, are commemorated on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Unaccounted for are those succumbed to the ravages of psychological wounds upon their return home. Unaccounted for are all those who died after war's end, yet whose deaths were intrinsically linked to wartime service. Their family members and loved ones have no wall to go to; no names to touch; no memorial to share.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) runs an "In Memory Program" to honor these silent fallen. As part of the VVMF's "In Memory Honor Roll" to commemorate those who served and died prematurely, but whose deaths do not fit the parameters for inclusion upon the Wall, it is time for Congress to do its part in honoring these brave soldiers and their families.

Whereas "In Memory" Day is now a project of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund;

SUPPORT OF ''IN MEMORY'' DAY

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Senate Concurrent Resolution 34—Relating to the Observance of "In Memory" Day

Mr. SPECTER submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 34

Whereas many of the individuals who served in the Armed Forces and in civilian roles in Vietnam during the Vietnam War have since died, in part as the result of illnesses and conditions associated with service in Vietnam during that war;

Whereas these men and women, whose ultimate health conditions had a basis in their service in Vietnam during the Vietnam War, sacrificed their lives for their country in a very real sense;

Whereas under criteria established by the Department of Defense, the deaths of these men and women do not qualify as Vietnam War deaths;

Whereas under Department guidelines, these men and women also do not meet the criteria for eligibility to have their names inscribed on the Memorial Wall of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in the District of Columbia;

Whereas "In Memory" Day was established several years ago in order to honor the Americans who gave their lives in service to their country as a result of service in Vietnam but had not otherwise been honored for doing so;

Whereas "In Memory" Day is now a project of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund;


Hutchison Amendment No. 389

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mrs. HUTCHISON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill (S. 1059) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2000 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place in the bill, insert the following:

Sec. 1. (a) Congress makes the following findings:

(1) It is the National Security Strategy of the United States to "deter and defeat large-scale, cross-border aggression in two distant theaters in overlapping time frames;''

(2) The deterrence of Iraq and Iran in Southwest Asia and the deterrence of North Korea in Northeast Asia represent two such potential large-scale, cross-border theater requirements;

(3) The United States has 120,000 troops permanently assigned resources from other theaters to support operations in the Balkans;

(4) The United States has an additional 70,000 troops assigned to non-NATO/non-Pacific threat foreign countries;

(5) The United States has more than 6,000 troops in Bosnia-Herzegovina on indefinite assignment;

(6) The United States has diverted permanently assigned resources from other theaters to support operations in the Balkans;

(7) The United States provides military forces to seven active United Nations peacekeeping operations, including missions in Haiti and the Western Sahara, and some missions that have continued for decades;

(8) Between 1986 and 1998, the number of American military deployments per year has nearly tripled at the same time the Department of Defense budget has been reduced in real terms by 38 percent;

(9) The Army has 10 active-duty divisions today, down from 18 in 1991, while on an average day in FY98, 28,000 U.S. Army soldiers were deployed to more than 70 countries for over 500 separate missions;

(10) Active Air Force fighter wings have gone from 22 to 13 since 1991, while 70 percent of air sorties in Operation Allied Force over the Balkans are U.S.-Air Force; the Air Force continues to enforce northern and southern no-fly zones in Iraq;

(11) The United States Navy has been reduced in size to 339 ships, its lowest level since 1938, necessitating the redeployment of the only overseas homeported aircraft carrier from the Western Pacific to the Mediterranean to support Operation Allied Force;

(12) In 1998 just 10 percent of eligible carrier naval aviators—27 out of 261—accepted continuation bonuses and remained in service;

(13) In 1998 48 percent of Air Force pilots eligible for continuation opted to leave the service;

(14) The Army could fall 6,000 below Congressionally authorized troop strength by the end of 1999.

(b) Sense of Congress:

(1) It is the sense of Congress that—

(A) The readiness of U.S. military forces to execute the National Security Strategy of the United States is being eroded from a combination of declining defense budgets and expanded missions;

(B) There may be missions to which the United States is contributing Armed Forces from which the United States can begin disengaging.