

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate disagree with the amendment of the House, agree to the request for a conference, and the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate.

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

The Presiding Officer (Mr. BENNETT) appointed Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. WARNER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mrs. BOXER conferees on the part of the Senate.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST
TIME—S. 3165

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I understand S. 3165 is at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3165) to amend the Social Security Act to make corrections and refinements in the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP health insurance programs, and for other purposes.

Mr. MACK. I now ask for its second reading, and I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST
TIME—S. 3173

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I understand S. 3173 is at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3173) to improve the implementation of the environmental streamlining provisions of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century.

Mr. MACK. I now ask for its second reading, and I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST
TIME—H.R. 4292

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I understand that H.R. 4292 is at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4292) to protect infants who are born alive.

Mr. MACK. I now ask for its second reading, and I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER
COMMERCIALIZATION ACT OF 1999

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Commerce

Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 209 and the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 209) to improve the ability of Federal agencies to license federally-owned inventions.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

AMENDMENT NO. 4300

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, Senators EDWARDS, SHELBY, and SESSIONS have an amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Florida (Mr. MACK) for Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. SHELBY, and Mr. SESSIONS, proposes an amendment numbered 4300.

The amendment is as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIPS OMBUDSMAN.

(a) APPOINTMENT OF OMBUDSMAN.—The Secretary of Energy shall direct the director of each national laboratory of the Department of Energy, and may direct the director of each facility under the jurisdiction of the Department of Energy, to appoint a technology partnership ombudsman to hear and help resolve complaints from outside organizations regarding the policies and actions of each such laboratory or facility with respect to technology partnerships (including cooperative research and development agreements), patents, and technology licensing.

(b) QUALIFICATIONS.—An ombudsman appointed under subsection (a) shall be a senior official of the national laboratory or facility who is not involved in day-to-day technology partnerships, patents, or technology licensing, or, if appointed from outside the laboratory of facility, function as such a senior official.

(c) DUTIES.—Each ombudsman appointed under subsection (a) shall—

(1) serve as the focal point for assisting the public and industry in resolving complaints and disputes with the national laboratory or facility regarding technology partnerships, patents, and technology licensing;

(2) promote the use of collaborative alternative dispute resolution technique such as mediation to facilitate the speedy and low-cost resolution of complaints and disputes, when appropriate; and

(3) report quarterly on the number and nature of complaints and disputes raised, along with the ombudsman's assessment of their resolution, consistent with the protection of confidential and sensitive information, to—

(A) the Secretary;

(B) the Administrator for Nuclear Security;

(C) the Director of the Office of Dispute Resolution of the Department of Energy; and

(D) the employees of the Department responsible for the administration of the contract for the operation of each national laboratory or facility that is a subject of the report, for consideration in the administration and review of that contract.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Senator EDWARDS' amendment establishes a Technology Partnership Ombudsman at De-

partment of Energy's National Laboratories. It is my understanding that the Ombudsman should promote the use of collaborative alternative dispute resolution techniques such as mediation to facilitate the speedy and low-cost resolution of complaints and disputes with industry partners. To ensure fairness and objectivity, however, it would be the Senator's intent that nothing in this Section be interpreted to empower the Ombudsman to act as a mediator or an arbitrator in the process.

Mr. EDWARDS. The Senator's understanding is correct. That is our intention.

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be agreed to, the bill be read a third time and passed, as amended, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The amendment (No. 4300) was agreed to.

The bill (H.R. 209), as amended, was passed.

TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I want to speak for a few minutes on a conference report, a bill we have been working on all year, including a couple of other provisions that have now been added. We are ready to move forward with it. That is what the vote will address tomorrow.

I have put forward this bill on sex trafficking with Senator WELLSTONE. He and I don't get together on too many bills, so when we do, it is a bit noteworthy. We come from different perspectives, different viewpoints. I think we both have good hearts but our heads take us in different directions. But on this subject of stopping sex trafficking, we don't disagree. We have worked together all year to get this bill through which challenges this practice known as sex trafficking.

Throughout the world, globalization has a dark side. We are seeing increasing numbers of young women, even girls, being trafficked from poorer countries to richer countries into the prostitution business. They have been tricked, forced, coerced and defrauded into working as prostitutes against their will. There are about 700,000 women and girls, according to our Government's estimates, being moved each year from poorer countries to richer countries into the prostitution business. Our Government estimates that approximately 50,000 women and children are trafficked annually into the United States, primarily from Asia and Central America.

This is clearly a terrible practice. Many of these are young girls who are

tricked and deceived into forced prostitution believe they are going to a different country for another purpose. For example, those trafficked to the United States are promised a job as a dish washer, or a factory worker. Something that pays better than the job opportunities available in their own, typically poorer, countries. However, once the victims get here, there is no decent job waiting for them. Instead, the trafficker will take their papers and passport so that they have no legal identification. Then they are given false papers, if any. This begins to prepare them for their new life of forced prostitution, making it very difficult to track down and rescue the young woman or girl who has been trapped. There is a point very early in this process where the trafficker says something like the following to his victim, "You are mine and you will do what I say. You will work in this brothel as a prostitute and you have no choice." At this point, she had become a slave in one of the most degrading fashions imaginable.

Senator WELLSTONE and I heard testimony to this effect. We have had two hearings in the Foreign Relations Committee on this subject of trafficking. At both hearings, we had victims testify to such experiences. At one hearing, we had three women who had been trafficked—all had been tricked into traveling to another country believing a good job was waiting on the other side, and once they got there, they were forced into prostitution. This is what they were subjected to. One young woman said that once she was moved into the United States, she was subjected to 30 clients a day, six days a week. If she refused, she was beaten without mercy. It is a dark, dark business.

In January of this year I was in Nepal. I met with a number of girls who had returned from India, where they were forced to work in the brothels in Bombay. These were young girls, frequently from villages, not particularly knowledgeable in the ways of the world. They were young and very innocent when the trafficker had taken them away. The trafficker had told one girl's parents, "I can get her a job in a rug factory in Bombay." The family was poor, they needed income, and they believed him. So they agreed, and gave their daughter away to the trader who forced her into prostitution against her will. And she had no choice.

I met girls who had been trafficked at age 11, 12, and 13. The girls I saw in Nepal, in Katmandu, had returned from this devastating life. Some had escaped by running away, though many cannot since they are in chains or are locked away. Others were thrown out by the brothel because they had contracted AIDS or TB. When they returned at the age of 16, 17, or 18, two-thirds of them

had AIDS and were waiting to die, having no proper medicine.

As I stood there with the woman who runs this place of restoration for these young women, she pointed around the room whispering: She is dying, she is dying, she is dying. These were girls of 17 years old, 16 years old, or younger. They were people who had had their youth stolen from them, were deceived or forced into this practice, and then, finally, received a death sentence of AIDS. I saw that. I talked with these survivors of trafficking. Once you see that, you know you have to try to help to stop this. This is wrong, and this terrible practice is increasing. It is happening to 700,000 women and children, girls, each year worldwide.

PAUL WELLSTONE and I worked very hard together. We have a bill that has gone through the Senate by unanimous consent which is the most comprehensive bill to combat this practice of sex trafficking. Among other provisions, this bill substantially increases the penalty for trafficking, while protecting those victims who have been forced into this awful practice. Presently, the victims of trafficking are treated almost as badly as their enslaver, but this bill changes that. Instead, this bill promotes the cooperation of the victims to testify against those who have forced them into trafficking. This will help to bust open the trafficking rings, which we are going very little of these days. It also promotes awareness programs so that people can protect their children and themselves from being tricked into forced prostitution.

I support the increasing globalization of the trade community, but we also have to recognize the problems associated with globalization. Trafficking may be among the worst of those problems. The United States can be a leader in starting to combat this practice, thus giving back to young girls all over the world their childhood instead of a death sentence.

Associated with this trafficking bill is a bill that Senator BIDEN has worked very aggressively on, the Violence Against Women Act. This is a reauthorization of that bill. These two bills are being paired, along with other measures. Senator BIDEN has spoken passionately and frequently on the need to deal with domestic violence in the United States, a very dark and pervasive tragedy in America.

It recently passed in the House of Representatives as a stand alone bill, with only 3 dissenting votes. It is up for reauthorization. VAWA will help those women who are suffering from some form of domestic violence. It is a good piece of legislation and these two bills belong together.

Also associated with this bill is an Internet Alcohol provision, as well as a provision dealing with terrorism, put forward by Senator MACK. It is non-

controversial. Also, in includes a bill entitled, Amy's Law, sponsored by Congressman SALMON in the House, and by Senator SANTORUM here in the Senate. It ultimately promotes tougher prison sentences for people who have been convicted of sex crimes such as rape.

In summary, the two lead bills in this package separately address sex trafficking and violence against women and children. I plead with my colleagues to vote for this package. It will be up tomorrow morning. This package challenges brutal practices suffered by some of the most defenseless and battered in our society and worldwide. It will assist people in some of the most violent and crushing situations, both here and abroad. It will help so many.

I plead with my colleagues in these last hours when people can put up roadblocks to bills. I plead with my colleagues to say that they will not block this bill which will help so many people who are brutalized, including by sex trafficking. I plead with my colleagues, let's move this package on through. This will clear through the House by a large vote. It is something we can do for the women and children in this country as well as worldwide. It is a sensible package. It has been worked out by both sides of the political spectrum, through both parties. So, please, let's do this.

This is something we can all be very proud of passing as we go home. We can proudly say that we tried to do something, as we read increasing stories of forced sex trafficking worldwide. We can say we didn't look away by passing this bill.

Everybody is not going to like everything in these bills. But these two lead issues are so critical and important, and time is so short for us to get these through. Let's not wait until next session as increasingly more and more girls are being tricked into this practice of forced sex trafficking.

The United States can step up awareness and advocacy, and as we do, governments around the world will do the same. The U.S. has to speak first, however, and this is the bill to do the speaking. Let's do it now.

As we vote on this tomorrow morning, I ask my colleagues to vote yes on these very important pieces of legislation to help children, to help women. These are vital pieces of legislation of which we can all be proud.

Mr. President, I understand there may be some more items, so I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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