

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Alaska [Mr. MURKOWSKI] for Mr. HELMS, proposes an amendment numbered 4313.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To remove from the list of treaties required to be returned to the President a mutual legal assistance treaty between the United States and Nigeria)

On page 5, strike lines 7 through 11.

On page 5, lines 12, strike "(18)" and insert "(17)".

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be agreed to.

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

The amendment (No. 4313) was agreed to.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I ask unanimous consent the resolution, as amended, be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 267), as amended, was agreed to, as follows:

[The resolution will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.]

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

REMOVAL OF INJUNCTION OF SECRECY—TREATY DOCUMENT NO. 106-49

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the following convention transmitted to the Senate on October 12, 2000, by the President of the United States: International Convention for Suppression of Financing Terrorism (Treaty Document No. 106-49).

Further, I ask unanimous consent that the convention be considered as having been read the first time, that it be referred with accompanying papers to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed, and that the President's message be printed in the RECORD.

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

The message of the President is as follows:

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 9, 1999, and signed on behalf of the United States of America on January 10, 2000. The re-

port of the Department of State with respect to the Convention is also transmitted for the information of the Senate.

In recent years, the United States has increasingly focused world attention on the importance of combating terrorist financing as a means of choking off the resources that fuel international terrorism. While international terrorists do not generally seek financial gain as an end, they actively solicit and raise money and other resources to attract and retain adherents and to support their presence and activities both in the United States and abroad. The present Convention is aimed at cutting off the sustenance that these groups need to operate. This Convention provides, for the first time, an obligation that States Parties criminalize such conduct and establishes an international legal framework for cooperation among States Parties directed toward prevention of such financing and ensuring the prosecution and punishment of offenders, wherever found.

Article 2 of the Convention states that any person commits an offense within the meaning of the Convention "if that person by any means, directly or indirectly, unlawfully and willfully, provides or collects funds with the intention that they should be used or in the knowledge that they are to be used, in full or in part, in order to carry out" either of two categories of terrorist acts defined in the Convention. The first category includes any act that constitutes an offense within the scope of and as defined in one of the counter terrorism treaties listed in the Annex to the Convention. The second category encompasses any other act intended to cause death or serious bodily injury to a civilian, or to any other person not taking an active part in hostilities in a situation of armed conflict, when the purpose of the act, by its nature or context, is to intimidate a population, or to compel a government or an international organization to do or to abstain from doing any act.

The Convention imposes binding legal obligations upon States Parties either to submit for prosecution or to extradite any person within their jurisdiction who commits an offense as defined in Article 2 of the Convention, attempts to commit such an act, participates as an accomplice, organizes or directs others to commit such an offense, or in any other way contributes to the commission of an offense by a group of persons acting with a common purpose. A State Party is subject to these obligations without regard to the place where the alleged act covered by Article 2 took place.

States Parties to the Convention will also be obligated to provide one another legal assistance in investigations or criminal or extradition proceedings brought in respect of the offenses set forth in Article 2.

Legislation necessary to implement the Convention will be submitted to the Congress separately.

This Convention is a critical new weapon in the campaign against the scourge of international terrorism. I hope that all countries will become Parties to this Convention at the earliest possible time. I recommend, therefore, that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to this Convention, subject to the understanding, declaration and reservation that are described in the accompanying report of the Department of State.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, October 12, 2000.

VETERANS BENEFITS AND HEALTH CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2000

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Chair lay before the Senate a message from the House of Representatives on the bill (S. 1402) to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase amounts of educational assistance for veterans under the Montgomery GI bill and to enhance programs providing educational benefits under that title, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 1402) entitled "An Act to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance programs providing education benefits for veterans, and for other purposes", do pass with the following amendments:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS; REFERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.

(a) *SHORT TITLE*.—This Act may be cited as the "Veterans and Dependents Millennium Education Act".

(b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS*.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. *Short title; table of contents; references to title 38, United States Code.*
- Sec. 2. *Increase in rates of basic educational assistance under Montgomery GI Bill.*
- Sec. 3. *Additional opportunity for certain VEAP participants to enroll in basic educational assistance under Montgomery GI Bill.*
- Sec. 4. *Increase in rates of survivors and dependents educational assistance.*
- Sec. 5. *Adjusted effective date for award of survivors' and dependents' educational assistance.*
- Sec. 6. *Revision of educational assistance interval payment requirements.*
- Sec. 7. *Availability of education benefits for payment for licensing or certification tests.*
- Sec. 8. *Extension of certain temporary authorities.*
- Sec. 9. *Codification of recurring provisions in annual Department of Veterans Affairs appropriations Acts.*
- Sec. 10. *Preservation of certain reporting requirements.*

(c) *REFERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE*.—Except as otherwise expressly provided,