

“(F) any tobacco products (as defined in section 5702(c)).”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as if included in the amendment made by section 3(b) of the FSC Repeal and Extraterritorial Income Exclusion Act of 2000.

Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 3286. A bill to provide permanent funding for the Bureau of Land Management Payment in Lieu of Taxes program and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

PILT AND REFUGE REVENUE SHARING
PERMANENT FUNDING ACT

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, the bill I am introducing today, the PILT and Refuge Revenue Sharing Permanent Funding Act, deals with an issue that I believe must be addressed in the next Congress. The bill is a measure to make permanent funding for two important programs managed by the Department of the Interior: the Payment in Lieu of Taxes Program (or PILT) in the Bureau of Land Management and the Refuge Revenue Sharing Program in the Fish and Wildlife Service. These programs provide support to local governments in areas in which these two agencies hold land. Under the authorizations for these programs, the funds are to be provided as an offset to the local property tax base lost by virtue of the Federal ownership of these lands.

Federal ownership of lands in the American West, in states like New Mexico, does not come without its share of burdens for local governments. If there is a fire or other emergency, they must help respond. If there is increased traffic to and from the site, they must maintain the public roads that provide the necessary access to the public. In enacting the original authorizing legislation, Congress decided that, as a matter of policy, it was appropriate for the Federal Government to bear a fair share in paying for these costs, in lieu of the taxes that would be levied on any private landowner in these localities.

But in setting up these programs, Congress decided to make them subject to annual appropriations, either partially (in the case of Refuge Revenue Sharing) or completely (in the case of PILT). In retrospect, this was a mistake. The annual appropriations process has never come even close to providing the funds agreed upon by the underlying authorizing law. Moreover, the amount made available has changed significantly from one year to the next, frustrating the ability of localities to plan effectively for the use of these funds. Many of the burdens they face as a result of Federal land ownership require expenditures and commitments that are long-term. If you want to have a reasonable system of country roads, you need to have a

consistent multi-year plan. If you want adequate fire protection, you can't be hiring a dozen new firefighters in one year and firing them the next, as appropriation levels gyrate up and down.

The Federal Government needs to be a better neighbor and a more reliable partner to local governments in the rural West. Since the system of meeting our obligations to these localities through the annual appropriations process has not worked, I am proposing that we start treating our payments in lieu of taxes in the same way that we account for incoming tax revenues to the Federal Government—on the mandatory side of the Federal ledger. By making the funding for these crucial programs full and permanent, we will be keeping the commitments to rural communities throughout the West made in the original PILT and Refuge Revenue Sharing authorizing legislation. It's a matter of simple justice to rural communities. I hope that enacting legislation along the lines of what I am proposing today will receive high priority in the next Congress.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of this bill be printed in the RECORD following this statement.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3286

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “PILT and Refuge Revenue Sharing Permanent Funding Act”.

SEC. 2. PERMANENT FUNDING FOR PILT AND REFUGE REVENUE SHARING.

(a) PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES.—Section 6906 of title 31, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to the Secretary of the Interior to carry out this chapter. Beginning in fiscal year 2002 and each year thereafter, amounts authorized under this chapter shall be made available to the Secretary of the Interior, out of any other funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated and without further appropriation, for obligation or expenditure in accordance with this chapter.”.

(b) REFUGE REVENUE SHARING.—Section 401(d) of the Act of June 15, 1935, as amended (16 U.S.C. 715s(d)) (relating to refuge revenue sharing), is amended by adding at the end thereof:

“Beginning in fiscal year 2002 and each year thereafter, such amount shall be made available to the Secretary, out of any other funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated and without further appropriation, for obligation or expenditure in accordance with this section.”.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 741

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 741, a bill to provide for pension reform, and for other purposes.

S. 2718

At the request of Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2718, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives to introduce new technologies to reduce energy consumption in buildings.

S. 3250

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3250, a bill to provide for a United States response in the event of a unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 162—TO DIRECT THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO MAKE A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 4577

Mr. STEVENS (for himself and Mr. BYRD) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 162

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Clerk of the House of Representatives, in the enrollment of the bill (H.R. 4577), making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 2001, and for other purposes, shall make the following correction:

In section 1(a)(4), before the period at the end, insert the following: “, except that the text of H.R. 5666, as so enacted, shall not include section 123 (relating to the enactment of H.R. 4904)”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 388—TENDERING THE THANKS OF THE SENATE TO THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FOR THE COURTEOUS, DIGNIFIED, AND IMPARTIAL MANNER IN WHICH HE HAS PRESIDED OVER THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE SENATE

Mr. LOTT (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. NICKLES, and Mr. REID) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 388

Resolved, That the thanks of the Senate are hereby tendered to the Honorable Strom Thurmond, President pro tempore of the Senate, for the courteous, dignified, and impartial manner in which he has presided over its deliberations during the second session of the One Hundred Sixth Congress.