INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. HELMS (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. WARNER, Mr. HATCH, Mr. GRAMS, and Mr. SHELBY):
S. 2726. A bill to protect United States military personnel and other elected and appointed officials of the United States Government against criminal prosecution by an international criminal court to which the United States is not a party; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. BRYAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. WELLSTON):
S. 2727. A bill to improve the health of older Americans and persons with disabilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BRYAN (for himself and Mr. REID):
S. 2728. A bill to authorize the Forest Service to convey certain lands in the Lake Tahoe Basin to the Washoe County School District for use as an elementary school site; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself and Mr. SMITH of Oregon):
S. 2729. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to restore stability and equity to the financing of the United Mine Workers of America Combines Benefit Fund by eliminating the liability of reachback operations, to provide additional sources of revenue to the Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DOMENICI, Mrs. BOXES, and Mr. BINGHAM):
S. 2730. A bill to provide for the appointment of additional Federal district judges, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FRIST (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):
S. 2731. A bill to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to enhance the Nation's capacity to address public health threats and emergencies; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

S. Con. Res. 122. Concurrent resolution recognizing the 60th anniversary of the United States nonrecognition policy of the Soviet takeover of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, and calling for positive steps to promote a peaceful and democratic future for the Baltic region; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

AMERICAN SERVICEMEMBERS’ PROTECTION ACT OF 2000

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

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

S. 2726
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 “American Servicemembers’ Protection Act of 2000”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) On July 17, 1998, the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, meeting in Rome, Italy, adopted the “Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.” The vote on adoption of the Statute was 120 in favor to 7 against, with 21 countries abstaining. The United States voted against final adoption of the Rome Statute.

(2) As of May 30, 2000, 96 countries had signed the Rome Statute and 19 had ratified it. Pursuant to Article 126 of the Rome Statute, the Statute will enter into force on the first day of the month after the 60th day following the date that the 60th country deposits an instrument ratifying the Statute.

(3) Since adoption of the Rome Statute, a Preparatory Commission for the International Criminal Court has continued to meet regularly to draft documents to implement the Rome Statute, including Rules of Procedure and Evidence, definitions of Elements of Crimes, and a definition of the Crime of Aggression.

(4) During testimony before the Congress, the lead United States negotiator, Ambassador David Scheffer stated that the United States could not sign the Rome Statute because certain critical negotiating objectives of the United States had not been achieved. As a result, he stated: “We are left with contradictions that do not serve the cause of international justice.”

(5) Ambassador Scheffer went on to tell the Congress that: ‘Multinational peacekeeping forces operating in a country that has joined the treaty can be exposed to the court’s jurisdiction even if the country of the individual peacekeeper has not joined the treaty.’