

producers for value-added ventures, including engineering, legal services, applied research, scale production, business planning, marketing, and market development.

The funds would be provided to farmers through grants requests, which will be evaluated on the State level. It has long been my opinion that farmers know how best to farm their land, meet market demands, and make a profit. If the ideas of farmers are cultivated on a local and state level, farmers will likely have more flexibility to make wise decisions for markets in their home states and regions.

States would have the opportunity to apply for \$10 million grants to start up an Agriculture Innovation Center. The state boards will consist of the State Department of Agriculture, the largest two general farm organizations, and the four highest grossing commodity groups. The Agriculture Innovation Center will then use the funds to help farmers finance the start-up of value added ventures.

Once it is determined that the farmers' ideas for a value added venture could be beneficial, the State Agriculture Innovation Center can give the farmers assistance with plans, engineering, and design. When the farmer is actually ready to begin implementation of the value added project, the third bill I am introducing will help out.

The Farmers' Value-Added Agricultural Investment Tax Credit Act would create a tax credit for farmers who invest in producer owned value-added endeavors—even ventures that are not farmer-owned co-ops. This would provide a 50% tax credit for the producers of up to \$30,000 per year, for six years.

The three bills I am introducing today are important to the continuation of the American farmer over the next century. I know that these bills will benefit the producers of Missouri, and in turn benefit all of America.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 514

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. L. CHAFEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 514, a bill to improve the National Writing Project.

S. 567

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 567, a bill to amend the Dairy Production Stabilization Act of 1983 to ensure that all persons who benefit from the dairy promotion and research program contribute to the cost of the program.

S. 717

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 717, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide that

the reductions in Social Security benefits which are required in the case of spouses and surviving spouses who are also receiving certain Government pensions shall be equal to the amount by which two-thirds of the total amount of the combined monthly benefit (before reduction) and monthly pension exceeds \$1,200, adjusted for inflation.

S. 730

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 730, a bill to direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate fire safety standards for cigarettes, and for other purposes.

S. 764

At the request of Mr. THURMOND, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 764, a bill to amend section 1951 of title 18, United States Code (commonly known as the Hobbs Act), and for other purposes.

S. 779

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS), and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 779, a bill to provide that no Federal income tax shall be imposed on amounts received by Holocaust victims or their heirs.

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. KERREY) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 779, *supra*.

S. 1159

At the request of Mr. STEVENS, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1159, a bill to provide grants and contracts to local educational agencies to initiate, expand, and improve physical education programs for all kindergarten through 12th grade students.

S. 1262

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. L. CHAFEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1262, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide up-to-date school library medial resources and well-trained, professionally certified school library media specialists for elementary schools and secondary schools, and for other purposes.

S. 1277

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1277, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to establish a new prospective payment system for Federally-qualified health centers and rural health clinics.

S. 1351

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SMITH) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 1351, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the credit for electricity produced from newable resources.

S. 1495

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1495, a bill to establish, wherever feasible, guidelines, recommendations, and regulations that promote the regulatory acceptance of new and revised toxicological tests that protect human and animal health and the environment while reducing, refining, or replacing animal tests and ensuring human safety and product effectiveness.

S. 1787

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1787, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to improve water quality on abandoned or inactive mined land.

S. 1915

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1915, a bill to enhance the services provided by the Environmental Protection Agency to small communities that are attempting to comply with national, State, and local environmental regulations.

S. 2018

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. THURMOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2018, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to revise the update factor used in making payments to PPS hospitals under the Medicare program.

S. 2084

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) were added as cosponsors of S. 2084, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the amount of the charitable deduction allowable for contributions of food inventory, and for other purposes.

S. 2273

At the request of Mr. BRYAN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2273, a bill to establish the Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area, and for other purposes.

S. 2274

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2274, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide families and disabled children with the opportunity to purchase coverage under the Medicaid program for such children.

S. 2308

At the request of Mr. MOYNIHAN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2308, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to assure preservation of safety net hospitals through maintenance of the Medicaid disproportionate share hospital program.

S. 2330

At the request of Mr. ROTH, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2330, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on telephone and other communication services.

S. 2423

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. KERREY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2423, a bill to provide Federal Perkins Loan cancellation for public defenders.

S. 2582

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2582, a bill to amend section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to better define the term political organization.

S. 2583

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2583, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase disclosure for certain political organizations exempt from tax under section 527.

S. 2585

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2585, a bill to amend titles IV and XX of the Social Security Act to restore funding for the Social Services Block Grant, to restore the ability of the States to transfer up to 10 percent of TANF funds to carry out activities under such block grant, and to require an annual report on such activities by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

S. 2703

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2703, a bill to amend the provisions of title 39, United States Code, relating to the manner in which pay policies and schedules and fringe benefit programs for postmasters are established.

S. 2730

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. GRAMM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2730, a bill to provide for the appointment of additional Federal district judges, and for other purposes.

S. 2731

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of 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.

S. CON. RES. 60

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 60, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that a commemorative postage stamp should be issued in honor of the U.S.S. *Wisconsin* and all those who served aboard her.

S. CON. RES. 111

At the request of Mr. NICKLES, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 111, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding ensuring a competitive North American market for softwood lumber.

S. J. RES. 47

At the request of Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) was added as a cosponsor of S. J. Res. 47, a joint resolution disapproving the extension of the waiver authority contained in section 402(c) of the Trade Act of 1974 with respect to Vietnam.

S. RES. 239

At the request of Mr. ROBB, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 239, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that Nadia Dabbagh, who was abducted from the United States, should be returned home to her mother, Ms. Maureen Dabbagh.

S. RES. 294

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 294, a resolution designating the month of October 2000 as "Children's Internet Safety Month."

S. RES. 301

At the request of Mr. THURMOND, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. NICKLES) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 301, a resolution designating August 16, 2000, as "National Airborne Day."

AMENDMENT NO. 3430

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3430 proposed to H.R. 4475, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3432

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Montana

(Mr. BURNS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3432 proposed to H.R. 4475, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3432 proposed to H.R. 4475, *supra*.

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3432 proposed to H.R. 4475, *supra*.

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3432 proposed to H.R. 4475, *supra*.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 123—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS REGARDING MANIPULATION OF THE MASS AND INTIMIDATION OF THE INDEPENDENT PRESS IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND THE INDEPENDENT MEDIA IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AND CALLING ON THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO EXPRESS HIS STRONG CONCERN FOR FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND THE INDEPENDENT MEDIA IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Mr. LAUTENBERG submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 123

Whereas almost all of the large printing plants, publishing houses, and newspaper distribution companies, several leading news agencies, and almost all of the nationwide television frequencies and broadcasting facilities in the Russian Federation remain under government control, despite the extensive privatization of state-owned enterprises in other sectors of the Russian economy;

Whereas the "Press Freedom Survey 2000" reported by "Freedom House" of Washington, DC, stated that the approximately 2,500 regional and rural newspapers in Russia outside of Moscow are almost completely owned by local or provincial governments;

Whereas the Government of Russia is able to suspend or revoke broadcast and publishing licenses and apply exorbitant taxes and fees on the independent media;

Whereas, in 1999, a major television network controlled by the Russian Government canceled the program "Top Secret" after it reported on alleged corruption at high levels of the government;

Whereas, in July 1999, the Government of Russia created a new Ministry for Press, Television and Radio Broadcasting, and Mass Communications;

Whereas, in August 1999, the editors of fourteen of Russia's leading news publications sent an open letter to then Russian President Boris Yeltsin stating that high-ranking officials of the government were putting pressure on the mass media, particularly through unwarranted raids by tax police;