Whereas the close relationship between the United States and Morocco has helped the United States advance important national interests;

Whereas the United States and Morocco have cooperated to achieve the objectives of security, trade, and the promotion of peace and prosperity in the Middle East and the Maghreb region and its environs, including Morocco’s role as host to the inaugural Middle East North Africa Summit held in Casablanca in 1994, and Morocco’s continuing prominence in sustaining that dialogue and promoting economic integration with Tunisia and Algeria;

Whereas King Mohammed VI has assumed and expanded the legacy of his father, the late Hassan II, in strengthening the rule of law, promoting the concepts of democracy, human rights and individual liberties, and implementing far-reaching economic and social reforms to benefit all of the people of Morocco;

Whereas the preservation of the rights and freedoms of the Moroccan people and the expansion and advance of Morocco represent a model for progress and bolster the foreign policy objectives of the United States in the region and elsewhere;

Whereas leading American corporations such as the CMS Energy Corporation, the Boeing Company, the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, the Gillette Company, and others are responsible for substantial and increasingly higher levels of trade, investment, and commerce between the United States and Morocco, and is helping to strengthen the fabric of the bilateral relationship and to sustain it throughout the 21st century and beyond;

Whereas the people of the United States and Morocco have long enjoyed fruitful exchanges in fields such as culture, education, politics, science, technology and the arts, including Americanos of Moroccan origin who are experienced in the field of international relations, especially Cuban affairs and United States-Cuban relations, and who are responsible for substantial and increasingly higher levels of trade, investment, and commerce between the United States and Morocco, and is helping to strengthen the fabric of the bilateral relationship and to sustain it throughout the 21st century and beyond;

Whereas the people of the United States and Morocco have long enjoyed fruitful exchanges in fields such as culture, education, politics, science, technology and the arts, including Americanos of Moroccan origin who are experienced in the field of international relations, especially Cuban affairs and United States-Cuban relations, and who are responsible for substantial and increasingly higher levels of trade, investment, and commerce between the United States and Morocco, and is helping to strengthen the fabric of the bilateral relationship and to sustain it throughout the 21st century and beyond;

Whereas the people of the United States and Morocco have long enjoyed fruitful exchanges in fields such as culture, education, politics, science, technology and the arts, including Americanos of Moroccan origin who are experienced in the field of international relations, especially Cuban affairs and United States-Cuban relations, and who are responsible for substantial and increasingly higher levels of trade, investment, and commerce between the United States and Morocco, and is helping to strengthen the fabric of the bilateral relationship and to sustain it throughout the 21st century and beyond;

Whereas the people of the United States and Morocco have long enjoyed fruitful exchanges in fields such as culture, education, politics, science, technology and the arts, including Americanos of Moroccan origin who are experienced in the field of international relations, especially Cuban affairs and United States-Cuban relations, and who are responsible for substantial and increasingly higher levels of trade, investment, and commerce between the United States and Morocco, and is helping to strengthen the fabric of the bilateral relationship and to sustain it throughout the 21st century and beyond;

Whereas the people of the United States and Morocco have long enjoyed fruitful exchanges in fields such as culture, education, politics, science, technology and the arts, including Americanos of Moroccan origin who are experienced in the field of international relations, especially Cuban affairs and United States-Cuban relations, and who are responsible for substantial and increasingly higher levels of trade, investment, and commerce between the United States and Morocco, and is helping to strengthen the fabric of the bilateral relationship and to sustain it throughout the 21st century and beyond;

Whereas the people of the United States and Morocco have long enjoyed fruitful exchanges in fields such as culture, education, politics, science, technology and the arts, including Americanos of Moroccan origin who are experienced in the field of international relations, especially Cuban affairs and United States-Cuban relations, and who are responsible for substantial and increasingly higher levels of trade, investment, and commerce between the United States and Morocco, and is helping to strengthen the fabric of the bilateral relationship and to sustain it throughout the 21st century and beyond;

Whereas the people of the United States and Morocco have long enjoyed fruitful exchanges in fields such as culture, education, politics, science, technology and the arts, including Americanos of Moroccan origin who are experienced in the field of international relations, especially Cuban affairs and United States-Cuban relations, and who are responsible for substantial and increasingly higher levels of trade, investment, and commerce between the United States and Morocco, and is helping to strengthen the fabric of the bilateral relationship and to sustain it throughout the 21st century and beyond;

Whereas the people of the United States and Morocco have long enjoyed fruitful exchanges in fields such as culture, education, politics, science, technology and the arts, including Americanos of Moroccan origin who are experienced in the field of international relations, especially Cuban affairs and United States-Cuban relations, and who are responsible for substantial and increasingly higher levels of trade, investment, and commerce between the United States and Morocco, and is helping to strengthen the fabric of the bilateral relationship and to sustain it throughout the 21st century and beyond;

Whereas the people of the United States and Morocco have long enjoyed fruitful exchanges in fields such as culture, education, politics, science, technology and the arts, including Americanos of Moroccan origin who are experienced in the field of international relations, especially Cuban affairs and United States-Cuban relations, and who are responsible for substantial and increasingly higher levels of trade, investment, and commerce between the United States and Morocco, and is helping to strengthen the fabric of the bilateral relationship and to sustain it throughout the 21st century and beyond;

Whereas the people of the United States and Morocco have long enjoyed fruitful exchanges in fields such as culture, education, politics, science, technology and the arts, including Americanos of Moroccan origin who are experienced in the field of international relations, especially Cuban affairs and United States-Cuban relations, and who are responsible for substantial and increasingly higher levels of trade, investment, and commerce between the United States and Morocco, and is helping to strengthen the fabric of the bilateral relationship and to sustain it throughout the 21st century and beyond;

Whereas the people of the United States and Morocco have long enjoyed fruitful exchanges in fields such as culture, education, politics, science, technology and the arts, including Americanos of Moroccan origin who are experienced in the field of international relations, especially Cuban affairs and United States-Cuban relations, and who are responsible for substantial and increasingly higher levels of trade, investment, and commerce between the United States and Morocco, and is helping to strengthen the fabric of the bilateral relationship and to sustain it throughout the 21st century and beyond;
BAUCUS (AND ROBERTS) AMENDMENT NO. 3476

(Ordered to lie on the table.) Mr. BAUCUS (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by them to the bill (S. 2522) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 146, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following:

SEC. 1210. UNITED STATES-RUSSIAN FEDERATION JOINT DATA EXCHANGE CENTER ON EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS AND NOTIFICATION OF MISSILE LAUNCHES.

(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish, in conjunction with the Government of the Russian Federation, a United States-Russian Federation joint center for the exchange of data from early warning systems and for notification of missile launches.

(b) SPECIFIC ACTIONS.—The actions that the Secretary jointly undertakes for the establishment of the center may include the renovating or construction of adequate facilities, the provision of equipment and supplies, and such other actions as are necessary to commence the operation of the center.

Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Ms. LANDRIEU) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2549, supra; as follows:

On page 622, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

SEC. 1210. UNITED STATES-RUSSIAN FEDERATION JOINT DATA EXCHANGE CENTER ON EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS AND NOTIFICATION OF MISSILE LAUNCHES.

(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Defense is authorized to establish, in conjunction with the Government of the Russian Federation, a United States-Russian Federation joint center for the exchange of data from early warning systems and for notification of missile launches.

(b) SPECIFIC ACTIONS.—The actions that the Secretary jointly undertakes for the establishment of the center may include the renovating or construction of adequate facilities, the provision of equipment and supplies, and such other actions as are necessary to commence the operation of the center.

Mr. WARNER (for Mr. MCCAIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2549, supra; as follows:

On page 239, after line 22, insert the following:

SEC. 656. BACK PAY FOR MEMBERS OF THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS APPROVED FOR PROMOTION WHILE INTERNED AS PRISONERS OF WAR DURING WORLD WAR II.

(a) ENTITLEMENT OF FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR.—Upon receipt of a claim made under this section, the Secretary of the Navy shall pay back pay to a claimant who, by reason of being interned as a prisoner of war while serving as a member of the Navy or the Marine Corps during World War II, was not available to accept a promotion for which the claimant was approved.

(b) PROPER CLAIMANT FOR DECREASED FORMER MEMBER.—In the case of a person described in subsection (a) who is deceased, the back pay for that deceased person under this section shall be paid to a member or member of the family of the deceased person.

SEC. 1061. STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAMS.

Mr. LEVIN (for Mr. DURBIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2549, supra; as follows:

On page 415, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

SEC. 1061. STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAMS.

(a) STUDENT LOANS.—Section 5379(a)(1)(B) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in clause (i), by inserting ‘‘part D or E of title IV of the Public Health Service Act’’ and inserting ‘‘part E of title VIII of such Act’’ after the semicolon;

(2) in clause (ii), by striking ‘‘part E of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965’’ and inserting ‘‘part D of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1097a et seq.)’’ and inserting ‘‘part E of title VIII of such Act’’ after the semicolon;

(3) in clause (iii), by striking ‘‘part C of title VIII of such Act’’ and inserting ‘‘part D of title VIII of such Act’’ after the semicolon; and

(b) PERSONNEL COVERED.
Mr. LEVIN (for Ms. Landrieu) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 2549, supra.; as follows:

On page 32, after line 24, add the following:

SEC. 142. INTEGRATED BRIDGES SYSTEMS FOR NAVAL SYSTEMS SPECIAL WARFARE HIGH-SPEED ASSAULT CRAFT.

(a) INCREASE IN AUTHORIZATION FOR PROCUREMENT.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 104 for procurement, Defense-wide, is hereby increased by $7,000,000.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNT.—That section 104 is hereby amended by adding at the end the following:

"(3) in paragraph (3)—

"(A) by inserting ‘‘prepare for and’’ before ‘‘participate’’; and

"(B) by striking the period at the end and inserting ‘‘; or’’; and

"(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(4) prepare for and participate in qualify-

ING ATHLETIC COMPETITIONS.—That section is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(c) Units of the National Guard may conduct small arms competitions and athletic competitions in conjunction with train-

ing required under this chapter if such activ-

ities would meet the requirements set forth in paragraphs (1), (3), and (4) of section 508(a) of this title if such activities were services to be provided under that section.

"(2) Facilities and equipment of the Na-

tional Guard, including military property and vehicles described in section 508(c) of this title, may be used in connection with activities under paragraph (1)."

(c) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—That section is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(d) Subject to provisions of appropria-

tions Acts, amounts appropriated for the Na-

tional Guard may be used in order to cover the costs of activities under subsection (c) and of expenses of members of the National Guard under paragraphs (3) and (4) of subsection (a), including expenses of attendance and participation fees, travel, per diem, clothing, equipment, and related expenses.

(d) QUALIFYING ATHLETIC COMPETITIONS Definition.—That section is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(e) In this section, the term qualifying athletic competition means a competition in athletic events that require skills relevant to military duties or involve aspects of physical fitness that are evaluated by the armed forces in determining whether a member of the National Guard is fit for military duty.

(e) CONFORMING AND CLERICAL AMEND-

MENTS.—(1) The section heading of such sec-

tion is amended to read as follows: ‘‘504. National Guard schools; small arms competitions; athletic competitions’’.

(2) The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 5 of such title is amended by striking the item relating to section 504 and inserting the following new item:

‘‘504. National Guard schools; small arms competi-

tions; athletic competitions.’’

Mr. WARREN (for Mr. Inhofe) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 2549, supra.; as follows:

On page 48, between lines 20 and 21, insert the following:

SEC. 222. AMMUNITION RISK ANALYSIS CAPABILITIES.

(a) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNT.—Of the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 101(4) for research, development, test, and evaluation Defense-wide, the amount available for proliferation Technology (P5693104D) is hereby increased by $5,000,000, with the amount of such in-

crease available for research into ammuni-

tion risk analysis capabilities.

(b) OFFSET.—Of the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 101(4), the amount available for Computing Systems and Communications Technology (P5693201E) is hereby decreased by $5,000,000.

Mr. WARNER (for Mr. Inhofe) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 2549, supra.; as follows:

On page 200, following line 23, add the follow-

ing:

SEC. 566. PREPARATION, PARTICIPATION, AND CONDUCT OF ATHLETIC COMPETITIONS; ARMED FORCES COMPETITIONS BY THE NATIONAL GUARD AND MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD.

(a) PREPARATION AND PARTICIPATION OF MEMBERS GENERALLY.—Subsection (a) of section 504 of title 32, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ‘‘or’’ at the end of paragraph (2);

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by inserting ‘‘prepare for and’’ before ‘‘participate’’; and

(B) by striking the period at the end and inserting ‘‘; or’’; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(4) prepare for and participate in qual-

ifying athletic competitions.”

Mr. WARNER (for Mr. Inhofe) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 2549, supra.; as follows:

On page 146, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

SEC. 1114. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR VOL-

UNTARY SEPARATIONS IN REDUC-

TIONS IN FORCE.

Section 3502(f)(5) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking ‘‘September 30, 2009’’ and inserting ‘‘September 30, 2006’’.

Mr. WARNER (for Mr. Inhofe) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 2549, supra.; as follows:

On page 436, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

SEC. 1115. EXTENSION, REVISION, AND EXPANSION OF AUTHORITY FOR USE OF VOL-

UNTARY, RETIREMENT, AND INCEN-

TIVE PAY AND VOLUNTARY EARLY RETIREMENT.

(a) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY.—Subsection (e) of section 5507 of title 3, United States Code, is amended by striking ‘‘September 30, 2003’’ and inserting ‘‘September 30, 2006’’.
(b) REVISION AND ADDITION OF PURPOSES FOR DEFENSE VSIP.—Subsection (b) of such section is amended by inserting after "transfer of function," the following: "restricting of the workforce (to meet mission needs, achieve one or more strengths, or correct skill imbalances, or reduce the number of high-grade, managerial, or supervisory positions in accordance with the strategic plan required under section 1118 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001),".

(c) ELIGIBILITY.—Subsection (c) of such section is amended by inserting after the following:

"(1) in paragraph (2), by inserting "objective and nonpersonal" after "similar"; and
(2) by adding at the end the following:

"A determination of which employers are within the scope of an offer of separation pay shall be made only on the basis of consistent and well-documented application of the relevant criteria.".

(d) INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS.—Subsection (d) of such section is amended—
(1) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

"(1) shall be paid in a lump-sum or in installments;");
(2) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (3); and
(3) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (4) and inserting ";"; and
(4) by adding at the end the following:

"(6) the requirements of subparagraph (e) shall cease to be paid upon the recipient's acceptance of employment by the Federal Government, or commencement of work under a personal services contract, as described in subsection (g)(1)."

(e) APPLICABILITY OF REPAYMENT REQUIREMENT TO EMPLOYMENT UNDER PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACT.—Subsection (g)(1) of such section is amended by inserting after "employment with the Government of the United States" the following: ", or who commences work for an agency of the United States through a personal services contract with the United States.

SEC. 1118. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EMPLOYEE VOLUNTARY EARLY RETIREMENT AUTHORITY.

(a) CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT SYSTEM.—Section 8336 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—
(1) in subsection (d)(2), by inserting except in the case of an employee described in subsection (o)(1)," after "(2)"; and
(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(o)(1) An employee of the Department of Defense who, before October 1, 2005, is separated from the service after completing 25 years of service or after becoming 50 years of age and completing 20 years of service is entitled to an immediate annuity under this subsection if the employee is eligible for the annuity under paragraph (2) or (3).

(2)(A) An employee referred to in paragraph (1) is eligible for an immediate annuity under this subsection if the employee satisfies all of the following conditions:
(i) is separated from the service voluntarily during a period in which the organization within the Department of Defense in which the employee is serving is undergoing a major organizational adjustment;
(ii) is separated from the service for reasons for which the employee is qualified, and
(iii) is entitled to an immediate annuity under this paragraph if the employee satisfies all of the following conditions:
(A) is separated from the service voluntarily during a period in which the organization within the Department of Defense in which the employee is serving is undergoing a major organizational adjustment;
(B) the employee has been employed continuously by the Department of Defense for more than 30 days before the date on which the head of the employee's organization requests the determinations required under subparagraph (A); and
(C) the employee is serving under an appointment that is not limited by time.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICABILITY.—The provisions of paragraph (2)(A)(i), for separation for failure to accept a directed reassignment to a position outside the commuting area of the employee causing or to accompany a position outside of such area pursuant to a transfer of function may not be considered to be a removal for cause.

(b) For the purposes of paragraph (2)(A)(i), a separation for failure to accept a directed reassignment to a position outside the commuting area of the employee causing or to accompany a position outside of such area pursuant to a transfer of function may not be considered to be a removal for cause.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) Section 8339(h) of such title is amended by striking out "or (c)"
(2) Section 864(a)(1)(A)(i) of such title is amended by striking out "or (b)(1)(B)" and ";", (b)(1)(B), or (d);".

EFFECTIVE DATE: APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this section—
(1) shall take effect on October 1, 2000; and
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE
June 20, 2000

Mr. WARNER proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 2549, supra; as follows:

On page 353, between lines 15 and 16, insert the following:

SEC. 914. EXPANSION OF AUTHORITY TO EXEMPT GEOTECTIC PRODUCTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.

Section 455(b)(1)(C) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking "or reveal military operational or contingency plans" and inserting "or reveal military operational or contingency plans, or reveal, jeopardize, or compromise military or intelligence capabilities".

BINGAMAN AMENDMENT NO. 3488

Mr. LEVIN (for Mr. BINGAMAN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2549, supra; as follows:

On page 31, after line 25, add the following:

SEC. 132. CONVERSION OF AGM-65 MAVERICK MISSILES.

(a) INCREASE IN AMOUNT.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 103(3) for procurement of missiles for the Air Force is hereby increased by $2,100,000.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNT.—(1) Of the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 103(3), as increased by subsection (a), $2,100,000 shall be available for In-Service Missile Modifications for the purpose of the conversion of Maverick missiles in the AGM-65B and AGM-65G configurations to Maverick missiles in the AGM-65H and AGM-65K configurations.

(2) The amount available under paragraph (1) for the purpose specified in that paragraph is in addition to any other amounts available under this Act for that purpose.

(c) OFFSET.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 103(1) for procurement of aircraft for the Air Force is hereby reduced by $2,100,000, with the amount of the reduction applicable to amounts available under that section for ALE-50 Code Decoys.

SANTORUM AMENDMENT NO. 3489

Mr. WARNER (for Mr. SANTORUM) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2549, supra; as follows:

On page 25, after line 7, insert the following:

SEC. 313. RAPID INTRAVENOUS INFUSION PUMPS.

Of the amount authorized to be appropriated under section 101(5)—

(1) $6,000,000 shall be available for the procurement of rapid intravenous infusion pumps; and

(2) the amount provided for the family of medium tactical vehicles is hereby reduced by $6,000,000.

WARNER AMENDMENT NO. 3490

Mr. WARNER proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2549, supra; as follows:

On page 58, between lines 7 and 8, insert the following:

SEC. 313. MOUNTED URBAN COMBAT TRAINING SITE, FORT KNOX, KENTUCKY.

Of the total amount authorized to be appropriated under section 301(1) for training range upgrades, $4,000,000 is available for the Mounted Urban Combat Training site, Fort Knox, Kentucky.

BOXER AMENDMENT NO. 3486

Mr. LEVIN (for Mrs. BOXER) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 2549, supra; as follows:

On page 270, between lines 16 and 17, insert the following:

SEC. 743. BLUE RIBBON ADVISORY PANEL ON DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE POLICIES REGARDING THE PRIVACY OF INDIVIDUAL MEDICAL RECORDS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—(1) There is hereby established an advisory panel to be known as the Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Department of Defense Policies Regarding the Privacy of Individual Medical Records (in this section referred to as the "Panel").

(2) The Panel shall be composed of 7 members appointed by the President, of whom—

(i) at least one shall be a member of a consumer organization;

(ii) at least one shall be a medical professional;

(iii) at least one shall have a background in medical ethics; and

(iv) at least one shall be a member of the Armed Forces.

(b) The appointments of the members of the Panel shall be made not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) The appointments of the members of the Panel shall be made not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) The Panel may continue to exercise its authorities as described in the section for a period of 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(e) The Panel shall cease to exist not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(f) The Panel may hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence as the Panel considers advisable to carry out the purposes of this section.

(g) The Panel may secure directly from the Department of Defense, or the head of such department or agency, any records, documents, or other materials as the Panel considers necessary to carry out the provisions of this section. Upon request of the Chairman of the Panel, the Secretary of Defense, or the head of such department or agency, shall furnish such information to the Panel.

(h) The Panel may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other departments and agencies of the Federal Government.

(i) The Panel may accept, use, and dispose of gifts or donations of services or property.

(j) Any Federal Government employee may be detailed to the Panel without reimbursement, and such detail shall be without interruption or loss of civil service status or privileges.

(k) TERMINATION.—The Panel shall terminate 30 days after the date on which the Panel submits its report under subsection (b)(2).

(l) FUNDING.—(1) Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated by this Act, the Secretary shall make available to the Panel such sums as the Panel may require for its activities under this amendment.

(2) Any sums made available under paragraph (1) shall remain available, without fiscal year limitation, until expended.
SEC. 314. MK-45 OVERHAUL

Of the total amount authorized to be appropriated under section 301(1) for maintenance, $12,000,000 is available for overhaul of MK-45 5-inch guns.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

BINGAMAN (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 3491

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, and Mr. HARKIN) submitted and amendment intended to be proposed by them to the bill, S. 2522, supra; as follows:

On page 140, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following:

SEC. 591. It is the sense of the Senate that nothing in this Act regarding the assistance provided to Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania under the heading “FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM” should be interpreted as expressing the sense of the Senate regarding an acceleration of the accession of Estonia, Latvia, or Lithuania to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

SESSIONS AMENDMENT NO. 3492

Mr. SESSIONS proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2522, supra; as follows:

On page 144, strike line 22 and insert the following:

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds that—

(1) people around the world supported the Republic of Zimbabwe’s quest for independence, majority rule, and the protection of human rights and the rule of law;

(2) Zimbabwe, at the time of independence in 1980, showed bright prospects for democracy, economic development, and racial reconciliation;

(3) the people of Zimbabwe are now suffering the destabilizing effects of a serious government-sanctioned breakdown in the rule of law, which is critical to economic development as well as domestic tranquility;

(4) a free and fair national referendum was held in Zimbabwe in February 2000 in which voters rejected proposed constitutional amendments to increase the president’s authorities to expropriate land without payment;

(5) the President of Zimbabwe has defied two high decisions declaring land seizures to be illegal;

(6) previous land reform efforts have been ineffective largely due to corrupt practices and inefficiencies within the Government of Zimbabwe;

(7) recent violence in Zimbabwe has resulted in several murders and brutal attacks on innocent individuals, including the murder of farm workers and owners;

(8) violence has been directed toward individuals of all races;

(9) the ruling party and its supporters have specifically directed violence at democratic reform activists seeking to prepare for upcoming parliamentary elections;

(10) the office of a leading independent newspaper in Zimbabwe has been bombed;

(11) the Government of Zimbabwe has not yet publicly condemned the recent violence;

(12) President Mugabe’s statement that thousands of law-abiding citizens are enemies of the state has further incited violence;

(13) 147 out of 150 members of the Parliament in Zimbabwe (98 percent) belong to the same political party;

(14) the unemployment rate in Zimbabwe now exceeds 60 percent; political turmoil is on the brink of destroying Zimbabwe’s economy;

(15) the economy is being further damaged by the Government of Zimbabwe’s ongoing involvement in the war in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(16) the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization has issued a warning that Zimbabwe faces a food emergency due to shortages caused by violence against farmers and farm workers;

(17) events in Zimbabwe could threaten stability and economic development in the entire region.

(18) the Government of Zimbabwe has rejected international election observation delegation accreditation for United States-based nongovernmental organizations, including the International Republican Institute and National Democratic Institute, and is also denying accreditation for other non-governmental organizations and election observers of certain specified nationalities.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—The Senate—

(1) extends its support to the vast majority of citizens of the Republic of Zimbabwe who are committed to peace, economic prosperity, and an open, transparent parliamentary election process;

(2) strongly urges the Government of Zimbabwe to enforce the rule of law and fulfill its responsibility to protect the political and civil rights of all citizens;

(3) supports those international efforts to assist with land reform which are consistent with the principles of international law and which take place after the holding of free and fair parliamentary elections;

(4) condemns government-directed violence against farm workers, farmers, and opposition party members;

(5) encourages the local media, civil society, and all political parties to work together toward a campaign environment conducive to free, transparent and fair elections within the legally prescribed period;

(6) recommends international support for voter education, domestic and international election monitoring, and violence monitoring activities;

(7) urges the United States to continue to monitor violence and condemn brutality against law abiding citizens;

(8) congratulates all the democratic reform activists in Zimbabwe for their resolve to go on with their campaign despite violence and intimidation; and

(9) desires a lasting, warm, and mutually beneficial relationship between the United States and a democratic, peaceful Zimbabwe.

NICKLES AMENDMENT NO. 3493

Mr. NICKLES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to the bill, S. 2522, supra; as follows:

On page 155, between lines 18 and 19, insert the following:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE
(4) Colombia is faced with multiple wars, against the Marxist Colombian Revolutionary Armed Forces (FARC), the Marxist National Liberation Army (ELN), paramilitary organizations, and international narcotics trafficking kingpins.

(5) The FARC and ELN engage in systematic extortion and murder of United States citizens, profit from the illegal drug trade, and engage in indiscriminate crimes against Colombian civilians and security forces. These crimes include kidnapping, torture, and murder.

(6) Thirty-four percent of world terrorist acts are committed in Colombia, making it the world’s third most dangerous country in terms of political violence.

(7) Colombia is the kidnapping capital of the world, with 2,699 kidnappings reported in 1998.

(8) During the last decade more than 33,000 Colombians have been killed.

(9) The conflict in Colombia is creating instability along its borders with neighboring countries Ecuador, Panama, Peru, and Venezuela.

(10) The United States has a vital national interest in assisting Colombia in the resolution of these conflicts due to the inherent problems associated with Colombian drug trafficking and production.

(11) The United States has a vital national interest in assisting Colombia in the resolution of these conflicts due to the economic and political relationship that exists between the two countries.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the United States should support the military and political efforts of the Government of Colombia, consistent with human rights, that are necessary to effectively resolve the conflicts with the armed insurgents that threaten the territorial integrity, economic prosperity, and rule of law in Colombia.

NOTICE OF HEARINGS

COMMITEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on Wednesday, June 28, 2000, at 2:30 p.m. in room 435 of the Russell Senate Building to mark up pending committee business, to be followed by a hearing on S. 2263, to amend the Transportation Equity Act (Title 21) to make certain amendments with respect to Indian tribes.

Those wishing additional information may contact committee staff at 224-2251.

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs will hold a two day hearing entitled “HUD’s Government Insured Mortgages: The Problem of Property ‘Flipping.’” This subcommittee hearing will focus on the current nationwide mortgage fraud crisis.

The hearings will take place on Thursday, June 29, 2000, and Friday, June 30, 2000, at 9:30 a.m. in room 342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

For further information, please contact K. Lee Blalack of the subcommittee staff at 224-3721.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION AND FORESTRY

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 20, 2000. The purpose of this meeting will be to mark up new legislation and nominations.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 20, for purposes of conducting a Full Committee business meeting which is scheduled to begin at 10:15 p.m. The purpose of this business meeting is to consider pending calendar business.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 20, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. in SD-215 for a public hearing on Dispute Settlement and the WTO.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet for a hearing on Federal Service Programs during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 20, 2000 at 9:30 a.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the subcommittee on Housing and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 20, 2000, to conduct a hearing on proposals to promote affordable housing.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator Hutchinson of Arkansas, I ask unanimous consent that Lt. Col. Tim Wiseman, a legislative fellow on Senator Hutchinson’s staff, and Andrea Smalec, also a member of Senator Hutchinson’s staff, be granted the privilege of the floor for the remainder of today’s debate.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Gary Tomasulo, a legislative fellow in the office of Senator Mike DeWine, be granted floor privileges during consideration of the foreign operations, export financing, and related programs appropriations bill.

Mr. President, I also ask unanimous consent that the privilege of the floor be granted to Eric Akers of the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control during the consideration of the South American operations appropriations bill.

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

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that John Undertiner, a fellow in Senator Harkin’s office, be granted floor privileges for the duration of the Senate’s consideration of S. 2522.

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

WELCOMING KING MOHAMMED VI OF MOROCCO

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 325, submitted earlier by Senator Abraham.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 325) welcoming King Mohammed VI of Morocco upon his first official visit to the United States of America.

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

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I am pleased the Senate is considering a resolution today that commemorates the state visit of the King of Morocco. I extend my warmest welcome to His Majesty King Mohammed VI of Morocco on the occasion of his first official visit to the United States of America. It is my hope that my colleagues will join me in welcoming the King with swift adoption of this resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the Record.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 325) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.