

safeguards for the nuclear material in the former Soviet Union.

That is a cogent concern, one my friend from Tennessee and I and others have talked about on this floor. Export control assistance is one of the programs that helps keep those dangerous materials from crossing the former Soviet borders.

The Foreign Relations Committee is on record as favoring full funding of the request for this program. Indeed, it was suggested by Senator HELMS we add another \$5 million to our security assistance to support strategic cargo X-ray facilities that would be used in the free port of Malta. Malta is a crossroads for shipping in the Mediterranean area and sometimes it has been the doorway for contraband flowing to Libya. You might think appropriators would pay attention to such a sensible suggestion, but the Foreign Operations Appropriation bill did the opposite.

Another non-proliferation program, International Science and Technology Centers, would provide safe employment opportunities for former Soviet experts. There are thousands and thousands of Soviet experts, nuclear experts. They are not getting paid. They don't have housing. Their economy is in the toilet. We have a program: We want to hire them. We don't want Qadhafi hiring them. We don't want them being hired in Libya. We don't want them hired in North Korea. So we have a sensible program.

I will end with this. There are 4 more examples, but I will not take the time.

What do we do? We cut these programs. Then we all stand—and I am not speaking of any particular Senator—and say we are going to fight terrorism, and nonproliferation is our greatest concern, and we are worried about this technology changing hands. The bottom line is the programs that help to do that are cut. That is why it is so important that our amendment of yesterday be implemented in conference.

I yield the floor and thank my colleague from Pennsylvania.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, before proceeding to the bill, I compliment my colleagues, the Senator from Tennessee and the Senator from Delaware, for their comments this morning, calling attention to the major international problems on nuclear proliferation. This body will soon be voting on legislation to have permanent normal trade relations with China. As noted by the Senator from Tennessee, the People's Republic of China happens to be a major violator in proliferating nuclear weapons. They sent the M-11 missiles to Pakistan, which have been the basis for the nuclear arms confrontation between India and Pakistan. They have helped to proliferate weapons in Iran and North Korea. It is my view that the best way to restrain the People's Republic of China from posing an enor-

mous international threat is to continue to give them permanent trade relations on an annual basis.

I have discussed this many times with my distinguished colleague from Tennessee. I hope he will join me in ultimately opposing normal trade relations as the best leverage to try to keep the people's Republic of China in line.

We have seen, again and again, problems that the executive branch cannot be, candidly, relied upon, with waivers being granted. Separation of powers has been established. The Senate is here and the House is here in order to see that there is another view about what is happening with China. The most effective leverage is to have an annual checkup on them, and to have the normal trade relations as the leverage, which would be very, very important.

I urge my colleague from Tennessee and others to consider that when that vote comes up. There is more involved in that issue than just the money; the future of civilization may be on the line if we do not contain the People's Republic of China from proliferating weapons of mass destruction.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to H.R. 4577, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4577) making appropriations for the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all after the enacting clause be stricken, and the text of the S. 2553, as reported by the Senate Appropriations Committee, be inserted in lieu thereof, the bill as amended be considered as original text for the purpose of further amendment, and no points of order be waived by virtue of this agreement.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 3590

(The text of the amendment (No. 3590) is printed in today's RECORD under "Amendments Submitted.")

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I am pleased to make the opening statement on the pending appropriations bill for the Departments of Labor, Health, Human Services and Education. The subcommittee, which the distinguished Senator from Iowa and I work on, has the responsibility for funding these three very important and major departments. We have come forward with a bill which has program level funding of \$104.5 billion. While that seems like a lot of money—and is a lot of money—by the time you handle the priorities for the nation's health, by the time you handle the priorities for the nation's education—and the Federal Government is a relatively minor participant, 7 percent to 8 percent, but an important participant—and by the time you take care of the Department of Labor and very important items on worker safety, it is tough to find adequate funding.

We have structured this bill in collaboration with requests from virtually all Members of the Senate who have had something to say about what the funding priorities should be based on their extensive experience across the 50 States of the United States. We have come forward on the Department of Education with a funding budget in excess of \$40 billion, more than \$4.6 billion more than last year, and some \$100 million over the President's request. We have established the priorities which the Congress sees fit. We have increased the maximum Pell grants. We have increased special education by \$1.3 billion, trying to do a share of the Federal Government on that important item. We have increased grants for the disadvantaged by almost \$400 million.

We have moved on the Department of Health and Human Services for a total budget of over \$44 billion, which is an increase of almost \$2.5 billion over last year. We have increased Head Start by some \$1 billion, so it is now in excess of \$6 billion. We have structured a new drug demand reduction initiative, taking the very substantial funds which are available within our subcommittee, and redirecting \$3.7 billion to try to deal with the demand reduction issue.

It is my view that demand reduction is the long-range answer—that and rehabilitation—to the drug problem in America. We may be spending in excess of \$1 billion soon in aid to Colombia, and it is my view that there is an imbalance in the \$18 billion which we now spend, with two-thirds—about \$12 billion—going to so-called supply interdiction and fighting street crime. They are important. As district attorney of Philadelphia, my office was very active in fighting street crime against drug dealers.

In the long run, unless we are able to reduce demand for drugs in the United States, suppliers from Latin America will find a way to grow drugs, and sellers on America's street corners will