

States to the point that subsidized Canadian lumber is being imported into the United States at record levels and now accounts for over one-third of the United States softwood lumber market;

Whereas highly subsidized Canadian lumber imported into the United States has resulted in lost sales for United States lumber companies, depressed United States lumber values, jeopardized thousands of United States jobs, and contributed to a collapse in lumber prices;

Whereas Canadian lumber subsidy practices have been identified by a variety of independent analyses;

Whereas United States Government officials in the Reagan, Bush, and Clinton Administrations, United States industry, timberland owners, and labor unions have called for an end to the subsidies and for fair trade; and

Whereas an agreement between the United States and Canada on lumber trade is scheduled to expire on March 31, 2001: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),* That the President, the United States Trade Representative, and the Secretary of Commerce should—

(1) make the problem of subsidized Canadian lumber imports a top trade priority to be addressed immediately;

(2) take every possible action to end Canadian lumber subsidy practices through open and competitive sales of timber and logs in Canada for fair market value, or if Canada will not agree to end the subsidies immediately, provide that the subsidies be offset in the United States; and

(3) if Canada does not agree to end subsidies for lumber—

(A) enforce vigorously, promptly, and fully the trade laws with respect to subsidized and dumped imports;

(B) explore all options to stop unfairly traded imports; and

(C) limit injury to the United States industry.

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a Senate concurrent resolution that urges the administration to realize that an immediate trade priority should be to address the problem of subsidized Canadian softwood lumber imports. I am pleased to be joined in this effort by Senators LOTT, LINCOLN, COCHRAN, HUTCHINSON, THURMOND, CRAPO, and CRAIG.

The U.S.-Canada Softwood Lumber Agreement of 1996 will expire on March 31, 2001—just 53 short days from now—and there are no government-to-government negotiations taking place. We do not know just what will happen if the Agreement is allowed to expire with no alternative solution in place, but without restrictions, the subsidized lumber from Canada will flood over the border further impacting our U.S. sawmills. This to me is unacceptable.

It is safe to say that we who represent our respective states here in the Senate share the same goals for our constituents—economic growth and prosperity through secure businesses and jobs, a healthy environment, including the ability to purchase reasonably priced homes and lumber with which to remodel. I cannot stand by, however, and watch someone's dream become another's nightmare.

The United States has over four million forest landowners, with approximately 20,000 logging facilities, sawmills and planing mills, which employ over 700,000 employees. In the past year, lumber prices in the United States have plummeted by 33 percent while Canadian imports have grown to record levels. Approximately 3,500 mills have already closed, and I have heard from those with sawmills in Maine that are still open that they are close to laying off their hard-working employees and using their lumber to board up their businesses. Their message, as is mine, is for free trade that is also fair trade.

I would like to note that, the problem of the subsidized lumber is not coming from Maine's good neighbors to the North—those small sawmills of the Canadian Maritimes—as they do not have vast amounts of crown, or government-owned, forest, but also get their wood from private forests, and they do not fall under the current quotas of the Agreement. There are only four provinces that actually fall under the quota system, Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia, and the large integrated sawmills—those that have both pulp and sawmill operations, are doing very well. On the other hand, the small sawmills in the Maritimes are hurting just as much as our sawmills in the United States. This is a trade problem that we must negotiate with Canada in the interests of the United States while they also work to solve their own inequities.

The U.S. timber prices for lumber are set by the market for both public and private forests, while the Canadian Government sets the price of timber from Quebec to British Columbia at a level that is one half to one-quarter the actual market value of timber. Some of the Canadian provinces with vast crown forests use government timber to subsidize lumber production and employment by providing timber to Canadian lumber companies through non-competitive, administered pricing arrangements for a fraction of the timber's market value.

These unfair subsidy practices have fueled shipments to the United States to the point that subsidized Canadian imports are at record levels and now control over one-third of the U.S. softwood lumber market. The highly subsidized Canadian lumber imports have gained sales volume from U.S. lumber companies, depressed U.S. timber values, and jeopardized thousands of U.S. jobs, and contributed to a collapse in lumber prices.

Canadian lumber subsidy practices have been identified by a variety of independent analyses. U.S. Government officials in the Reagan, Bush and Clinton administrations, the U.S. industry and timberland owners, and labor unions all have called for an end to the subsidies and for fair trade.

We are calling upon the President, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, and the Secretary of Commerce to take every possible action to end Canadian lumber subsidy practices through open and competitive sales of timber and logs in Canada for fair market value, or if Canada will not agree to end the subsidies immediately, the subsidies must be offset pending some sort of reform.

In addition, if Canada will not reach an agreement to vigorously, promptly, and fully enforce the trade laws against subsidized and dumped imports and explore all options to stop unfairly traded imports, and to limit injury to the U.S. industry pending further action, the administration should be prepared to vigorously and fully enforce the trade laws against subsidized and dumped imports from Canada.

I hope that these efforts today will jump start the administration as soon as tomorrow to start working towards negotiations with Canada. There are no surprises here, as the issue has been around since the 1930s. There have been years of investigations, assessments, petitions, rulings, imposed duties, and a 1986 Memorandum of Understanding to address the inequities.

As a matter of fact, a major reason for bringing Canada to the negotiating table for the 1996 Agreement, along with a lawsuit by the Coalition for Fair Lumber Imports, was the implementing legislation for the GATT Uruguay Round Agreements. Congress approved the President's "statement of administrative action" that stated that lumber imports from Canada could be subject to countervailing duties under the Uruguay Round.

Every possible action must be taken immediately, to end Canadian lumber subsidy practices through open and competitive sales of timber and logs in Canada at fair market value. This trade must be both free and fair. I thank the Chair.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 7, 2001, to conduct a hearing on "Establishing an Effective, Modern Framework for Export Controls."

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 7, 2001, at 10:30 a.m., to hold a business meeting.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, February 7, 2001, at 9:30 a.m., in Dirksen 226.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 7, 2001 at 10 a.m., to hold a hearing on intelligence matters, and at 2:30 p.m., to hold a closed hearing on intelligence matters.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent, on behalf of Senator BIDEN, that Paul Foldi, a State Department fellow on the staff of the Foreign Relations Committee, be granted floor privileges during the consideration of S. 248.

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

FOREIGN CURRENCY REPORTS

In accordance with the appropriate provisions of law, the Secretary of the Senate herewith submits the following report(s) of standing committees of the Senate, certain joint committees of the Congress, delegations and groups, and select and special committees of the Senate, relating to expenses incurred in the performance of authorized foreign travel:

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1, TO DEC. 31, 2000

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Sara Roberts:									
United States	Dollar				8,048.26				8,048.26
Taiwan	New T. Dollar		789.24						789.24
China	Yaun		226.00						226.00
Korea	Won		439.72						439.72
Australia	Aud		468.24						468.24
Stephanie Mercier:									
United States	Dollar				1,098.28				1,098.28
Netherlands	Guilder		1,204.55						1,204.55
Jeffrey Burnam:									
United States	Dollar				995.28				995.28
Netherlands	Guilder		1,362.47						1,362.47
Total			4,490.22		10,141.82				14,632.04

DICK LUGAR,  
Chairman, Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, Jan. 31, 2001.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FOREIGN CURRENCIES AND APPROPRIATED FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2000.

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Daniel K. Inouye:									
Japan	Yen		2,030.00						2,030.00
Charlie Houy:									
Japan	Yen		2,030.00						2,030.00
James Morhard:									
France	Franc		976.00		5,976.31				6,952.31
Senator Judd Gregg:									
France	Franc		976.00		5,976.31				6,952.31
Senator Patrick Leahy:									
United States	Dollar				741.12				741.12
Canada	Dollar		454.00						454.00
Tim Rieser:									
United States	Dollar				734.25				734.25
Canada	Dollar		227.00						227.00
Senator Ernest F. Hollings:									
Panama	Dollar		428.00						428.00
Lila Helms:									
Panama	Dollar		428.00						428.00
Susan Hogan:									
United States	Dollar				8,806.99				8,806.99
Australia	Dollar		1,729.78						1,729.78
Total			9,278.78		22,234.98				31,513.76

TED STEVENS,  
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, Jan. 15, 2001.

AMENDMENT TO THE 3RD QUARTER 2000 CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1, TO SEPT. 30, 2000

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Steve Cortese:									
United States	Dollar				4,399.00				4,399.00
Greece	Dollar		402.00						402.00