

FEINSTEIN, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 169. A bill to provide Federal reimbursement for indirect costs relating to the incarceration of illegal criminal aliens and for emergency health services furnished to undocumented aliens; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. INOUE, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. DASCHLE):

S. 170. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both military retired pay by reason of their years of military service and disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 171. A bill to repeal certain travel provisions with respect to Cuba and certain trade sanctions with respect to Cuba, Iran, Libya, North Korea, and Sudan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SMITH of Oregon:

S. 172. A bill to benefit electricity consumers by promoting the reliability of the bulk-power system; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 173. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a windfall profits adjustment on the production of domestic electricity and to use the resulting revenues to fund rebates for individual and business electricity consumers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. BOND, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. CLELAND, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 174. A bill to amend the Small Business Act with respect to the microloan program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON:

S. 175. A bill to establish a national uniform poll closing time and uniform treatment of absentee ballots in Presidential general elections; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON:

S. 176. A bill to reform the financing of Federal elections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Mr. KOHL, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. MILLER, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. REID, Mr. TORRICELLI, and Mr. WARNER):

S. Con. Res. 3. 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; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. WELLSTONE:

S. 161. A bill to establish the Violence Against Women Office within the Department of Justice; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, today I am introducing legislation to make the Violence Against Women Office a permanent office in the Department of Justice. After the passage of the Violence Against Women Act in 1994, the U.S. Department of Justice administratively created the Violence Against Women Office. Over time, the office's duties and responsibilities have included administering Violence Against Women Act grant programs, providing technical assistance and training to improve justice system responses in communities across the country, and providing leadership in developing the Administration's policies on violence against women. Led by a Presidentially-appointed Director, the Violence Against Women Office has had an enormous impact on social attitudes in this country about the nature and effects of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. As a result of the office's high profile work, the urgent issue of violence against women has come into much sharper public focus.

Making permanent the Violence Against Women Office in the Justice Department is necessary to extend VAWA's benefits to all corners of the country. The office has been the leader in promoting a multi-disciplinary, community-coordinated system response to violence against women. Additionally, it has a specialized knowledge of the best practices in the field to ensure that the grant funds are well utilized. A statutory mandate would guarantee that the Violence Against Women Office will continue this specialized work in future Administrations, ensuring that Congress' goals regarding domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking will be carried out with the same professional expertise that we have grown to appreciate over the past six years.

This office is needed now more than ever. Violence against women continues to ravage our society. In my own state, 40 women were murdered by their partners in the year 2000 alone. This is more than in any other year on record. Nationally, a woman is battered every 15 seconds and 25 percent of women surveyed reported rape or physical abuse by a current or former spouse, partner or date.

The effects of these crimes extend far beyond the moment when they occur. One of the most compelling marks that violence against women leaves is on our children. It is estimated that between 3 and 10 million children witness violence in the home each year, and much of this violence is persistent.

Studies indicate that children who witness their fathers beating their

mothers suffer emotional problems, including slowed development and feelings of hopelessness, depression, and anxiety. Many of these children exhibit more aggressive, anti-social, and fearful behaviors. Even one episode of violence can produce post-traumatic stress disorder in children.

It is indisputable that even one incident of abuse inflicts a pain on our children that is unimaginable and often unending. It is also indisputable that domestic violence is devastating to the economic and physical well-being of women and their families. For example, a study reported on in the St. Paul Pioneer Press found that 57 percent of the women surveyed said they had been threatened to the point that they were afraid to go to school or work. Thirty percent were fired or left a job because of abuse. 25 percent of homeless people on any given night are women and children fleeing domestic abuse. 800,000 women per year seek medical care as a result of injuries sustained in a sexual or physical assault.

As this research indicates, violence against women permeates our society. It feeds on itself and it repeats itself generation after generation. People who try to keep family violence quiet and hidden behind the walls of the home ignore its tragic echoes in our schools, in the workplace and on the streets. The Federal Government must always play a role in combating this insidious epidemic. In the fight against domestic violence, we are at the starting gate. Domestic Violence is not going away and we as policy makers need to keep efforts to combat violence against women at the forefront of our work.

With the Violence Against Women Office's leadership, we will continue to work together to bring justice to millions of women who suffer at the hands of abusers everywhere. Through its work, we will ensure our commitment to arrive at a day when many fewer women are threatened in our schools, in our businesses, on our streets and in our homes. I urge my colleagues to support this critical office and the critical role we in the Federal Government can continue to play in the fight against domestic violence, and I urge them to cosponsor this important measure.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. KERRY):

S. 162. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a business credit against income for the purchase of fishing safety equipment; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Commercial Fishermen Safety Act of 2001, a bill to help fishermen purchase the life-saving safety equipment they need to survive when disaster strikes. I am very pleased to be joined by my colleague