expense of seeking out qualified donees and making the contributions.

My home State of Utah, like the rest of the Nation, has a problem with illiteracy. At the National Institute for Literacy, between 21 and 23 percent of the adult population of the United States, about 44 million people, are only at Level 1 literacy, meaning they can read a little but not well enough to follow an instruction, locate a food label, or read a simple story to a child. Another 25 to 28 percent of the adult population, or between 45 and 50 million people, are estimated to be at Level 2 literacy, meaning they can usually perform more complex tasks such as comparing, contrasting, or integrating pieces of information but usually not higher level reading and problem-solving skills. Literacy experts tell us that adults with skills at Levels 1 and 2 lack a sufficient foundation of basic skills to function successfully in our society.

While this bill is not a cure-all for the tragedy of illiteracy, it will increase access to books, both for adults and for children. Our tax code should not encourage the destruction of perfectly good books while schools, libraries, and literacy programs go begging for them.

The Senate is already on record in unanimous support of this bill. During the floor debate on the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001, I offered this proposal as an amendment, which was accepted without opposition. Unfortunately, the provision was dropped in the conference with the House.

The Joint Committee on Taxation estimates this provision to decrease revenues to the Treasury by $246 million over a ten year period. This estimate helps demonstrate the extent of the value of the books that are currently being discarded that could be utilized to help America's adults and children.

I hope our colleagues will join us in supporting this bill. It is wrong for our tax code to encourage book publishers to send books to the landfill instead of to the library. Let's correct this problem.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

Upon no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

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S. 1415

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representitives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That-

SECTION 1. CONTRIBUTIONS OF BOOK INVENTORY.-

(D) Special Rule for Contributions of Book Inventory for Educational Purposes.-

(1) Contributions of book inventory.-In determining whether a qualified book contribution is a qualified contribution, paragraph (A) shall be applied without regard to whether or not-

(I) the donee is an organization described in the matter preceeding clause (i) of subparagraph (A), and

(II) the property is to be used by the donee solely for the care of the ill, the needy, or infants.

(II) Qualified book contribution.-For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘qualified book contribution’ means a charitable contribution of books, but only if the contribution is to an organization-

(I) described in subclause (I) or (III) of paragraph (6)(B)(i), or

(II) described in section 501(c)(3) and exempt from tax under section 501(a) which is organized primarily to make books available to the general public at no cost or to operate a literacy program.

(b) Effective Date.-The amendment made by this section shall apply to contributions made after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise with my colleagues Senator HATCH and Senator BAUCUS to introduce a measure to encourage book publishers to donate excess inventory to schools, libraries, and literacy programs.

Currently, because of the TAX CODE's treatment of such donations, and the cost of shipping books to schools and libraries, often it is more economical for publishers to destroy books that they believe are not sellable. That is as shocking as it is unacceptable.

Both the House and Senate versions of the education bills that currently are in conference authorize nearly $1 billion dollars for grants to State and local educational agencies for pre-reading or reading programs for children from pre-kindergarten through 3rd grade. I think it goes without saying that programs to teach kids to read won’t work unless they can provide kids with access to books. You can’t learn to read if you don’t have anything to read.

That is why measures such as this, and the provision in the Senate’s education bill to help school libraries acquire up-to-date books and to remain open for longer hours, are essential to the success of the reading programs in both bills. This provision will increase children’s access to books, introduce them to whole new worlds of knowledge, and enable them to read more at school, in libraries, and at home.

This is important, because in a recent study of 15 countries, the United States was 12th in the percentage of 13-year-olds who read for fun. Of course, reading for fun is for its own sake, but it also is an important indicator of academic achievement. For example, students who read on their own do better on both math and reading tests.

So, I believe that this provision is exactly the sort of good bipartisan tax and public policy that we ought to be promoting in the Senate, and I ask my colleagues to join Senators HATCH, BAUCUS, and myself in supporting this bill.

STATEMENTS ON SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 158—HONOR THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND UNFAILING SPIRIT OF WOMEN IN THE 20TH CENTURY

Mr. CLELAND (for himself, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mrs. MURRAY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

Whereas women should be celebrated for the unparalleled strides made during the 20th century in education, professional careers, legal rights, politics, military service, religion, sports, and on the battlefields of war;

Whereas at the dawn of the 20th century, women in the United States were denied their constitutional right to equal protection of the law, including the right to vote;

Whereas the women’s suffrage movement, the largest grassroots political movement in the Nation’s history, involved approximately 2,000,000 women and took more than 70 years of petitions, referenda, speeches, national and State campaigns, demonstrations, arrests, and hunger strikes;

Whereas women won the right to vote throughout the United States with the ratification of the 19th amendment to the Constitution in 1920, and by the end of the century women were voting in larger numbers than men in some national elections;

Whereas women represent an increasing percentage of the population awarded college and graduate degrees;

Whereas women are increasingly owning businesses and working to narrow the pay gap between women and men;

Whereas in World War I, women were only allowed to serve in the Army as nurses, and approximately 10,000 of the 30,000 women that served in World War I served as volunteers, with no rank and no benefits;

Whereas during the 20th century, women served the Nation proudly and capably in the Armed Forces, including duty in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Panama, Libya, the Persian Gulf, Bosnia, Kosovo, and in support roles during all of these conflicts;

Whereas women now serve in all ranks and branches of the Armed Forces as pilots, intelligence specialists, drill instructors, specialists, technicians, soldiers, airmen, and marines on the battlefields, and as sailors aboard Navy and Coast Guard ships at sea;

Whereas the 20th century saw women in new roles as justices on the Supreme Court, members of the President’s Executive Cabinet, and Members of Congress;

Whereas women’s contributions have become invaluable as Federal, State, and local legislators, Governors, judges, Cabinet officers, county commissioners, mayors, city council members, and directors of Federal, State, and local agencies;

Whereas women made significant strides in the 20th century, yet as we enter the 21st century women continue to face inequality;

Whereas women are disparately excluded from health care research, clinical trials, and treatment;
Whereas women are often paid only 72 cents for each dollar paid to men for the same work;
Whereas women are disproportionately affected by poverty and elderly women are generally more dependent on the social security program under title II of the Social Security Act; and
Whereas women can reflect upon the disparities in areas of health care, education, and income and the pay gap and challenges us to see the need for equality in education and academic education;
Resolved, That the Senate—
(1) honors and commends the accomplishments and unfailing spirit of women in the 20th century;
(2) recognizes the crucial roles of women in our communities as mothers, wives, and family caregivers;
(3) recognizes the disparity in equality that women still face;
(4) reaffirms the need to prevent and punish violence against women so that women may be safe from domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse, and violence in the workplace;
(5) recognizes that women should have equal access to health care and inclusion in research and clinical trials;
(6) recognizes the need for equality in vocational and academic education;
(7) recognizes that the pay gap should be closed;
(8) commits to preserving the social security program under title II of the Social Security Act and the medicare program under title XVIII of such Act; and
(9) pledges to make the 21st century the “Century of Equal Opportunity for Women”.

Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a resolution recognizing the 21st century as the “Century of Equal Opportunity for Women.”

This resolution recognizes that as we enter the 21st century, it is essential that we note the great strides made by women in the 20th century as well as recognizing fundamental inequalities still faced by women as we begin the 21st century. The need for this resolution comes from the important requirement to acknowledge past achievements but to also address specific areas where further improvements are needed in order to ensure that women are given equal opportunity.

Unfortunately, women continue to face challenges and disparities in areas such as health care and wages. This resolution acknowledges inequalities such as the pay gap and challenges us to see that these issues are addressed so that women may have not just more opportunities, but equal opportunities. The measure is supported by the American Association of University Women, I, along with co-sponsors Senators CLINTON, LEVIN, and MURRAY, urge our colleagues to support this resolution and recognize the 21st century as the “Century of Equal Opportunity for Women.”

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1533. Mr. HOLLINGS (for himself and Mr. GREGG) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2500, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table; and for other purposes.

SA 1534. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2500, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1535. Mr. HOLLINGS (for himself and Mr. GREGG) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2500, supra.

SA 1536. Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. MILLER, Mr. HELMS, Mr. SMITH, of New Hampshire, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. LOTT, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. SANTORIUM, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. KYL, Mr. BOND, and Mr. INHOFE) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2500, supra.

SA 1537. Mr. CRAIG proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1536 proposed by Mr. CRAIG to the bill H.R. 2500 supra.

SA 1538. Mr. SMITH, of New Hampshire (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. CAMPBELL, and Mr. JOHNSON) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2500, supra.

SA 1539. That the amendment to the bill H.R. 2500, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1540. Mr. SMITH, of New Hampshire submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2500, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1541. Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. HARKIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2500, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1542. Mr. DORGAN (for himself and Mr. KERRY) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2500, supra.

SA 1543. Mr. DORGAN proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2500, supra.

SA 1544. Mr. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2500, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1545. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2500, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1546. Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Ms. SNOWE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2500, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1547. Mr. SMITH, of New Hampshire submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2500, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1533. Mr. HOLLINGS (for himself and Mr. GREGG) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2500, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes.

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