

still meet all of the substantive requirements of United States trademark law in order to gain protection in the United States based on an international application filed under the Madrid Protocol. In short, it is a win-win situation for American trademark owners.

As my colleagues here know, United States adherence to the Madrid Protocol was stalled for years over administrative provisions—unrelated to the substance of the Protocol itself—relating to voting rights. Since 1994, the Administration voiced objections to these provisions, which would allow an inter-governmental organization, e.g., the European Union, a vote in certain treaty matters taken before the Assembly, separate and apart from the votes of its member states. Although matters before the Assembly would largely be limited to administrative matters, e.g., those involving formalities and fee changes, the concern expressed has been that these provisions, which appear to violate the democratic principle of one vote for each state, would create an undesirable precedent in future international agreements.

While this stumbling block to United States accession to the Protocol has been the subject of much negotiation between the United States and the European Union, I am pleased that a successful resolution on this issue of voting rights has been reached, and I was pleased that the Senate finally received the Administration's request for its advice and consent last year. By passing The Madrid Protocol Implementation Act, we will take an important step in making sure that American trademark owners will be able to take full advantage of the benefits of the Protocol as soon as it comes into force with respect to the United States. This is a particularly important measure for American competitiveness, and for the individual businesses in each of our states. I want to thank Senator LEAHY for his leadership with respect to this legislation, and I look forward to my colleagues' support for it.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 408. A bill to provide emergency relief to small businesses affected by significant increases in the price of electricity; to the Committee on Small Business.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today, I am introducing the Small Business Electricity Emergency Relief Act. As the electricity crisis in California continues, small businesses are being hit hard by the increase in electricity prices.

Across California, small business owners are opening their electricity bills only to be in a state of shock. In some cases they find that their bills have doubled, and sometimes even tripled. This has resulted in many small

businesses having to close their doors and many more facing severe economic hardship.

Under the Small Business Electricity Emergency Relief Act of 2001, the Small Business Administration could make loans to small businesses that have suffered economic injury due to a "sharp and significant increase" in their electricity bills.

This legislation will provide California's small businesses with some much needed financial relief. This will greatly assist small businesses in the San Diego region that suffered dramatic increases in their electricity bills last summer.

Small businesses represent the heart of our great state's thriving economy. This legislation will ensure that these small businesses are provided assistance to help keep their lights on.

STATEMENTS ON SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 28—TO AUTHORIZE TESTIMONY AND LEGAL REPRESENTATION IN STATE OF IDAHO V. FREDRICK LEROY LEAS, SR.

Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to.

S. RES. 28

Whereas, in the case of State of Idaho v. Fredrick Leroy Leas, Sr., C. No. CR-00-01326, pending in the District Court Of The Second Judicial District Of The State Of Idaho, in and for the County of Latah, testimony has been subpoenaed from Cindy Agidius, an employee in the office of Senator Mike Crapo;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent employees of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or request for testimony relating to their official responsibilities;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may, by the judicial or administrative process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistently with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Cindy Agidius is authorized to testify in the case of State of Idaho v. Fredrick Leroy Leas, Sr., except concerning matters for which a privilege should be asserted.

SEC. 2. The Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Cindy Agidius in connection with the testimony authorized in section one of this resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 29—HONORING DALE EARNHARDT AND EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE TO HIS FAMILY ON HIS DEATH

Mr. EDWARDS (for himself and Mr. HELMS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

S. RES. 29

Whereas the Senate has heard with great sadness of the death of Dale Earnhardt in a tragic accident;

Whereas Dale Earnhardt, a native of Kannapolis, North Carolina, represents a genuine American success story, rising from poverty to become a racing legend and accomplished businessman;

Whereas Dale Earnhardt became the first driver to follow Rookie of the Year honors in 1979 with the Winston Cup championship the next year;

Whereas Dale Earnhardt is tied only with Richard Petty in winning seven Winston Cup Series titles during his 26 years in racing;

Whereas Dale Earnhardt followed in his father's footsteps as a stock car driver, and earned the nickname "The Intimidator" for his aggressive racing style with which he went on to win 76 career races, including the 1998 Daytona 500;

Whereas Dale Earnhardt was not only devoted to the sport of racing, but to his family as the loving husband of Teresa, and loving father of Taylor Nicole, Dale Jr., Kelley, and Kerry;

Whereas Dale Earnhardt's love for life and countless contributions to family and the State of North Carolina serve as an inspiration to millions;

Whereas Dale Earnhardt contributed significantly to the growth and popularity of NASCAR in America through his support of and dedication to racing;

Whereas fans across the nation mourn the untimely loss of one of NASCAR's greatest champions;

Whereas in days following the passing of Dale Earnhardt, fellow drivers and NASCAR officials repeatedly referred to him as "the greatest driver in the history of the sport";

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) Recognizes that the world has too soon lost one of its most beloved sports heroes and one of the greatest drivers in racing history; and honors him in his devotion to life, family, and motor sports; and

(2) expresses its deep and heartfelt condolences to the family of Dale Earnhardt on their tragic loss.

SENATE RESOLUTION 30—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

Mr. DOMENICI submitted the following original resolution; from the Committee on the Budget; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

S. RES. 30

Resolved,

SECTION 1. COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of such rules, including holding hearings, reporting