

purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. BAYH, Mr. CHAFEE, Ms. LANDRIEU, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. CARPER, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. Con. Res. 21. A concurrent resolution to express the sense of Congress regarding the use of a legislative "trigger" or "safety" mechanism to link long-term Federal budget surplus reductions with actual budgetary outcomes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs and the Committee on the Budget, jointly, pursuant to the order of August 4, 1977, with instructions that if one Committee reports, the other Committee have thirty days to report or be discharged.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. NELSON of Florida):

S. Con. Res. 22. A concurrent resolution honoring the 21 members of the National Guard who were killed in the crash of a National Guard aircraft on March 3, 2001, in south-central Georgia; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BOND (for himself and Mr. LEAHY):

S. Res. 45. A resolution honoring the men and women who serve this country in the National Guard and expressing condolences of the United States Senate to family and friends of the 21 National Guardsmen who perished in the crash on March 3, 2001; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. Res. 46. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs; from the Committee on Indian Affairs; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. SHELBY:

S. Res. 47. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Select Committee on Intelligence; from the Select Committee on Intelligence; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. DAYTON (for himself and Mr. WELLSTONE):

S. Res. 48. A resolution honoring the life of former Governor of Minnesota Harold E. Stassen, and expressing deepest condolences of the Senate to his family on his death; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S. Res. 49. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 29

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 29, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for 100 percent of the health insurance costs of self-employed individuals.

S. 41

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from North Caro-

lina (Mr. EDWARDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 41, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the research credit and to increase the rates of the alternative incremental credit.

S. 70

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 70, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of a National Center for Social Work Research.

S. 198

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 198, a bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to provide assistance through States to eligible weed management entities to control or eradicate harmful, non-native weeds on public and private land.

S. 205

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 205, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to waive the income inclusion on a distribution from an individual retirement account to the extent that the distribution is contributed for charitable purposes.

S. 234

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 234, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on telephone and other communications services.

S. 297

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 297, a bill to put teachers first by providing grants for master teacher programs.

S. 300

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 300, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for an increase in the amount of student loans that are eligible for forgiveness in exchange for the service of the individual as a teacher.

S. 312

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 312, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief for farmers and fishermen, and for other purposes.

S. 323

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 323, a bill to amend the Ele-

mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to establish scholarships for inviting new scholars to participate in renewing education, and mentor teacher programs.

S. 345

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 345, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to strike the limitation that permits interstate movement of live birds, for the purpose of fighting, to States in which animal fighting is lawful.

S. 381

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 381, a bill to amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940, and title 10, United States Code, to maximize the access of uniformed services voters and recently separated uniformed services voters to the polls, to ensure that each vote cast by such a voter is duly counted, and for other purposes.

S. 388

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) were added as cosponsors of S. 388, a bill to protect the energy and security of the United States and decrease America's dependency on foreign oil sources to 50% by the year 2011 by enhancing the use of renewable energy resources conserving energy resources, improving energy efficiencies, and increasing domestic energy supplies; improve environmental quality by reducing emissions of air pollutants and greenhouse gases; mitigate the effect of increases in energy prices on the American consumer, including the poor and the elderly; and for other purposes.

S. 389

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) were added as cosponsors of S. 389, a bill to protect the energy and security of the United States and decrease America's dependency on foreign oil sources to 50% by the year 2011 by enhancing the use of renewable energy resources conserving energy resources, improving energy efficiencies, and increasing domestic energy supplies; improve environmental quality by reducing emissions of air pollutants and greenhouse gases; mitigate the effect of increases in energy prices on the American consumer, including the poor and the elderly; and for other purposes.

S. 393

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from Mississippi

(Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 393, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage charitable contributions to public charities for use in medical research.

S. 435

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 435, a bill to provide that the annual drug certification procedures under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 not apply to certain countries with which the United States has bilateral agreements and other plans relating to counterdrug activities, and for other purposes.

S. 465

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 465, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit for residential solar energy property.

S. RES. 25

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD), the Senator from Texas (Mr. GRAMM), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), and the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 25, a resolution designating the week beginning March 18, 2001 as "National Safe Place Week."

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DOMENICI (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. KYL, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. HAGEL, and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 472. A bill to ensure that nuclear energy continues to contribute to the supply of electricity in the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I joined with Senator MURKOWSKI last week when he introduced the National Energy Strategy Act. His Bill addresses the broad range of issues that must underpin a credible approach to our nation's energy needs. It had key provisions for each major source of energy, including nuclear energy.

I rise today to introduce the Nuclear Energy Electricity Assurance Act of 2001, which expands and builds on the National Energy Strategy in the specific area of nuclear energy. It provides a comprehensive framework for insuring that nuclear energy remains a strong option to meet our future needs. It accomplishes for nuclear energy what Senator BYRD's National Electricity and Environmental Technology Act does for clean coal technologies, which I also support.

There is no single "silver bullet" that will address our nation's thirst for clean, reliable, reasonably priced, energy sources. That's why the National Energy Strategy Act carefully reinforced the importance of many energy options. Energy is far too important to our economic and military strength to rely on any small subset of the available options.

Both nuclear energy and coal are now major producers of our electricity. In fact, between them they provide over 70 percent. In both cases, their continued use presents significant risks. They illustrate a fundamental point, that absolutely every source of energy presents both benefits and risks. It's our responsibility to ensure that citizens are presented with accurate information on benefits and risks, information that is free from any political biases. And where risk areas are noted, it's our responsibility to devise programs that mitigate or avoid the risks. Senator BYRD's bill does this for coal technology, my bill does this for nuclear energy.

Nuclear energy now provides about 22 percent of our electricity from 103 nuclear reactors. The operating costs of nuclear energy are among the lowest of any source. The Utility Data Institute recently reported production costs for nuclear at 1.83 cents per kw-hr, with coal at 2.08 cents per kw-hr.

Through careful optimization of operating efficiencies, the output of nuclear plants has risen dramatically since the 1980's; nuclear plants operated with an amazing 87 percent capacity factor in 2000. Since 1990, with no new nuclear plants, the output of our plants has still increased by over 20 percent. That's equivalent to gaining the output of about 20 new nuclear plants without building any.

Safety has been a vital focus, as evidenced by a constant decrease in the number of emergency shutdowns, or "scrams," in our domestic plants. In 1985, there were 2.4 scrams per reactor, last year there were just 0.03. While some use the Three Mile Island accident to highlight their concerns the fact remains that our safety systems worked at Three Mile Island and no members of the public were harmed.

Another example of the exemplary safety of nuclear reactors, when properly designed and managed, lies with our nuclear navy. They now operate about 90 nuclear powered ships, and over the years, they've operated about 250 reactors in all. In that time, they've accumulated 5,400 reactor-years of operation, over twice the number of reactor-years in our civilian sector. In all that time, they have never had a significant incident with their reactors. They are welcomed into over 150 major foreign ports in over 50 countries.

Interest in our nuclear plants is increasing along with dramatically in-

creased confidence in their ability to contribute to our energy needs. Interest in re-licensing plants, to extend their lifetime beyond the originally planned 40 years, has greatly expanded. The NRC has now approved re-licensing for 5 reactors, and over 30 other reactors have begun the renewal process. Industry experts now expect virtually all operating plants to apply for license extension.

Nuclear energy is essentially emission free. We avoided the emission of 167 million tons of carbon last year or more than 2 billion tons since the 1970's. In 1999, nuclear power plants provided about half of the total carbon reductions achieved by U.S. industry under the federal voluntary reporting program. The inescapable fact is that nuclear energy is making an immense contribution to the environmental health of our nation.

But unfortunately, when it comes to nuclear energy, we're living on our past global leadership. Most of the technologies that drive the world's nuclear energy systems originated here. Much of our early leadership derived from our requirements for a nuclear navy; that work enabled many of the civilian aspects of nuclear power.

Our reactor designs are found around the world. The reprocessing technology used in some countries originated here. The fuel designs in use around the world largely were developed here. This nation provided the global leadership to start the age of nuclear energy.

Now, our leadership is seriously at risk. No nuclear plant has been ordered in the United States in over 20 years. To some extent, this was driven by decreases in energy demand following the early oil price shocks and from public fears about Three Mile Island and Chernobyl. But we also have allowed complex environmental reviews and regulatory stalemates to extend approval and construction times and to seriously undercut prospects for any additional plants.

As a nation, we cannot afford to lose the nuclear energy option until we are ready to specify with confidence how we are going to replace 22 percent of our electricity with some other source offering comparable safety, reliability, low cost, and environmental attributes. We risk our nation's future prosperity if we lose the nuclear option through inaction. Instead, we need concrete action to secure the nuclear option for future generations. We must not subject the nation to the risk of inadequate energy supplies.

My bill is squarely aimed at avoiding this risk. I appreciate that my cosponsors: Senators LINCOLN, MURKOWSKI, LANDRIEU, CRAIG, GRAHAM, KYL, CRAPO, THOMPSON, VOINOVICH and HAGEL share these concerns and support this bill to address them.

There are five broad aspects of this bill. First, it initiates programs to ensure that the operations of our current