Tribute to American Red Cross, Mid-Rio Grande Chapter

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to an organization that celebrates a special anniversary in New Mexico this month. The Red Cross, Mid-Rio Grande Chapter this April celebrates its 85th anniversary of being a humanitarian presence in my home state.

Last May, the devastating Cerro Grande wildfire destroyed hundreds of homes in Los Alamos and caused the evacuation of more than 25,000 people in the region. New Mexico residents, business leaders and numerous agencies generously responded to support a relief effort. But one agency stood out as a leader in the swift response to meet emergency needs of the thousands of families affected: the American Red Cross.

The Albuquerque-based Mid-Rio Grande Chapter serves as the Red Cross’ lead unit for disaster services in New Mexico. As such, the Mid-Rio Grande Chapter, working with sister chapters in Los Alamos and Santa Fe, coordinated more than 2,000 volunteers to help ensure that shelters were opened, meals were served, and mental health counselors, nurses, caseworkers and others were available to work with families faced with rebuilding their homes and their lives.

This relief effort, while one of the largest in the state’s history, is only one example of the services this Red Cross Chapter provides to disaster victims.

Over the decades, the agency’s services have evolved to continue to meet the needs of the communities it serves. The Red Cross was founded in 1881 by Clara Barton. During WWII, the Red Cross provided extensive services to the members of the U.S. military, supplying more than 80 percent of the bandages used on the battlefields and in the military hospitals. Red Cross nurses and volunteers served in those overseas hospitals, as well as the VA hospitals back home.

Following the wars, new services were formed to meet the needs of veterans. The Red Cross began to expand into home and workplace first aid programs, Swimming lessons and lifeguard training became a part of hundreds of thousands of children’s lives and continues today. CPR and first aid are still taught every week at the Mid-Rio Grande Chapter and around the state and country. In Albuquerque and central New Mexico alone, more than 13,000 people are trained every year.

In New Mexico, the Red Cross also runs a bone and tissue transplantation program. They work closely with United Blood Services to help ensure an adequate blood supply.

In addition to the Albuquerque chapter, the Red Cross also operates chapters in Clovis, Farmington, Hobbs, Las Cruces, Los Alamos, Roswell and Santa Fe.

Throughout program’s lifetime, one service has remained constant: disaster relief. Response to fires, floods, windstorms, winter storms, hazardous material spills, transportation accidents, and search and rescue operations has been all part of the everyday work of the American Red Cross, Mid-Rio Grande Chapter. Just last year, they responded to 229 disasters and assisted 285 families, not including the aid given to victims of the Cerro Grande Fire. The Chapter also trains thousands a year in disaster education in an effort to help people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies.

This year, as the Chapter celebrates its 85th anniversary of service, we honor the achievements and the contributions volunteers have made to our communities by improving and saving lives. These services are made possible only through the generous donations of the people of New Mexico and the nation.

I commend the efforts of the Mid-Rio Grande Chapter of the American Red Cross. I encourage everyone to learn more about the Red Cross and its support services. It is a great organization that relies on public support to ensure that it remains strong and ready to respond to emergency and public safety needs in Albuquerque, the state, the nation, and the world. It is hard to imagine what this country might have been like without the great contributions of one of the world’s oldest and largest humanitarian organizations—the American Red Cross.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States. The following communications which were referred to the appropriate committees.

The following communications were laiton of a proposed license for the export with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-1297. A communication from the Regulatory Contact the Grain Inspection, Futures, and Options Commission, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Revisions to the Commodity Futures and Option Service” (FR-3792–I–12) received on March 30, 2001; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1298. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or services under a contract in the amount of $50,000,000 or more to Norway; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1300. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or services under a contract in the amount of $50,000,000 or more to Russia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1301. A communication from the Council for Regulations, Office of Public and Indian Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Allocation of Operating Subsidies Under the Operating Fund Formula” ((RIN2577-A188) (FR– 4255–I–12)) received on March 30, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1302. A communication from the General Counsel of the National Tropical Botanical Garden, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning the financial statements and schedules for 1999 and 2000; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1303. A communication from the President of the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning the financial statements for 1999 and 2000; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1304. A communication from the Executive Secretary of the Office of Human Research Protection, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Protection of Human Subjects; Delay of Effective Date” (RIN0590–AA74) received on March 29, 2001; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
EC-1306. A communication from the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Opioid Drugs in Maintenance and Detoxification Treatment of Opiate Addicts” (RIN0036–AQ12) received on March 29, 2001; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1307. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, the report of a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1308. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, the report of a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1309. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, the report of a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1310. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Force Management Policy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the appropriated funds for recruiting functions; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1311. A communication from the Executive Secretary to the Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicare Program: Use of Restraint and Seclusion in Residential Treatment Facilities Providing Inpatient Psychiatric Services to Individuals Under Age 21: Delay of Effective Date” (RIN10938–AJ16) received on March 29, 2001; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1312. A communication from the Executive Secretary to the Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicare Program: Use of Restraint and Seclusion in Residential Treatment Facilities Providing Inpatient Psychiatric Services to Individuals Under Age 21: Delay of Effective Date” (RIN10938–AK08) received on March 29, 2001; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1313. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “BLS–LIFO Department Store Index—February 2001” (Rev. Rul. 2001–16) received on March 29, 2001; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1314. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Announcement and Report Concerning Advance Pricing Agreements” received on March 29, 2001; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1315. A communication from the Acting Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Designation of Critical Habitat for the Arkansas River Basin Population of the Arkansas River Shiner” (RIN1018–AG12) received on March 29, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1316. A communication from the Acting Vice President of Communications, Tennessee Valley Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medical Device; Exemption From Premarket Notification; Class II Devices; Pharmacy Compounding Systems” (Doc. No. 097–1554) received on March 29, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1317. A communication from the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report concerning the emergency funding for the State of Michigan; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1318. A communication from the Senior Trial Attorney, Office of the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled “Extension of Computer Reservations Systems Regulations” (RIN2105–AD00) received on March 29, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1319. A communication from the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning the alternative power sources for flight data recorders and cockpit voice recorders; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1320. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska—Inseason Adjustment (opens B season pollock fishery in Statistical Area 610, Gulf of Alaska, for 12 hours)” received on March 29, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1321. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska—Modification of a Closure (opens pollock fishery in the West Yakutat District, Gulf of Alaska)” received on March 29, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1322. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska—Closes Pacific Cod Fishing by Vessels 60 ft. Length Overall and Greater Using Pot Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area” received on March 29, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1323. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska—Closes Pacific Cod Fishing by Catcher Processors Vessels Hook-and-Line Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area” received on March 29, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1324. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska—Closes Pacific Cod Fishing by Catcher Processors Vessels Using Hook-and-Line Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area” received on March 29, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1325. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska (provides exemption for fixed gear vessels)” (RIN09658–AQ02) received on April 2, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1326. A communication from the Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska—Final Rule Concerning the Season and Access to the Non-Harvest Specifications for the Groundfish Fisheries Off Alaska (provides exemption for fixed gear vessels)” (RIN09658–AQ02) received on April 2, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1327. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska—Closes Pacific Cod Fishing by Catcher Processors Vessels 60 feet Length Overall and Longer Using Hook-and-Line Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands” received on April 2, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1328. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska—Closes Pacific Cod Fishing by Catcher Processors Vessels Hook-and-Line Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands” received on April 2, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1329. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska—Closes Pacific Cod Fishing by Catcher Processors Vessels Hook-and-Line Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands North of 50°N” received on April 2, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1330. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska—Closes Pacific Cod Fishing by Catcher Processors Vessels Hook-and-Line Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands” received on April 2, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1331. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska—Closes Pacific Cod Fishing by Catcher Processors Vessels Hook-and-Line Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands North of 50°N” received on April 2, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1332. A communication from the Acting Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska (provides exemption for fixed gear vessels)” (RIN09658–AQ02) received on April 2, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

By Mr. BOND:
S. 678. A bill to help ensure general aviation aircraft access to Federal land and to the airspace over that land; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CLELAND:
S. 679. A bill to establish the Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area in the State of Georgia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HATCH:
S. 680. A bill to amend the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to authorize communities to use community development block grant funds for construction of tornado-safe shelters in manufactured home parks; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. BAYH, Ms. S. Stabenow, Mr. Torricelli, and Mr. Burns):
S. 681. A bill to help ensure general aviation aircraft access to Federal land and to the airspace over that land; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. McCAIN (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. WARNER, Mr. DeWINE, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. HELMS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REID, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. REID, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. THURMOND, Ms. SNOWE, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. SHIELLY, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. BROWNBACK, and Ms. COLLINS):
S. 682. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to restore the link between the maximum amount of earnings by blind individuals permitted without demonstrating ability to engage in substantial gainful activity and the exempt amount permitted in determining excess earnings under the earnings test; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SANTORUM (for himself, Mr. TOREKICELLI, and Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire):
S. 683. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals a refundable credit against income tax for the purchase of private health insurance, and to establish State health insurance safety-net programs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. AKAKA, Ms. BOXER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. INOUYE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. MURRANY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TOREKICELLI, Mr. WELLSTONE, and Mr. FREGOLS):
S. 684. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit discrimination in the payment of wages on account of sex, race, or national origin, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BAYH (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LEIBERMAN, Mr. KOHL, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Ms. CLINTON, and Mr. CARPER):
S. 685. A bill to amend title IV of the Social Security Act to strengthen working families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS
S. 149
At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 149, a bill to provide authority to control exports, and for other purposes.

S. 311
At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 311, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide for partnerships in character education.

S. 318
At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 318, a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of genetic information with respect to health insurance.

S. 321
At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 321, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide families of disabled children with the opportunity to purchase coverage under the medical aid program for such children, and for other purposes.

S. 361
At the request of Mr. MUKOSKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 361, a bill to establish age limitations for airmen.

S. 409
At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 409, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the standards for compensation for Persian Gulf veterans suffering from certain undiagnosed illnesses, and for other purposes.

S. 414
At the request of Mr. CLELAND, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 414, a bill to amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act to establish a digital network technology program, and for other purposes.

S. 448
At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from New Mexico