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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

SENATE—Tuesday, January 27, 1998

The 27th day of January being the day prescribed by S. Con. Res. 68 and S. J. Res. 39 for the meeting of the 2d session of the 105th Congress, the Senate assembled in its Chamber at the Capitol at 12 noon.

The Senate was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate will come to order. The Chaplain will now deliver the opening prayer.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, by Your grace You guided the founding of this Nation to be a demonstration of democracy under Your sovereignty. We praise You for Your timely inspiration and interventions all through our history. Our motto, "In God we trust," and our affirmation, "One Nation under God," express our sure confidence and the source of our courage.

As we begin the work of this second session of the 105th Congress, we commit our lives to You anew. We thank You for the privilege of pressing forward to the next phase of Your vision for our beloved Nation. We open our minds to think Your thoughts. Give us Your perspective on the problems we face and Your power to solve them.

Help the Senators to listen to one another so their debate on issues will be a dialogue leading to creative resolutions combining the best of the supernatural wisdom You provide through many minds.

We turn our eyes to You and to the strategic work that You have given this Senate to do. Our times are in Your hand; in mutual trust we stand. Through our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader, Senator LOTT of Mississippi, is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. Thank you, Mr. President. Welcome back, Mr. President. It is a pleasure to see you presiding in the Chair as we begin this new year.

Mr. President, I say to the Chaplain, we look forward to hearing your prayers throughout the year.

QUORUM CALL

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum in order to ascertain the presence of a quorum to begin the second session of the 105th Congress.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll to ascertain the presence of a quorum.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll, and the following Senators entered the Chamber and answered to their names:

[Quorum No. 1]

Allard	Grassley	Moynihan
Coverdell	Hutchinson	Sessions
Daschle	Lott	Stevens
Enzi	McConnell	Thurmond

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SESSIONS). A quorum is not present. The clerk will call the names of the absent Senators.

The legislative clerk resumed the call of the roll, and the following Senators entered the Chamber and answered to their names:

[Quorum No. 1]

Abraham	Durbin	Kerry
Ashcroft	Faircloth	Kyl
Bennett	Feinstein	Leahy
Bingaman	Ford	Mack
Bond	Glenn	Nickles
Burns	Gorton	Reed
Byrd	Gramm	Reid
Campbell	Grams	Roth
Chafee	Gregg	Smith, (NH)
Coats	Hagel	Smith, (OR)
Cochran	Helms	Snowe
Collins	Hollings	Specter
Craig	Inhofe	Warner
Domenici	Kempthorne	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. A quorum is present.

INFORMING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES THAT A QUORUM OF EACH HOUSE IS ASSEMBLED

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, a quorum having been ascertained, I send a resolution to the desk informing the President that a quorum is present in the Senate and ask that it be considered

and agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 164) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 164

Resolved, That a committee consisting of two Senators be appointed to join such committee as may be appointed by the House of Representatives to wait upon the President of the United States and inform him that a quorum of each House is assembled and that the Congress is ready to receive any communication he may be pleased to make.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to the resolution, the majority and minority leaders are appointed as members of the committee.

INFORMING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT A QUORUM OF THE SENATE IS ASSEMBLED

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now send a second resolution to the desk informing the House that a quorum is present and ask that it be considered and agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 165) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 165

Resolved, That the Secretary inform the House of Representatives that a quorum of the Senate is assembled and that the Senate is ready to proceed to business.

JOINT SESSION OF THE TWO HOUSES TO HEAR AN ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent that the President of the Senate be authorized to appoint a committee on the part of the Senate to join a committee on the part of the House to escort the President of the United States into the House Chamber for the joint session to be held at 9 p.m. this evening, Tuesday, January 27, 1998.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENTS MADE DURING THE SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT

Mr. LOTT. I now send to the desk a list of appointments that were made during the sine die adjournment of the Senate and ask that it be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

To the Congressional Award Board, pursuant to Public Law 96-114, as amended, Martis James Davis, of New York (Nov. 21, 1997).

To the National Bipartisan Commission on the Future of Medicare, pursuant to Public Law 105-33, the Senator from Texas (Mr. Gramm), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. Frist), Illene Gordon, of Mississippi, and Deborah Steelman, of Virginia (Nov. 25, 1997).

To the Panel to Review Long-Range Air Power, pursuant to Public Law 105-56, J. James Exon, of Nebraska (Dec. 12, 1997).

To the National Council of the Arts, pursuant to Public Law 105-83, Richard J. Durbin, of Illinois (Dec. 31, 1997).

To the Social Security Advisory Board, pursuant to Public Law 103-296, in consultation with the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance, Sylvester J. Schieber, of Maryland (Jan. 19, 1998).

To the Congressional Award Board, pursuant to Public Law 96-114, Clinton Bristow, Jr., of Mississippi (Jan. 20, 1998).

To the Census Monitoring Board, pursuant to Public Law 105-119, Joe D. Whitley, of Georgia, and Max W. Williams, of Mississippi (Jan. 20, 1998).

To the Congressional Award Board, pursuant to Public Law 96-114, Felix Sanchez, of Washington, D.C. (Jan. 26, 1998).

WELCOME, COLLEAGUES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, first and foremost, I welcome our colleagues back to the Senate from what I hope has been a restful and a beneficial period of time. I think it has been very good for the Senators to be able to spend some time with their families, be able to perhaps read a book, to work with their constituencies, and in many cases look into very important foreign policy and international issues. I know this has been a very good time for our colleagues to do some things that were long overdue, and I hope they enjoyed and benefited from it.

SECOND SESSION OF THE 105TH CONGRESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I also hope that all Members are ready for what I hope will be a very productive second session of the 105th Congress. I have spent some time with the distinguished Democratic leader. We have talked in general about bills we want to try to consider before the Easter recess in April, and of course we have gone over the schedule just for this week. We have a number of very important legislative items that we need to consider before the Easter recess, including, I hope, even a budget resolution. I think it is important this year that we not go

after April the 15th to take up a budget resolution. I will be talking further to the chairman of the Budget Committee and the ranking member and the leadership to make sure that we are all in agreement in that effort.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the list of potential floor items and a calendar for the first week of the session be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

LIST OF POTENTIAL ITEMS THAT MAY BE CONSIDERED IN THE SENATE PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED EASTER RECESS

Auto choice bill.
Budget resolution.
Campaign Fin. Reform.
Caribbean Basin Initiative.
China/Religious Persecution.
Cloning Bill.
Coverdell Education Savings accounts.
IMF.
Iran Proliferation Sanctions Act.
ISTEA.
Medicare Private Practice.
Mexico De-certification.
NATO enlargement.
Powder Cocaine Penalties Act.
Property Rights.
PUHCA reform.
Ronald Reagan national airport bill.
Securities Reform.
Supplemental Appropriations.

SENATE SCHEDULE—JANUARY 28-30

Wednesday, Jan. 28:
Special Orders; Policy Lunches; Vote on Judicial Nominations: Aiken, Silverman, and Story.
Thursday Jan. 29:
Ronald Reagan National Airport bill.
Friday, Jan. 30:
Senate not in session.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, no legislative or executive business will be transacted during today's session. Therefore, no votes will occur during the session of the Senate today. We will recess mid to late afternoon to reconvene at 8:30 p.m. this evening in the Chamber. All Members are asked to be in the Chamber at approximately 8:30 in order that we can go over as a body to the Hall of the House of Representatives to hear the President's State of the Union Address beginning at 9 p.m. this evening.

During tomorrow's session we will consider three judicial nominations, those being Barry Silverman to be a circuit judge for the ninth circuit, Richard Story, to be a district judge for the northern district of Georgia, and Ann Aiken, to be a district judge in Oregon. We hope to enter into a time agreement of approximately 2 hours, with rollcall votes expected on each nomination. Therefore, there could be three votes tomorrow, Wednesday. In fact, I think the Members should expect that there will be three votes.

Then on Thursday of this week we hope to consider the Ronald Reagan airport bill which is presently in the

Commerce Committee. Amendments could be offered. Therefore, votes can be expected to occur on that item on Thursday of this week.

The Senate will not be in session on Friday. Following the Senate's consideration of the Ronald Reagan bill, the Senate would proceed over until Monday, February 2nd. The schedule for Monday will be announced later in the week. However, no votes will occur during the session on Monday. We do expect votes, of course, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of next week.

We will be talking to committee chairmen, sponsors of bills and with the Democratic leadership to decide exactly what bills could come up. We are considering possibly the PUHCA legislation, the Public Utilities Holding Company Act modifications. We are still considering a cloning bill that I believe could be considered. We have several others that we are considering, as well.

Next week we expect to take up the FEC, the Federal Election Commission nominees, the nomination of Mr. Satcher to be the Surgeon General, and possibly two more Federal judges that are now going through the process of being cleared.

I do want to say, again, Mr. President, I appreciate the year we had last year. I thought we had a good year. I thought we accomplished a great deal for the American people, most of the time with very little rancor. I want us to continue to be able to work together for the interests of the people and do it in a way where Members are not exhausted and they can do their work during the daylight instead of always at night.

I want to thank those of you that work for the Senate here in the Chamber. You do outstanding work and we quite often don't thank you sufficiently for the way you help us keep things running smoothly doing the people's business here in the Senate.

I do look forward to a very active year even though we may have around 100 legislative days—because of the necessity of adjourning early in October for the election. There are several things we need to do and we will do for the best interests of the American people. I look forward to working with the Senate and working with the leadership on both sides of the aisle.

SECOND SESSION OF THE 105TH CONGRESS

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I welcome back the majority leader and again wish him a happy New Year and commend him for his leadership. During the past 3 months, when we have not been here, I have seen him on several public appearances and, as always, he has been articulate and very forthcoming with regard to the schedule and our plans for the coming weeks. I welcome the opportunity to work closely

with him as we pursue our national agenda, and appreciate very much the cooperation he has already demonstrated in helping Senators make plans both in terms of days, as well as weeks, ahead. I trust the past 3 months have been productive and enjoyable, Mr. President, and I expect it has provided us with rest and the perspective to fulfill our obligations now.

It is obvious we return under very difficult circumstances. Allegations have been made against the President and have been vehemently denied. The legal process continues, flawed as it may be. While the circumstances may be extraordinary, the work of this Government must go on. The American system is uniquely constructed to withstand the winds of controversy and crisis which howl throughout history, and this moment is no exception. Important matters are at hand, dealing with both foreign and domestic policy, and the American people have a right to insist that their leaders continue to give those matters their full attention.

Congress has a clear responsibility—a duty and an obligation—to go about our work on behalf of the American people. Despite allegations, investigations, and obvious distractions, our country would be ill-served if we were to allow interruption in the steady function of Government or the remarkable progress that we have made on matters of great importance to our Nation.

Democratic Senators begin this year with a true sense of accomplishment over what we have achieved and a sense of purpose directed toward the challenges ahead. We need to continue the economic momentum born of the 1993 budget plan, a momentum that will propel us in 1998 to the first balanced budget in over 30 years, and our first opportunity in our lifetime to reduce the accumulated debt.

South Dakotans, like all Americans, have made clear their expectations. Having just returned from home, my conversations with South Dakotans remain clear and well understood. South Dakotans have urged us to work together, to continue to demonstrate that democracy can be both responsive and effective in addressing the challenges that lie ahead. They say, build on the extraordinary budgetary and economic record of the last 5 years, pay off the debt, solve the Social Security and Medicare problems we face. Remember that 42 million of us have no health insurance—find a way to solve that national embarrassment. Remember, above all, in this new age of information, that education, beginning virtually at birth, is one of the most important responsibilities of government at every level. There is so much to be done: Improve wages and child care, fix our political finance system that is broken and in great need of repair, be a leader to the world.

New and old democracies around the world look to us for leadership, and

there is no one else. In Iraq and Bosnia, in Europe and Asia, America's leadership is needed now more than ever. That is the message given to me by South Dakotans back home over and over again. Their wisdom dictates our collective response.

Now is the time to go to work. As the majority leader has already indicated, we have very few days in this session of Congress. We must approach our work with urgency and with energy.

We must make the most of each one. Over the past few months, Democrats in the Senate and House, working with the administration, have built a legislative agenda that addresses many of the challenges our country must face. It will build on the themes that we hear tonight in the State of the Union Message. It represents the legislative embodiment of the priorities contained in the President's budget to be submitted next week.

So, again, I look forward to working closely with the majority leader. We will all certainly work with our Republican colleagues, because we believe this can be a most productive session. We begin today by extending a hand of partnership and a sincere hope for real success. I thank, again, the majority leader for offering me the opportunity to respond to his kind remarks.

I yield the floor.

Mr. LOTT addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

MEASURE PLACED ON CALENDAR—S. 1530

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I understand there are two bills due for a second reading. I ask that the title of the first bill be read.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1530) to resolve ongoing tobacco litigation, to reform the civil justice system responsible for adjudicating tort claims against companies that manufacture tobacco products, and establish a national tobacco policy for the United States that will decrease youth tobacco use and reduce the marketing of tobacco products to young Americans.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I object to further consideration of this matter at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

MEASURE PLACED ON CALENDAR—H.R. 2709

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the second bill be read the second time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2709) to impose certain sanctions on foreign persons who transfer items contributing to Iran's efforts to acquire, de-

velop, or produce ballistic missiles, and to implement the obligations of the United States under the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I object to further proceedings on this item at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

Mr. GREGG addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire is recognized.

Mr. GREGG. I understand we are in morning business and that I have 20 minutes under the order, is that correct?

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Leader-ship time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There will now be a period for the transaction of the morning business, not to exceed the hour of 2 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes.

Mr. LEAHY. Will the Senator yield for a unanimous consent request? I will be very brief.

Mr. GREGG. Yes, I yield to the Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I might be recognized for 10 minutes following the distinguished Senator from New Hampshire.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, reserving the right to object. I ask to modify that by allowing Senator HELMS to speak for a period of 3 minutes prior to my speaking.

Mr. LEAHY. I certainly have no objection to that, Mr. President. I see the distinguished Chairman on the floor. After the distinguished Senator from North Carolina and the distinguished Senator from New Hampshire, I ask unanimous consent to be recognized.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from North Carolina is recognized for 3 minutes.

MRS. ALICE WYNNE GATSIS SPEAKS ON THE 10TH AMENDMENT

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, the North Carolina General Assembly embarked in 1997 on a significant course—that of inviting some of our State's best-known and best-qualified citizens to address joint sessions of the legislature's house and senate. Dr. Billy Graham, for example, made a remarkable and unforgettable appearance during the year.

Meanwhile, the North Carolina General Assembly's Select Committee on Federal Education grants heard a splendid address by a prominent and

learned North Carolina lady, Mrs. Alice Wynne Gatsis, of Rocky Mount, whose distinguished husband is a retired general of the U.S. Army, Andrew J. Gatsis.

General and Mrs. Gatsis are stout-hearted defenders of the U.S. Constitution. They are exceedingly knowledgeable about the perils confronting this Nation as a result of constant tampering with the intent and the meaning of the Constitution. In short, Alice Wynne Gatsis and her husband understand the miracle of America.

That, Mr. President, is why the North Carolina General Assembly's Select Committee on Federal Education Grants invited Mrs. Gatsis to address the committee on November 10 of last year.

Mr. President, I have in hand the text of Mrs. Gatsis' address and, being enormously impressed with her remarks, I have decided to share them with Senators and others who read the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Therefore, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of Mrs. Gatsis' address be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

ALICE WYNNE GATSI—NOVEMBER 10, 1997—
SPEECH TO THE N.C. GENERAL ASSEMBLY—
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—SELECT COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL EDUCATION GRANTS

NOTE: For purposes of definition, and the benefit of any egalitarians among us, I will be referring to man and men generically in the sense of man being the human race—it is not my intention to slight the ladies.

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I have been invited to speak this morning on the Tenth Amendment, that heart of the U.S. Constitution which says, "The powers not delegated by the Constitution or prohibited by it to the States are reserved to the states, respectively or to the people."

You may be asking yourselves, busy people that you are, an important committee with an important mission, why this subject at this time?

It seems to me that every now and then in a nation there comes a time when there is a need for restoration, a resetting of the pillars that are the foundation of all that is great in America. It must be apparent to many in both public and private life that the time has come.

It must be apparent, as well, that for some time an evolutionary process of unconstitutional usurpation of power has escalated to an alarming degree, and in spite of the law of the government (the Constitution) which forbids it.

All aspects of the domestic affairs of the people have become a federal concern to the point where we now have a president and congressmen, and, yes, innumerable bureaucrats, bureaucrats who appear to be accountable to nobody, addressing daily the domestic affairs of the people from soup to nuts.

It was not pleasing to hear Donna Shalala, Secretary of Health and Human Services, say, at her confirmation hearings in the first Clinton administration, that the President views the states as "laboratories" for the federal government. Her statement represents the apotheosis of many years of usur-

pation and preemption which has taken place in all administrations, not just the Clinton administration, for the last fifty years. It has slipped into our great free system on quiet little feet, taking a step forward and a step back but steadily advancing in the path toward centralizing and unifying the divided and enumerated powers which have made us a free people. There are reasons innumerable that such unlawful inroads have been made, perhaps federal money, perhaps false philanthropy, perhaps expediency. It is not necessary to engage in the "politically correct" subjective analysis of "why." Objective judgment reveals that the problem exists and must be addressed, if the first great republic in history is to be the inherited blessing of our descendants.

Attention to the 10th amendment is growing as its importance cannot be overestimated. What would the system be like without it? Where would you be?

The founders were not ignorant men; they drew on their knowledge of Greek and Roman law, the American colonial experience, the English legacy of common law and checks upon power, the Christian theories of natural law and then they added that best and newest ingredient, government at the local level. State legislators sit at the pinnacle close to the people with their powers enumerated over all domestic law. There is no finer elective position in the country. The authority of state legislators, faithfully executed has power in many ways to keep America stable.

Thankfully, it can be said that the 200 year old Constitution stands, relatively unchanged, amended only 17 times since the Bill of Rights. Within it, the 10th Amendment, in spite of assaults against it, stands unchanged too, because when Con-cons and conferences of the States come along, the people realize that their Constitution is endangered and combine to preserve it.

One of the strongest reasons for defeating the Equal Rights Amendment, once the emotional aspects of it were put in perspective, was that it was a major 10th amendment issue, the second part of this amendment transferred all authority over the domestic affairs of the nation to the Federal level. Not everyone realized that this was the true goal but constitutionalists did.

Standing in the way of ratification of the United Nations Treaty on the Political Rights of Women and the U.N. Treaty on the Rights of the Child is the Tenth Amendment.

The discredited health plan of the first Clinton administration ran into roadblocks as the bevy of lawyers assigned to the health care commission were told, "You can't do that because of the 10th amendment."

The recent Supreme Court ruling that the Religious Freedom Restoration Act is unconstitutional, drove a dagger into the heart of some conservatives who will bend the Constitution a bit if their issue is at stake, but Religious Freedom Restoration Act really is unconstitutional. The ruling of the court made it clear that the enforcement power of the 14th amendment does not override the broad powers of the 10th.

One great ally of the Tenth Amendment is Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. He has enunciated hard nosed positions limiting federal power. Writing about him, Joseph Sobran said, "In the 1995 Term Limits Case, he insisted on the pertinence of the Tenth Amendment and added a brilliant new twist to the debate. The Tenth not only limits the federal government to its enumerated powers, he argued, it reserves to the states and to the people all powers not specifically denied to them."

The clear purpose of the founders when they produced the U.S. Constitution was to create a federal government with strictly limited powers. It was the states who created the federal government not the other way around. Their shared attitude was best expressed by Thomas Jefferson when he said, "In questions of power then, let no more be said of faith in man, but bind him down with the chains of the Constitution." Also he said, after reading the new constitution, which he, of course, had no part in writing, "I assume that if the federal government were to be involved in education, there would have to be a constitutional amendment." There has been no constitutional amendment in this area, because it is understood that the American people do not want education transferred to the federal level. They are the rightful authorities over the education of their children; their authority is protected by the 10th amendment and state legislators are obligated to uphold that right—no where in the Constitution is "here-in granted" for the federal government to make laws about education and no where is there authority for legislators to transfer *voluntarily* their enumerated power to another branch of government.

There are those who would, if possible, scrap the Constitution. They have openly said so; they are prominent people, known public figures. One of their spokesmen, Professor James McGregor Burns said it, during the observance of the 200th anniversary of the ratification of the Constitution. I thought it a strange way to celebrate this occasion, but he said "let's face reality, the framers have simply been too shrewd for us. They have outwitted us. They designed separated institutions that cannot be unified by mechanical linkages, frail bridges, tinkering. If we are to turn the founders upside down, to put together what they put asunder, we must directly confront the constitutional structure which they erected." This quote comes from page 160 of Professor Burns book *Reforming American Government*.

Threads of this agenda from *Reforming American Government* surface from time to time. For instance in Newt Gingrich's new contract with America 2000. He wants that year's Republican candidates for the House, Senate and Presidency to run as a team committed to enacting a 10 point contract with America. He foresees a parliamentary-like campaign in which the entire national party runs on a unified platform. This has the net effect of solidifying allegiance to the Party and diluting allegiance to the Constitution and Congressional constituents. The Contracts with America are 10th amendment issues, because they generally address domestic affairs—but never mind that—"conservative" activists are already trying to get their issues into the Contract.

Identifying the undermining of local state government, several legislatures have passed 10th amendment resolutions, and more of them will be as evidence mounts that the federal government is out of control, and that ignoring the oath that public servants take is dangerous to the liberty of all.

State legislators are so important. You are not only, by decree, closest to the people, along with county and city government, but you come from among us—the people. You are our neighbors, our friends and part of the businesses and activities that make up our various communities. Any qualified citizen can sit in the halls of the legislatures if fellow citizens so elect. Once that happens and the oath is taken, you become a citizen-legislator who can represent the rest of us only

by strict adherence to the law of the Constitution. Since the majority are not always right, that adherence to the Constitution assures justice for all. The 10th amendment, then, protects the law-makers and the people to whom they are bound. This is an arrangement worth preserving.

Why then have state legislators been allowing their just powers to slip away? Federal bureaucracies are doing more and more unconstitutional runs around them.

It is time for a wake up call. As this committee prepares to take up its duties, more end runs are occurring in Washington. On Friday president Clinton traded off some of his national education standards for a couple of years, and the House voted overwhelmingly to fund charter schools by one hundred million dollars, giving them a certain autonomy if they teach performance-based education. The President, who has no enumerated authority, any more than Congress does, over education has highly endorsed charter schools as long as they teach national standards. The net effect will be the nationalizing, long term, of the school system, putting it into the hands of special interest private boards, gradually absorbing current public and private schools.

So much for elected local school boards, so much for local legislators if they let it continue.

The more these federal intrusions into education create massive failures in education, the more bent these federal "nannies" seem to be on more of the same.

Will state legislators seize the initiatives which are rightfully and lawfully theirs? If they do not, as I have said before, they will end up figure heads in a regional satrapy run from somewhere on high.

Never before in recent times has the choice been so well defined—On the one side is the Republic of the United States of America a nation under God as defined by the Declaration of Independence, a nation governed by God's law as incorporated into the Constitution. It establishes limited government, and divided powers. Most of all it leaves citizens free to guide and direct their own lives. God given rights are unalienable and may not be taken away; they are eternal.

At the opposite end of the spectrum is the United Nations Charter which enshrines the religion of man (generically speaking) as the source of rights. Man through government can give and take away rights from other men, women and children. It is government farthest from the people run by councils of "wise" men. We will have to choose whom we will serve. Knowing that where the spirit of God is, there is the spirit of liberty. I trust that citizen and legislator alike will not remove the ancient landmarks which our fathers have set.

In summary, this select committee has some very serious matters to investigate, probably the tip of the iceberg—in an ongoing chore. I wish you well and hope that you will ever keep before you the basic truths of the 10th amendment base. The law is on your side.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire is recognized.

Mr. INHOFE. Will the Senator yield for a moment for a unanimous-consent request?

Mr. GREGG. Yes.

INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that after the Senator from Vermont takes his time, I be allowed to have 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from New Hampshire.

WHAT TO DO WITH THE BUDGET SURPLUS

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, this evening we will hear from the President of the United States in his State of the Union Address. We live in a time where the United States is extraordinarily fortunate. We are at peace. We are a Nation that has great prosperity. We are a Nation with a balanced budget for the first time in 25 years. This is all good news. But there looms on the horizon a fiscal policy which, if we do not address in the coming near term, will dramatically undermine our Nation and make it difficult to pass on to our children a country of prosperity. That, of course, is the pending retirement, beginning in the latter part of the next decade, of the postwar baby-boom generation, that huge demographic group of which I and the President are members, which has impacted this country this very decade in some unique way, and which in the next two decades will, as a result of their retiring have an impact of basically bankrupting this country in the Social Security system, which so many seniors rely on, if we do not address these concerns.

The opportunity to address these concerns is today. It is much like that oil filter ad, "You can pay me now or you can pay me later." The opportunity to make changes in our Social Security system, which will allow for its solvency, allow it to be a strong and vibrant part of our fabric as a Nation, the opportunity for those changes to be effective and to be done reasonably, is much better today than if we wait for 4, 5, or 10 years.

In addition, of course, as we head into a time of surplus, there will be, as a basic policy in this Chamber and in the House, over the next few months a question of how we use that surplus. What is generating the surplus should be the first question. What is generating the surplus is the Social Security trust fund. For the foreseeable future, the extent to which we generate a surplus at the Federal level will be as a result of the fact that more people are paying Social Security taxes than are taking benefits out of the Social Security trust fund. It is not a surplus generated, therefore, as a result of the day-to-day operation of Government being in surplus, of having raised more tax revenues for the day-to-day operation of the Government—defense, education, environmental protection, building roads, for those accounts income surplus; rather, it is a surplus generated by the fact that people who pay payroll taxes are paying more in payroll taxes to support people on retirement under Social Security than they need to.

That should be retained as a primary point as we move down the road of addressing the surplus issue. Therefore, I would like to posture that if we are going to be responsible as legislators and as keepers of our Nation's future, we have an obligation to address the issue of Social Security and address it in the short-term, rather than to wait. I also would like to suggest a manner in which we might consider addressing it. One of our goals, as we look at the issue of the surplus, should be to give people tax relief. Another goal, as we look at the issue of the surplus, should be to pay down the Federal debt. A third goal, as we look at the issue of addressing how we are going to deal with the surplus, should be to increase the savings of the American people. A fourth goal should be to assure the solvency of the most critical Federal program that we have, the Social Security system.

All four of those goals can be significantly advanced if we intelligently approach the use of the surplus and apply it to benefit the Social Security system. How can we do that?

Well, the best way would be to cut the Social Security tax. This is the most regressive tax we have. It is also the taxes generating the surplus. If we were to reduce the Social Security tax so that the average wage earner, instead of paying approximately 7½ percent, would end up paying 6½ percent; it would mean that the average wage earner in this country would receive the benefits directly of a tax cut, the purpose of which would be to refund to them the surplus which is being generated by the Federal Government.

In such a tax cut, if we were to say to the folks receiving it, the wage earners, the people paying the payroll tax, if we were to say that the tax cut must be saved in an account designated in your name, a personal savings account, such as an IRA account, then we would be accomplishing a second goal, which would be to allow individuals who are seeing retirement coming at them to begin to specifically have an account in the Social Security structure which would be in their name and on which they could participate in the investment decisions, and which would most likely return a much better return than the present Social Security system returns, and which would give them an actual savings vehicle.

Third, the practical effect of cutting the tax for people who are wage earners and allowing them to save would be that we would begin the process of refunding the liability in the Social Security system. The Social Security system today has a \$3 trillion unfunded liability. So that as the postwar baby-boom generation hits the system in 2008, which is the first year when the system starts to pay more out than it takes in, there becomes a liability that

must be paid for through either increased taxes or by reducing the benefit structure of approximately \$3 trillion. Well, to the extent that we can encourage people to save by cutting their taxes today and putting those tax cuts into savings accounts, we can significantly reduce the unfunded liability of the Social Security system, which will, in turn, reduce the debt of the Federal Government, which would be another goal in using the surplus that we presently are confronting, or which we are soon to have.

So it is great news that we have this surplus. After 25 years, it is extraordinary news. But the proper management of this surplus is clearly one of the core public policy questions that we have to face as a Congress. It is my view that the proper management of this surplus should involve returning to the taxpayers the funds that were paid in, which gave us the surplus, allowing us to give the taxpayers an opportunity to save for their retirement, and to assure the solvency of the Social Security system, and to begin to pay down the Federal debt. These are the goals that I believe we should be looking at.

I am hopeful that the President, in his State of the Union Address, will set forth a process and a procedure for allowing us to reach these types of goals. So I look forward to hearing the President's proposals in his State of the Union, and I certainly look forward to the next few months as this Congress wrestles with the issue of how to preserve and protect the Social Security system at the same time that we address the budget surplus.

Mr. President, I yield back my time.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

ICE STORMS IN THE NORTHEAST

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I see my friend from New Hampshire leaving the floor, and I note that he and I have shared a difficult time in the past few weeks with the ice storms in both of our States. But both New Hampshire and Vermont are coming out well. I know that Maine is now still digging out. They have gone through a terrible time, as have the people in upstate New York, and even the Province of Quebec. I note that throughout all that time, every time I called FEMA, James Lee Witt, or anybody else at the Federal level, the response was instantaneous and effective, and that I appreciate.

THE ROLE OF INDEPENDENT COUNSEL

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I want to discuss a serious matter. I hesitate to comment on ongoing law enforcement investigations. I have always felt that way.

I am not going to jump into the swirling mix of rumor and revelation and innuendo that has transfixed many in Washington over the last several days. I spent nearly a decade as a prosecutor. I have a very strong sense of what prosecutors should and can do. I am one who has tried to keep any kind of ideological partisanship out of law enforcement decisions. I did that during the time I was a prosecutor, and I have urged that same thing to prosecutors since.

But I am troubled that the independent counsel law has itself been corrupted and no longer serves its intended purpose. The law was part of a congressional effort to create a mechanism that would reassure the American people that partisanship was not influencing prosecutorial decisions, and that law enforcement judgment was being exercised by those who did not have an ax to grind either way—by those who approached matters from a law enforcement point of view, and not—not—from a lodestone set in a partisan rock.

I cannot say with confidence that this is the case with the current Whitewater counsel. I look at the continuing and very selective leaks and tactics employed by Mr. Starr's office over the last few years, and particularly over the last few days. And, like so many other Vermonters and so many other Americans, it gives me pause to see these kind of tactics that no prosecutor should ever condone in his or her offices.

I have seen reports that two weeks ago he was intent on constructing a sting operation to engage the President of the United States in secretly recorded conversations. Have we sunk this low, Mr. President, that we would do things like this?

I have seen complaints that he sought to pressure a young woman and threaten her mother and father if she did not cooperate in allegations that she was counseled to lie under oath.

Maybe I am missing something here, Mr. President. But this is a far distance from investigating a decade-old land deal in Arkansas. Having spent more than \$30 million of taxpayers' money in what apparently became a self-perpetuating investigation, the goal now seems to go about getting the President by whatever means necessary.

Last summer I was critical of efforts by Mr. Starr's office to involve itself in allegations of marital infidelity. The justification then to justify the leaks coming out of Mr. Starr's office was that maybe pillow talk might lead to the discovery of some evidence relevant to this decade-old land deal in Arkansas.

Now it seems that the current activities of Mr. Starr's office seem oddly coordinated to aid in a civil lawsuit against the President. The Paula Jones case has had a gag order on it from the

beginning. Yet every single day we find the lawyers and those allied with Ms. Jones selectively leaking depositions and court proceedings to the public. Almost in conjunction—almost in the same package—we see items selectively leaked from Mr. Starr's office with one passing the other. You would think it was the same law firm carrying out this civil case. I have never ever seen a prosecutor do something like that in a State court, a Federal court, or any kind of a case.

Having been a prosecutor, I have a sense for the enormous power in that office. If you have \$30 million to spend you have the most power any prosecutor could ever have. But with that power comes a responsibility. Decisions about what to pursue and what to prosecute are among the weightiest exercises of public authority. Exercised irresponsibly and without accountability the prosecutor's power is easily abused and is left to go towards effectively partisan purposes.

My point is that at this juncture we need an independent counsel who is clearly removed from partisanship and who can exercise independent judgment. But the country has neither. This is the most partisan, unjustified, means to an end investigation that I can ever remember in my life. Rather than succeed in insulating the power of the prosecutor from abusive partisan purposes, the independent counsel law appears to have captured partisan forces. This goes beyond any question of what might have happened in Whitewater or anywhere else. It is the tactics being used. The tactics tend in many ways to become so outrageous that they can only be considered partisan. If you want people to have confidence in the result of an investigation, then the investigation has to be nonpartisan, and it has to be perceived to be nonpartisan so that all people can respect what comes out of it.

Frankly, Mr. President, from what I am hearing throughout the country, as well as in my own State, people do not expect any idea of impartiality or nonpartisanship from the prosecutor's office. I hope that Mr. Starr will quickly take steps to change that, and will quickly take steps to stop having his office somehow coordinating itself with a civil case, a civil case involving Paula Jones.

I say this because the country is facing some other issues that also have to be attended to.

On Friday I flew back to Vermont, as I do so often during the month, and I picked up every newspaper that I could on the way up just to read in the airplane. There on the front page of a major newspaper were all of the stories of what leaks are coming out of the Paula Jones case and what leaks are coming out of Mr. Starr's office. Tucked almost as an afterthought were such stories as this: The Pope making a historic visit to Cuba, with all the

ramifications that means; Microsoft's settlement with the Justice Department and implications that is going to have for jobs and consumer protection in the years to come; the Unabomber, who terrorized this country for years, pleads guilty; U.S. forces move to arrest a war criminal, something we have not seen I don't think since the time of Nuremberg; the successive visits by Benjamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat to this country and the implications on the peace process for the Middle East. There are other such significant stories: The question of whether we are going to have to go into Iraq and act unilaterally because our allies don't appear to have the guts to stand up to Saddam Hussein. All of these things are tucked back, I say to my colleagues, almost in the fast-food ads in the newspaper. Every one of these things is going to have an enormous effect on your life, on my life, and on the lives of the American people, just as the State of the Union Message will tonight, just as what we do on the floor of the Senate this year.

These are the things that need debate. I am not suggesting that it is wrong to ask questions about the conduct of anybody—not of me, of you, of the President, or anybody else. I am not suggesting that. But what I am suggesting is let us not forget that we represent the most powerful nation history has ever known and the greatest economy history has ever known, at a time of economic boom. Let us not lose sight of what the American people want us to do in protecting this country.

But also let us ask—and I asked the same question incidentally during the activities of the special prosecutor in the Reagan era—let us ask whether we undermine the very things we want to protect in this country by allowing a special prosecutor situation to go way out of bounds of what its original aim was—especially when it becomes ideological, partisan, and allied with those who are carrying out civil cases which have nothing to do with the issue initially contemplated by Whitewater.

Mr. President, I will speak on this more as we go along. I see other Senators who are seeking the floor. I yield the floor.

Mr. INHOFE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I thank you. I ask that I be recognized for 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DEMISE OF OUR DEFENSE BUDGET

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I have a great deal of concern over some of the things that we have been hearing during this interim when we have been considering what we would do if a sur-

plus should become a reality. And we and many people have talked about problems in child care, in Medicare, in the environment, and in education. But the one thing, the one area, that we have the greatest deficiency in America in, and the great threat facing us, is what has happened with the demise of our defense budget and what has happened to our defense system.

Being the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Readiness Subcommittee, we have had occasion to go around and pay visits to a number of our installations. Mr. President, this is not something that has just come on recently. Although now is when the public has finally a wake-up call, thanks perhaps to Saddam Hussein and Iraq, and realizes that there is a great threat out there.

I would like to read just one paragraph out of the 1998 Defense Authorization Act under, "The Storm Clouds Are On The Horizon."

There are two key factors that threaten to undermine the readiness of our forces—a lack of adequate funding and the over commitment of a greatly reduced force structure. Unless we take necessary steps to correct these problems our military capability will incur significant degradation as we enter into the 21st century.

Mr. President, during this interim period, I visited a number of installations, including Nellis Air Force Base out in the Mojave Desert, and national training systems: The Army Advanced Training System, the Marine Advanced Training Center at Twentynine Palms, and the San Diego naval operations. Also, I have had occasion to be in Camp Lejeune, Fort Bragg, and Fort Hood, and these installations that are trying to keep us prepared throughout America, and throughout the world.

I can tell you that we really have a serious problem. We find that our operations are up, that now we have U.S. forces that have been used in 36 countries in the last 9 years. In the 9 years prior to that there was only 22 countries. We have had over a 300-percent increase in the pace of operations since 1990. We have 26 Army contingency operations in the 7 years since 1991 compared to 10 operations in the 30 years prior to that time. There were 26 operations in just 7 years compared to 10 over the previous 30 years. What this means is we have a "op tempo," or a first tempo, which is a term that is used to measure how busy our people are that are out there and how this is going to affect all of our other operations.

So we actually have two problems that we are faced with. One problem is the fact that we have reduced our budget to an artificially low rate that puts us in the position where we cannot carry out the minimum expectations for the American people. And to be specific about it, we have roughly one-half of the force strength today that we had in 1991. I am talking about one-half the

Army divisions, one-half the tactical air wings, and one-half of the ships floating out there. So that is a serious problem.

Then we have stood on this floor time and again and talked about the problems of our deployment on these contingency operations. I can remember standing on this floor in November of 1995 and saying that we cannot afford to send our American troops into Bosnia, and that if we do send them into Bosnia we will incur an operation and an obligation that will sustain the next two decades. The President assured us and promised us. He didn't estimate it, Mr. President. He said that this operation will not exceed 12 months, and that all of our troops will be home from Bosnia for Christmas in 1996. Of course, we knew that wasn't true. We knew the President was not telling the truth. I remember going over there and talking to them. When I told them up there in the northeast sector, the U.N., that it was going to be a 12-month operation, they laughed, and they said, "You mean 12 years." They said it is like putting your hand in the water and leaving it there for 12 months. Take it out, and nothing has changed. The President also said that the cost would be \$1.2 billion. Guess what? It has now gone over \$8 billion in that effort.

That is not even a part of it. When the American people are told that we only have 8,500 troops over there in Bosnia, that is not true either because if you count the troops as of last week that are in Croatia and the Moravian countries, it is well up to over 12,000 troops. You go over to the 21st Tactical Command in Germany that supplies the logistics for the operation in Bosnia, and they are at 100-percent capacity, and their op tempo rate is 60 percent higher than it should be. What that means in normal terms is that if something happens in Iraq they have to support that logistically on the ground from the 21st Tactical Command. You go 10 miles down the road to Ramstein Air Force Base where they have the 86th Airlift operation, and I defy you to go there and find any ramp space that isn't being used as the C-141s, C-5s and DC-17s that are bringing in everything going to Bosnia are transferring onto C-130s, and off they go. We are using 100 percent of our capacity there. So that is a very, very serious problem that has to be corrected. We cannot do that and continue to try to rebuild a defense operation that has been decimated mostly by this administration. As we go around to these installations, we find that our retention rate is down, the divorce rate is up, and that we are approaching the hollow force days of the late 1970's. We know the two reasons: the budget cuts and the contingency operations.

We have stood on this floor for the last 5 years and talked about the

threat that is facing the United States of America. It is not just that we are not adequately prepared in our state of readiness to take care of normal operations should something erupt, for example, in Iraq or Iran or Syria or North Korea, but we also do not have a national missile defense system. In 1983 we started one that should have been deployable by the year 1998. That is now. Someone was pretty smart back there. And yet this administration stopped that in 1992. We are now 5 years behind, if we get right back in, which I think we will now because there is a wake-up call that the American people have heard. And that is, I would have to say, some good news, that even right now this administration is agreeing with what they have refuted over the last 5 years.

I was very pleased to hear Secretary of Defense Bill Cohen stand up and say that we now know there are over 25 nations that have weapons of mass destruction, either biological, chemical or nuclear, and are working on the missile means to deliver those as far as the United States of America. When Bill Cohen stood up and said Saddam Hussein—keep in mind, here is a guy who murders his own grandchildren—and Iraq under our close supervision still has enough DX gas to kill every man, woman and child on the face of this Earth in 60 seconds, finally America is waking up, and I am very pleased that has happened.

I have a couple articles here that I will not read from because my time is running out, but one article is the one that is the cover story of the current U.S. News & World Report that is out on the newsstands today. It is called: "Can peacekeepers make war?" And they get into the fact, as we have found, that if we had to bring these troops back and put them in a combat environment, it would take between 4 and 6 months to train them. So that exacerbates our problem. And the other is in the National Review. I ask unanimous consent that both of these articles be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See Exhibit 1).

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, we are going to have to do something and do that something pretty quick. Unfortunately, as the chairman of the Readiness Committee, I recognize the fact that we are going to have to come up with some money right away, in this coming fiscal year budget, in the defense authorization bill and the defense appropriations bill. We are finding that the Defense Department has engaged in policies that have caused us to foolishly use money that should have been used for readiness. So I am standing here saying we are going to have to do—the money can only come from one place. If we are going to try to keep

our retention rate or get it back up, if we are going to stop the divorce rate going up, we are going to have to put some money in quality-of-life and force strength, and the only place that can come from is modernization.

As a strong supporter of the F-22, I can only stand on the floor of the Senate and say we are going to have to delay that program unless we are able to come up with some money to put into our budget for the coming fiscal year.

People who are very wise say, well, that is what we depend upon for future readiness, the F-22. Yes, we do, but we have to make a tradeoff for current readiness or future readiness. It has to be current readiness, with the threat that faces us.

I am here to tell you that we are facing a greater threat today than at any time since World War II. We have a reduced force, and we cannot meet that threat. It has to be changed.

I yield back the remainder of my time.

EXHIBIT 1

[From the U.S. News, Jan. 19, 1998]

CAN PEACEKEEPERS MAKE WAR?

(By Richard J. Newman)

In January 1991, eight Apache helicopters from the Army's 101st Air Assault Division were assigned to fire the first shots of the Persian Gulf war. Flying with their lights out, 50 feet off the desert floor, the Apaches sneaked deep into western Iraq and destroyed two key radar sites. The dangerous mission, which largely blinded Saddam Hussein to the subsequent deluge of attack aircraft, was a complete success.

Seven years later, the 101st is not performing so gloriously. During a November mock battle at the Army's National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., the division's gunners failed to destroy any of the antiaircraft missiles of the "opposition force." As a result, the OpFor shot down all the 101st's Apaches when they tried to mount a deep-strike mission. The OpFor put away half of its antiaircraft missiles, and the 101st tried again. Once more, all its helicopters were shot down. Then the OpFor put all its missiles away—and still shot down six Apaches with tanks and other guns, losing only four tanks in the process. While the OpFor was probably a tougher foe than the Iraqi military, officials familiar with the NTC say the 101st's performance reflects a general deterioration in the last five years in the capabilities of units training at Fort Irwin. It's a "very sad situation here," said one NTC official.

Throughout America's armed forces, there is mounting evidence that conventional combat skills—and the warrior ethic that goes with them—are being eroded by a combination of downsizing, budget cuts, and widespread commitments to noncombat operations in Bosnia, the Middle East, and elsewhere. A December report by a Senate Budget Committee analyst cited "extremely serious Army-wide personnel and training (i.e., readiness) problems," such as units half staffed in key positions like infantry and mechanics. With troop levels being cut to free more money for high-tech weapons systems, the report predicted, those problems will get worse.

Soldiers seem to agree: In a 1997 "leadership assessment," Army officers in 36 per-

cent of a series of focus groups said their units don't know how to fight; nearly half of those groups expressed concern about the Army's growing "hollow," a provocative allusion to the inept, so-called hollow force of the 1970s.

In the Air Force, "mission capable" rates for some fighter jets, which measure how many planes can be ready for war on short notice, are more than 15 percentage points lower than they were in 1989. "We've got some severe stresses," says Gen. Richard Hawley, head of the Air Force's Air Combat Command. "There's not enough resilience in the force." Even the Navy and the Marine Corps, which are better structured to endure long deployments, are struggling. Downsizing and budget cutting have left some ships short of parts and crew members and have forced commanders to increase their estimates of how long it would take to be ready to fulfill wartime tasks. Last fall Rear Adm. Daniel Murphy, the Navy's head of surface warfare, said it may be necessary to pay bonuses to sailors in the surface fleet—like those paid to aviators and submariners—to keep experienced sailors in the Navy.

Do gaps in the force matter? The U.S. military can obviously afford to relax the hair-trigger posture that became the norm over 40 years in the cold war. U.S. defense funding is roughly equal to that of the next six spenders combined. The once-feared Soviet military has dwindled from 4 million troops in 1990 to a Russian force of 1.2 million—with such problems that it could not defeat a ragtag rebel force in the tiny province of Chechnya in 1995. Analysts think it will be at least 15 years before a "peer competitor" such as China or a resurgent Russia could challenge the United States militarily. No country now poses a serious threat to American territory.

More with less. But in many ways the American military has a uniquely demanding job today. Instead of preparing largely for territorial defense, U.S. troops must safeguard vaguely defined American and global "interests" in an increasing number of far-flung places. Since 1990, U.S. armed forces have been utilized in 36 foreign missions, compared with just 22 between 1980

1989, according to analysis by the Congressional Research Service. And there have been fewer troops and dollars to carry out those missions. Since 1989, administrations of both parties have cut the armed forces by one third, and the defense budget by 30 percent, after inflation. The changes were inevitable, with the demise of the Soviet threat, but they still affect the military's ability to meet increasing demands.

The busy pace that results appears to be driving out more experienced service members than ever. In the Marine Corps, 23 of the 175 captains chosen last year to attend the prestigious Amphibious Warfare School in Quantico, Va., decided instead to leave the Marines; statistics weren't kept before 1995, but officials say it used to be rare for more than three or four to drop out. The Army recruited only 70 percent of the infantrymen it needed in the year ending last September, though Army officials expect that to improve. A 1997 report released by Rep. Floyd Spence, chairman of the House National Security Committee, cited Army statistics showing that 125 infantry squads—equivalent to about five 500-man battalions—are unmanned, keeping units from training at the

appropriate combat strength. And increasingly, Army and Air Force units put off combat training because they are too busy with "low intensity" missions or need the money elsewhere.

In the past, military leaders have used readiness "scares" to plead for more money for favored weapons or other programs. These days, most Pentagon officials understand that total defense budgets will not rise—and so a gain for one branch comes out of another's share. But they also complain that frequent "low intensity" missions—such as peacekeeping, counterdrug operations, humanitarian efforts, and even joint exercises with new Eastern European allies—are diluting the war-fighting capability of U.S. troops by disrupting combat training and breaking down unit cohesion. Ultimately, that is producing an identity crisis: Is the American military's purpose still "fighting and winning our nation's wars," as the Pentagon's national military strategy states? Or are America's enemies so few and feeble that U.S. troops can focus less on war and more on other problems throughout the world?

By its own benchmarks, U.S. military manpower and readiness are falling short. Since 1993 the government's national security strategy has called for U.S. troops to be prepared to fight two regional wars, presumably in Korea and Iraq, less than 45 days apart. (Before that, the Pentagon planned for one very large war with the Soviet Union and lesser conflicts elsewhere, but didn't quantify them.) The Pentagon's quadrennial defense review, released last May, said U.S. forces also must be prepared for greater involvement in "smaller-scale contingencies," such as peacekeeping in Bosnia and the ongoing enforcement of the Iraqi no-fly zones—even though at the same time the Pentagon cut the military by 62,000 troops.

That reduction was part of a deliberate trade-off to pay for new weapons, such as the joint strike fighter and the F-22 aircraft, a new carrier, and tank upgrades. Many analysts agree on the need to modernize some fighting platforms that are 15 to 20 years old. Yet to some officials, the Pentagon's reliance on the offerings of defense contractors borders on a dysfunctional dependency. "We can beat the Chinese or the Russians, but we can't beat Lockheed Martin or Ingalls Shipbuilding," says Army Lt. Col. Ralph Peters, an intelligence analyst who has written widely on strategic planning. "We're spending so much money on aircraft and ships that we'll paralyze the future force." Bases that are no longer needed to support a smaller force also suck up cash. The Pentagon wants to close some of them but has met resistance from Congress.

Such trade-offs make it harder to meet demands on the military today. A classified Pentagon memo written after a Joint Staff war game last spring said the game "made it obvious that we cannot sustain current levels of overseas presence," citing negative effects on "maintenance, personnel, and training readiness." Frederick Kagan, a history professor at West Point, says downsizing alone would make it difficult for the United States to fight even one regional war today. The Army, he says, has only six heavy divisions—too few to field the six division equivalents that fought in the Persian Gulf war while still leaving one division in South Korea to deter an invasion from the north. John Correll, editor of Air Force magazine, points out that the Pentagon said it would take 24 fighter wings to win two wars when it first scripted that scenario in 1993. The Air

Force has since been cut to 20 fighter wings, but the Pentagon says this is still enough.

Perhaps most significant is that the declining emphasis on war fighting is not being managed—it is just happening haphazardly as units cut whatever corners on training time and war-fighting preparations they can in order to fulfill assigned missions or meet their budgets. In the Persian Gulf region, for instance, there are usually anywhere from 100 to 300 aircraft enforcing the no-fly zone over southern Iraq. Pilots of F-15, F-16, and A-10 jets typically fly four-hour patrols that consist mainly of "left-hand turns." The flights are so routine and uneventful that pilots pass the time asking each other trivia questions over their radios. During 45- to 90-day tours in the desert, pilots spend so little time practicing combat maneuvers that when they return home, it takes two to three months of training before they are considered fully ready for war again. A 1997 Rand study even suggests that repetitive air patrols may amount to "negative training," desensitizing crews to dangers and degrading their situational awareness.

Synergy. Those problems on their own may be manageable. But shortfalls in training, readiness, and manpower often feed on one another, multiplying the impact of each. For the 69th Fighter Squadron at Moody Air Force Base in Georgia—which soon will leave for a 60-day rotation enforcing the Iraqi no-fly zone—a shortage of spare parts means ground crews must regularly "cannibalize" jets, taking parts from one to make another fly. That is not a new practice. But the wing's recent cannibalization rate, which measures parts taken from jets versus missions flown, has topped 25 percent, three times higher than its 8 percent goal. Overall, the wing's goal is a mission-capable rate of 80 to 84 percent; but rates have been below 70 percent for over a year. The mission-capable rate for all F-16s belonging to Air Combat Command is 77 percent, down from 90 percent in 1989; for F-15 air-to-air fighters the rate has fallen from 85 percent to 77 percent.

With a smaller military, troops are being sent more frequently on drawn-out missions such as those in Bosnia—which President Clinton last month declared to be an open-ended commitment—and the Persian Gulf, where the U.S. commitment is 7 years old and growing. Increasingly long deployments away from home and aggressive hiring by growing commercial airlines are driving many pilots out of the Air Force once they have fulfilled their seven-year commitment. In the A-10 squadron at Moody, six out of the nine pilots eligible to leave this year decided to do so—despite increased bonuses of up to \$22,000 for staying in. Throughout the Air Force, retention rates for pilots fell to an estimated 75 percent in 1997, down 12 points from 1995 levels. The Air Force has had other pilot crunches—in the early 1980s, for example, when airlines were aggressively luring away fliers—but the problem then was not exacerbated by budget cuts and increased missions, as it is now.

The Air Force is compensating by running more people through flight school—but with junior pilots replacing senior ones, there could soon be a sharp drop in overall experience levels. Mechanics and other key personnel are also affected. One C-130 pilot says: "We're getting a lot of [mechanics] with no C-130 experience. They ask, 'How do you turn this thing on?' If he's asking how to turn it on and it's his job to fix the system, there's obviously a problem." Many pilots fear that such shortages could lead to more accidents.

The Army faces similar strains. After one infantry unit returned from a peacekeeping

mission in Macedonia in 1994—where it went without its Bradley fighting vehicles—it received the lowest score in its division on tests of its ability to shoot and operate its Bradleys. A Rand study to be released within the next month found that Army troops sent frequently on peace operations, such as military police and certain transportation units, are underprepared for their wartime tasks.

As the service most dependent on people, the Army is particularly vulnerable to ripple effects that begin with personnel shortfalls. A lack of infantrymen, mechanics, and mid-grade officers forces the Army to stitch units together in order to field the appropriate force for missions in places such as Bosnia. That in turn breaks up units, undermining the cohesion needed for infantry, tanks, artillery, and aviation to fight as "combined arms"—a level of performance critical to success in modern combat.

The 1st Armored Division in Germany epitomizes the problem. It has two staffs—one in Germany, one in Bosnia—and troops in at least three different regions. "The logic of maintaining readiness is thrown astray by this piecemeal discombobulation," says an Army general. The Joint Chiefs of Staff have begun to study what would happen if units doing peace operations were suddenly needed in a war—or two wars. Early findings: Moving troops out of one place and into a war zone would "put a strain on an already fragile transportation system," according to one classified Pentagon document. Another cites "many more risks"—including the potential loss of equipment in a hasty withdrawal and the two to six months it would take to retrain units for war.

Above all, some fear that soldiers are not learning the basic lessons needed to succeed in war. Units going through the National Training Center or the Joint Readiness Training Center in Louisiana are barely more than half staffed, says retired Marine Corps Gen. John Sheehan. That, the Senate Budget Committee report noted, violates the Army's doctrine to "train just as you go to war."

"We're raising a generation of young leaders who are not learning to run large organizations," says Sheehan. "They won't know how to command their troops even if they get them all in a war." More important may be the messages sent by top commanders. "We have no leaders talking to us about how important it is to prepare your soldiers for battle so they don't die in combat," says an Army major. "It's disheartening to many of us." That may also be causing deeper problems not easily fixed by more funding, higher-tech weapons, or better training. "The brass are refusing to stand up for the warrior spirit," says John Hillen, a Persian Gulf war veteran and fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. Recent imbroglios over the proper role of women in the military have added to the distractions.

Hanging tough. Top Pentagon leaders insist the military is not going soft. In an interview last week, Gen. Henry Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, dismissed comparisons between the demoralized force of the 1970s and today's. "There is a world of difference between where we were then and where we are now," he said. "We have a tremendously talented bunch of young men and women." Nor does Shelton believe that anecdotal reports of problems, on their own, indicate a readiness shortfall. He and others say that the Pentagon's carefully monitored readiness statistics do not indicate serious degradations in the force.

But those figures—which measure how long it would take a unit to be ready for

war—are somewhat subjective, based on commanders' own estimates of how well their troops are trained. Some doubt their validity. "The readiness rates are false," one Army colonel flatly states. "There is a lot of pressure from higher-ups to inflate them. It's like all the students are getting A's, then flunking the final exam." Shelton does acknowledge some readiness "issues," particularly problems with highly skilled troops leaving the service. Some senior and retired leaders who served during the 1970s think those are ominous signs. They say that readiness tends to slip gradually at first—but at a point begins to drop precipitously, and then becomes very hard to reverse.

The Pentagon has protected some of its key units from cutbacks and other distractions. The 2nd Infantry Division in South Korea, for example, which could absorb the brunt of a North Korean invasion with less than three days' notice, is staffed at over 100 percent, including some "augmentees" from the South Korean Army. Commanders are so focused on war they are almost scornful of any other type of mission. "We don't face the same problems stateside units do," says Lt. Col. Robert Sweeney, former commander of the 4th Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment. "My focus is clear. I'm not going to be doing humanitarian operations." Even though assignments to Korea are considered a "hardship tour"—an entire year's deployment, with no family allowed for most troops—commanders say a clear focus, and a ready enemy, make it easy to sustain morale.

JSTARS, where are you? But even there the tip of the spear may be getting duller, U.S. military planners in South Korea say budget constraints and competing demands elsewhere keep them from getting enough access to "special mission" assets such as Joint STARS surveillance aircraft, F-117 stealth fighters, and F-15E strike jets. "We're being told to be more efficient," says an intelligence staffer in Seoul. "But efficiency doesn't cut it in war. Redundancy does." Some analysts think new technology may greatly reduce the numbers of ground troops and conventional platforms needed in a war. But relying on new systems before they are battle tested leaves troops feeling they have less margin for error.

Shortfalls appear to be more serious in the Persian Gulf, where a rematch with Iraq would probably come with more advance warning—but still be bloody. A radar operator who has worked at an airfield in Kuwait says there are no longer any backups for the facility's radar, the only ground-based system available for tracking nearby aircraft, including enemy planes. "We're a forward operating unit and we still don't get what we need," he says. "When that baby goes down and you realize there's no backup, you start saying, 'Where is the priority?'"

Troops' morale, an intangible but essential ingredient of success in combat, can weather temporary problems. But persistent shortages and seemingly never-ending commitments take a toll. "Troops don't understand why, if what they do is so important, they don't give us the tools to do it," says Lt. Col. Michael Snodgrass, commander of the 69th Fighter Squadron at Moody Air Force Base. Enthusiasm suffers first. Before Desert Storm, says Col. Billy Diehl, acting commander of Moody's 347th Wing, the Air Force's annual Red Flag aerial combat exercise "was the highlight of the year." But in 1996, when he arrived at Moody, "everybody was thrilled that it was canceled."

A more important casualty is confidence. A C-130 pilot says that due to training cut-

backs, "My own skills are nowhere near where they were. Some of the new guys, I'm deathly afraid to go to war with them. They just don't have the training." John Stillion, a former Air Force navigator and Rand analyst, says that on a recent visit to an Air Force base, morale was "far worse than I've ever seen it. I'm amazed at how bitter they sounded."

Surprisingly, few in the military—which studies show is overwhelmingly conservative today—feel the solution is to withdraw from its peacekeeping missions in the world's trouble spots. One typical Army colonel strongly objects to the political gamesmanship of setting unrealistic deadlines for troop adjustments in places such as Bosnia. But nonetheless, he believes U.S. troops should be there: "It is appropriate use of the military, mainly because nobody else can do it."

Some practical steps could help strike a better balance between preparing for war and preserving peace. Many in the Army would like to see the National Guard shoulder more of the burden for peacekeeping. Rand researchers and others argue that a more modular structure would make the Army much more flexible. Ideas include self-supporting combat groups of about 5,000 troops—one third the size of a division—or discrete support units that can each carry out a variety of functions, instead of specializing in transportation or engineering. Some in the Air Force are pushing a "cop on the beat" approach, enforcing no-fly zones with random patrols, augmented by sensors that detect air and ground movements.

But what America's troops crave most is a clear message from their leaders stating the purpose of U.S. forces. Are they warriors, whose main job is to fight and win wars? Or police assigned to prop up struggling nations and keep the world safe for American commerce? If U.S. forces must fulfill both roles, how can they do each well? Many members of the military believe that before those questions can be answered, there needs to be greater awareness of what U.S. troops accomplish by being everywhere they are—and what risks are involved in spreading them ever thinner. "We need a better understanding among the American public that we have interests outside the United States," says Lt. Gen. Joseph Hurd, commander of the 7th Air Force in South Korea. Once those interests are sorted out, it wouldn't hurt to inform the troops in the ranks, either.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HUTCHINSON). The Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 15 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE BUDGET SURPLUS

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, as we convene today for the second session of the 105th Congress, there is important work ahead of us. I am certain my colleagues join me in acknowledging that regardless of the headlines and the commotion that is going on outside this chamber, the Senate cannot be distracted from its responsibility to carry out the will of the people. America's families, its taxpayers, have great expectations of us, and we must not let them down. So I look forward to what

we can accomplish together on their behalf.

I have to admit, though, that I have mixed feelings about the session ahead of us. I think Will Rogers explained my predicament best when he said, "This country has come to feel the same when Congress is in session as when the baby gets hold of a hammer."

When the baby finds the hammer, somebody almost always gets hit over the head. In 1998, the "hammer" is the much-anticipated budget surplus, and I am afraid it may very well be the taxpayers who get whacked by it.

Earlier this month, the Congressional Budget Office projected that the federal deficit would decline sharply this year from its original estimate of \$125 billion to \$5 billion. It also forecast a \$14 billion surplus in 2001 and a total of \$665 billion in surpluses by the end of the next decade.

Now, tax dollars are always considered "free money" by the big spenders here in Washington, and the thought of all that new "free money" is creating a feeding frenzy here on Capitol Hill. The rush to spend is like something right off the Discovery Channel, like the free-for-all that results when a pack of hungry predators gets hold of a piece of raw meat. A ravenous creature in its own right, Washington will attack a pile of tax dollars and spend, spend, spend until it is all gone—until the bones have been stripped of every last morsel of meat.

Mr. President, with all due respect to my colleagues in both chambers, I am disgusted by this "stampede to spend," and angry that it is being championed on both sides of the political aisle. I am a Republican, elected by the people of Minnesota to carry out my promise to lower their taxes and rein in a federal government that has grown out of control. Republicans gained control of Congress because we are the champions of the taxpayers—the American people trusted us to carry out our promise when we said, "Elect a Republican majority and we will help you build a better life for yourselves and families by curbing Washington's impulse to spend your precious tax dollars."

They certainly did not elect Republicans thinking we would build a bigger, more expensive government the first chance we got.

Not only are we rushing to join the spending stampede, but we are doing it before the budget is actually balanced, before a surplus actually exists, before even a single surplus dollar makes its way into the federal treasury.

If this is a race to prove who can be the most "compassionate" with the taxpayers' dollars, it is a race nobody is going to win, and one the taxpayers most certainly will lose. When is Washington going to understand that you cannot buy compassion? And Washington cannot give something to Americans, without taking more from Americans. I hear the big spenders say that

Americans are struggling so Washington needs to do more. And "more" always means taking more from Americans so Washington can control, shape, and direct our families and our lives.

Who is going to stand up in this chamber for the taxpayers if the Republicans will not? If our party is abandoning our commitment to fiscal responsibility—the commitment that built a congressional majority—we are abandoning the taxpayers as well. And do not think the taxpayers have not noticed. One of my constituents, Dale Rook of Beardsley, Minnesota, summed up the feelings of many in a recent letter: "It appears that the Democrats are still in control of both Houses of Congress," he wrote. "Why? What has happened to the Republican Party?" he wrote. A lot of us are asking that very same question.

Of course, the Republicans do not have a monopoly here when it comes to spending. I am deeply troubled by what is happening on Capitol Hill among both parties, and every taxpayer ought to be as well. And as a Senator representing the nation's families—America's hard-working, taxpaying families—I pledge that they will not be forgotten.

Let me speak specifically about the deficit and the anticipated surplus. Both Congress and the President have rushed to claim the credit for the decline in the federal deficit. Mr. President, I think we should give credit where credit is due. In this case, the credit really belongs to the robust American economy and the working Americans who propel it. And Washington should not be allowed to take that away from American families, workers, and business. Washington should not gain more control of our spending.

The economy, not any government action, has produced this unprecedented revenue windfall. These unexpected dollars have come directly from working Americans—taxes paid by corporations, individuals and investors. If the economy continues to generate 8 percent revenue growth as in recent years, we could soon enjoy unified budget surpluses.

However, Mr. President, we must remember this is a surplus only under a unified budget. That means Social Security surpluses that the government borrowed to pay its bills are also counted in the projection. Payroll taxes from the current generation of workers provides far more money than is needed to finance benefits for today's retirees; the extra money is used for other government programs. Without borrowing from the Social Security trust funds, the real federal deficit could be \$116 billion, rather than a \$14 billion surplus in 2001. In fact, the total deficit will be nearly a trillion in the next ten years. This means we will see deficits, not surpluses, as far as the eye can see.

In any event, if the budget surpluses, indeed, occur, with or without Social Security borrowing, the question of how to apply these surpluses remains critical. In my view, the right way to use any potential budget surplus is to return those funds to working Americans and their children in the form of meaningful tax relief, national debt reduction, and channeling them toward solutions to our long-term financial imbalances, thus ensuring our economy continues to grow. Since the unexpected revenue has come directly from working Americans, it is only fair to return it to them. Despite the first, tentative steps we took last year toward real tax reform for families, the tax burden on the American people is still historically high. It is sound policy to use part of the surpluses to lower the tax burden and allow families to keep a little more of their hard-earned money.

Over the past 30 years, we have amassed a \$5.5 trillion national debt thanks to Washington's culture of spending. A newborn child today will bear about \$20,000 of that debt the moment he or she comes into the world. Each year, we sink more \$250 billion into the black hole of interest payments, which could be better spent fighting crime, maintaining roads and bridges, and equipping the military. It is sound policy to use part of any surpluses to begin paying down the national debt and reducing the financial burden on the next generations.

The budget surpluses also give us a great opportunity to address our other long-term financial imbalances. Federal unfunded liabilities could eventually top \$14 trillion, bankrupting our government if no real reform occurs. It is vitally important that we use the budget surpluses to finance these reforms, not to try to buy popularity—spending in the name of compassion and need, while putting our entire futures at financial risk.

If we fail to fix these long-term fiscal time bombs, the federal deficit could come back and haunt us in a catastrophic way, shattering the health of our future economy and placing an unbearable burden on our children and grandchildren. According to the CBO, the federal deficit would increase to \$11 trillion and the national debt would balloon to \$91 billion in 2035 without substantial entitlement reform.

Some of my colleagues have suggested that we put the surpluses into the Social Security trust funds. I generally agree that we should build real assets for the trust funds by returning borrowed Social Security surplus into it. But our Social Security system is in serious financial trouble—a fiscal disaster-in-the-making that is not sustainable in its present form as the Senator from New Hampshire outlined a few minutes ago. Simply funneling money back into a broken system will

not help fix the problem. It will not build the real assets of the funds for current and future beneficiaries and it does not address the flaws of the current pay-as-you-go finance mechanism. Without fundamental reform, the system will consume all the surpluses and go broke. Using the budget surpluses to build real assets by changing the system from pay-go to pre-funded is the right way to go.

The wrong way is to spend all those dollars on new government programs, which is exactly what President Clinton has proposed to do, even before a surplus is realized. The President has recklessly planned to expand Medicare, rather than reforming it to preserve it from soon going broke. He is also seeking a \$22 billion increase in child-care expenditures and subsidies. This is after Washington increased child care expenditures by 500% in the last two years, going from \$4 billion to \$20 billion a year just one year ago. Although I think it is good to bring tax credits back to the table, it is wrong for Washington to control daycare for American families. The President also wants to throw more money into federal education programs for local schools without addressing the real problems of the system. And advocating Washington take more control of education rather than State and local governments and local school boards.

Despite the President's rhetoric that the era of big government is over, President Clinton, with the help of congressional spenders, has made it even bigger. Actual annual government spending has increased from \$1.3 trillion to \$1.6 trillion since Mr. Clinton took the White House, adding over \$1.2 trillion to the national debt.

Even under the '97 budget agreement, spending will increase to nearly \$1.9 trillion in 2002, a growth of 18 percent over 1992 levels. Is there any sign of leaner government anywhere? No. Like the overweight diner who lunches on lettuce and peaches with the family then sneaks a pint of ice cream once the kitchen lights have been turned off, the enablers of big government profess their new-found fiscal restraint but hungrily pounce on your tax dollars at the first opportunity.

We must never, never, never repeat the mistake we made in 1997. If you will remember, as soon as the CBO discovered a \$225 billion revenue windfall that "might" be received by the federal government in the next six years, Congress and the President spent all of it, to expand existing programs and create new programs. Not a penny is left. Few wasteful and unnecessary programs were eliminated. The savings we achieved through welfare reform are almost completely wiped out.

If the budget surpluses are not returned to the American people in the form of debt reduction or tax relief, I am absolutely certain Congress and President Clinton will spend them all

for new and expanded government programs. When it is paid for by the taxpayers, Washington has never been able to resist raiding the freezer for that late-night pint of ice cream.

Listen to what the people are saying. A Time/CNN poll conducted in mid January reveals that most Americans—78 percent of them—believe that spending the budget surplus to reduce the national debt should be a top priority. Sixty-eight percent also favored using the surplus to cut federal income taxes.

I'm hearing that same message in the calls, faxes, letters, and e-mails I have received this month. Here are the words of Mark Keppel of Minneapolis:

I want you to know how strongly your constituency feel that you do not allow those feeding at the taxpayer trough to waste this opportunity to reduce our huge current debt burden.

These tax collections are over-collections of our money, and we wish to either reduce our outstanding debt or have this surplus returned to us, not reallocated to new, unfunded projects. Can that be any clearer?

Brian Tice, a 27-year-old constituent of mine from Anoka, was equally clear. "If our country is bankrupted," he wrote, "my lifetime of savings and my retirement will go down with it. I encourage you to stand firm against those . . . who will pressure you into spending the surplus on social and special interest programs."

After hundreds of billions of new spending and over a trillion in new debts, President Clinton announced on January 5th that he will submit a balanced budget to Congress for the 1999 fiscal year. I am encouraged by his announcement. I welcome the President's intention to balance the budget. But why wait another year?

The robust economy has offered us a historic opportunity to finally put our fiscal house in order. We should, and can, balance the budget this year by trimming just a few wasteful government-spending programs.

Compared to nearly \$1.7 trillion in annual government spending, a \$5 billion spending cut is peanuts. And if we can achieve it, it will balance the federal budget for the first time since 1969, and think of the positive impact it would have on our economy. That is why my colleagues, Senators BROWNBACK, INHOFE, ASHCROFT, ALLARD, HUTCHINSON and myself sent a letter to the congressional leadership early this month, urging Congress and the President to work together to achieve a balanced budget this year, rather than the next year, by rescinding \$5 billion from the 1998 budget.

More importantly, the sooner we balance our budget the less pain we will suffer in the future. As I said earlier, the long-term fiscal time bombs we are facing require that we take action quickly. Escalating Social Security and Medicare costs pose the primary threat to the federal government's

long-term solvency. We have only ten-year's time to fix Social Security. If it is mishandled, millions of Americans could suffer. Medicare is already in a horrific situation. It has accumulated over a trillion-dollar deficit and will soon be broke. Immediate action has to be taken to preserve and improve it.

There are trillions of other federal unfunded liabilities that we cannot ignore. These include entitlement programs other than Social Security and Medicare: federal civilian and military pensions, railroad retirement benefits, federal insurance programs, bank deposit insurance, private pension insurance, and a huge portfolio of guaranteed loans, environmental cleanup, and deferred maintenance and life-cycle costs for equipment and infrastructure—all of which have some risk of going sour and costing the government substantial sums down the road.

If we balance the budget this year, it will give us a little more time and a little more flexibility to focus on and fix these long-term financial liabilities.

Mr. President, I began this statement by quoting Will Rogers. As I conclude, let me quote him once again:

There is not a man in the country that cannot make a living for himself and family. But he cannot make a living for them and his government, too, the way his government is living. What the government has got to do is live as cheap as the people.

Our immediate task should be to regain the confidence of the American people by achieving a balanced budget and keeping it balanced by shrinking the size of the government. That is, by asking government to live as cheap as the people. By doing so, we will reduce interest rates, increase national savings, create more jobs, provide more meaningful tax cuts, and generate more revenues. More importantly, we will shrink the financial burden for our children and grandchildren.

As the Senate meets today to open the second session of the 105th Congress, I urge my colleagues to recall the promises they have made to the American taxpayers. Embrace those promises, and put the needs and desires of the people ahead of the impulse to leave a legacy of compassion—a legacy that could bury the taxpayers if left unchecked. Let us work with the President to achieve a balanced budget this year and begin a new era of government accountability.

Thank you very much, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 8 minutes as in morning business, to be followed immediately by my colleague, Senator ALLARD, for 8 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from Colorado is recognized.

Mr. CAMPBELL. I thank the Chair. (The remarks of Mr. CAMPBELL and Mr. ALLARD pertaining to the submis-

sion of S. Res. 166 and S. Res. 167 are located in today's RECORD under "Submission of Concurrent and Senate Resolutions.")

DARTON COLLEGE

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize an outstanding institution in my home state of Georgia, Darton College.

Recently, I was contacted by one of the school's students who wrote to express his pride and support of his school and the educational opportunity that he is being provided. Mr. President, it is my belief that the finest accolade a school can receive is the praise of its students and, in turn, their success.

There are many battles on the American playing field each day, in the business world, political world, the judicial world, but none can be more important than those being fought in the classrooms of our learning institutions. Because, after all, our nation depends on these educational institutions to provide us with the necessary tools to win the other battles we encounter in our lifetime.

Mr. President, with that in mind, I would like to express my support for continued success and prosperity for past, current and future students, faculty and staff of Darton College.

1997 FALL PAGES

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, when the first session of the 105th Congress ended last November, a group of young men and women also ended their term as United States Senate Pages. Today, I rise on behalf of the Senate to say "thank you" to these young people.

Pages are an integral part of our daily life here in the Senate, and I salute them for their tireless service, and would like to express the appreciation of the Senate for their fine work.

Many people, Senators included, may not fully appreciate the rigorous nature of page life. Their daily routine is not an easy one, and is one that begins early each morning. Senate pages rise early in order to attend classes. Upon concluding class work, the pages make their way to the Capitol to prepare for the day's session. Preparing the Senate Chamber for a day's session entails securing and placing on each Senator's desk the appropriate legislative documents that will be under discussion during the session, as well as securing supplemental documents that become available throughout the day.

Pages are on the go constantly, and are called upon to perform a variety of tasks—in addition to their tasks associated with preparing the Senate chamber for daily sessions. These might include obtaining documents requested by individual Senators, running errands between the Capitol and the Senate office buildings, as well as assisting

Cloakroom personnel at the regularly scheduled conference luncheons.

Once the Senate has concluded business for the day, the pages return to their dorm and prepare for the next day's classes and, we hope, get some much-needed sleep. While a day in the life of a page is filled from morning to night, each page continually discharges his or her tasks efficiently and cheerfully.

In the first session of the 105th Congress, these young people witnessed the enactment of a balanced budget agreement ironed out between the Administration and the Congress that will soon result in a balanced budget. This historic event was the result of months of negotiations and required both sides, Democrats and Republicans, to be willing to accede on policy issues of importance to each side—the give and take of the legislative process.

Mr. President, our country's future lies with the generation of those young people who sit to the left and right of the Presiding officer.

I hope that some of what the pages have witnessed here will inspire them to pursue a career of public service. As they have returned to their hometowns, perhaps they have taken with them an appreciation and better understanding of our system of government and the importance of the legislative process. Perhaps in the years ahead, one or more of that group will return here to serve as members of the Senate.

Again, I say goodbye to the pages and hope that they all enjoyed their experience in the United States Senate. Speaking on behalf of my Democratic colleagues and all members of the Senate, we wish for them a bright and successful future.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the names of the 1997 Fall Senate pages be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the names were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

1997 FALL PAGES
REPUBLICANS

Adamson, Justin, Idaho.
Austin, Chesley, Vermont.
Bowers, Jackson, South Carolina.
Brown, Sarah, New Hampshire.
Dorn, Lauren, South Carolina.
Grade, Renee, Washington.
Holson, William, Delaware.
Jaussi, Richard, Utah.
Johnson, Junior, South Carolina.
Martira, Nancy, Rhode Island.
Maurer, Michelle, Arkansas.
McFerron, Ben, Maryland.
Moody, Justin, Alaska.
Ordner, David, Indiana.
Parker, Marisa, Mississippi.
Satcher, Bess, South Carolina.
Shevlin, Thomas, New York.
Studdert, Michael, Utah.

DEMOCRATS

Eschenbacher, Christian, Montana.
Graff, Garrett, Vermont.
Knowles, James, Oregon.
Koontz, Megan, Iowa.

Larson, Tiffany, South Dakota.
Lichtblau, Daniel, New York.
Miller, Anne, Massachusetts.
Raizada, Avinash, Michigan.
Soriano, Jennifer, Hawaii.
Towns, Rachel, Wisconsin.
Wiese, Dayton, South Dakota.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, Senators may be intrigued to learn that during the 74 days Congress was in recess, the federal debt increased by more than \$57 billion.

To be exact, the increase (from November 13, 1997 to January 26, 1998) totaled \$57,033,087,681.31 (Fifty-seven billion, thirty-three million, eighty-seven thousand, six hundred eighty-one dollars and thirty-one cents).

This increase is a blunt reminder that even when Congress takes a break, the federal debt does not. The federal debt will continue to soar unless and until Congress changes the status quo. Presently, each citizen's share of the national debt is \$20,424.89.

Mr. President, with this in mind, let me begin where we left off:

At the close of business yesterday, Monday, January 26, 1998, the federal debt stood at \$5,487,280,357,810.54 (Five trillion, four hundred eighty-seven billion, two hundred eighty million, three hundred fifty-seven thousand, eight hundred ten dollars and fifty-four cents).

Five years ago, January 26, 1993, the federal debt stood at \$4,171,138,000,000 (four trillion, one hundred seventy-one billion, one hundred thirty-eight million).

Ten years ago, January 26, 1988, the federal debt stood at \$2,448,079,000,000 (Two trillion, four hundred forty-eight billion, seventy-nine million).

Fifteen years ago, January 26, 1983, the federal debt stood at \$1,196,856,000,000 (One trillion, one hundred ninety-six billion, eight hundred fifty-six million).

Twenty-five years ago, January 26, 1973, the federal debt stood at \$449,476,000,000 (Four hundred forty-nine billion, four hundred seventy-six million) which reflects a debt increase of over \$5 trillion—\$5,037,804,357,810.54 (Five trillion, thirty-seven billion, eight hundred four million, three hundred fifty-seven thousand, eight hundred ten dollars and fifty-four cents) during the past 25 years.

Mr. DORGAN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COATS). The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, we are in morning business and allowed to speak for 10 minutes; is that correct?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

SECOND SESSION OF THE 105TH
CONGRESS

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, as we begin a new year in the U.S. Congress,

the second session of this Congress, I look forward with anticipation to a number of issues we must address. I hope we can do that in a bipartisan way, and I hope we will not be distracted by a lot of other things that come up during the year and that we will actually accomplish some good things for the country.

I recognize that outside this Chamber there is now a scandal that exists in this country. We will undoubtedly learn the facts about the allegations that have been made, and the American people will make a judgment based upon those facts. That is the way it should be. To make judgments about allegations and about rumors and about planted stories, and so on, before the facts are known is not a proper way to deal with them.

But notwithstanding what is happening outside this Chamber, we have responsibilities here. I was interested to learn that in the first hour and a half of this second session, we had people come to the Chamber of the Senate, once again, and tell us about how our country works and what is wrong with our country. It was interesting to me that the Chamber lights had hardly become warm when we had Members come to the floor to, once again, talk about who the big spenders are. "Oh, the big spenders on this side" and "the big spenders on"—it is interesting that nothing ever changes.

I watched the American music awards show on television last night. I thought to myself as I listened to a bit of this this morning that, had this discussion taken place yesterday, we could have entered some of this dialog for best rap artist or best presentation in rap music. It certainly is a rap. There is no tune there, but they never miss a lyric. It is that this side represents the big spenders.

I just want to begin for a moment today to talk about where we are and how we got here and what our need is this year to address critical issues for this country.

First of all, where are we? We are in a country that is blessed with a very strong economy. Things are going well in this country. Unemployment is down. Welfare is down. Crime is down. Inflation is down. Economic growth is up. More people are working. Things are better in this country.

I heard not too many minutes ago someone say, "But none of that has anything to do with Congress; it has to do with a good economy." I remind Members of Congress that in 1993, this President and this Congress decided to take a tough vote. Are we going to put this country back on track? Are we going to tell the American people that we are serious about wrestling this crippling budget deficit to the ground? Are we going to cast a hard vote, an unpopular vote, a tough vote? The answer was yes. We did, by one vote in the U.S. Senate and one vote in the

U.S. House of Representatives, cut spending. Yes, we increased some taxes, and we said to the American people we are serious about getting this country's fiscal house in order. We are going to wrestle that Federal deficit to the ground. And the fact is, it gave the American people confidence. They said, "These folks are serious; they understand this is a serious problem for this country and they are willing to make tough votes."

I went home to my State and said, "I voted yes. I voted yes because I believe it is the best thing for this country to send a signal to the markets, the American citizens and everyone in this world that this country cares about these issues and we intend, this President intends and this Congress intends, to get our fiscal house in order." And by one vote we passed a plan in 1993 that set this economy off into a universe of economic growth and economic opportunity—by one vote.

This economy rests on people's confidence. If people are confident about the future, they do things that reflect that confidence: They buy cars; they buy houses; they invest; they do things that reflect their confidence about the future. If they are not confident, they make different decisions. Based on people's confidence or lack of it, this economy moves forward or lurches backward.

My point is, for someone to say this is all accidental is to ignore history. This is not accidental. This President deserves some credit for a fiscal policy that was tough and no nonsense and said we care about wrestling this Federal budget deficit to the ground. And this Congress, those of us in it who voted yes on that, participated in it.

I might add, while people are pointing across aisles, as I heard earlier, about big spending in the Congress, we did not even get one vote by accident from the other side of the aisle for a fiscal policy that says we are going to solve this deficit problem.

We come to today with a good economy and, I think, some good news ahead of us. I hope all of us, reaching across the aisle, can decide we have a common agenda. When people sit around their homes in the evening and have supper together and talk about their lives, what do they talk about? They talk about these things: Are our kids going to a good school, getting a good education? Do we have a good job or opportunity for a decent job that pays well with decent benefits? Do our children or grandparents have an opportunity for health care that is good? Can they afford it? Are our streets safe, our neighborhoods safe? Is the air clean, the water we drink safe, the food we eat safe? What about our roads? In what condition are our roads and bridges? And what about family farms and those who produce our food? Those are the issues that people care about and want us to do something about.

Let me tick off about four areas that we have to grapple with quickly. We just heard two discussions a moment ago about surplus. One said we are not spending enough money; we need to spend more on defense. The second one said it is the other folks over here on this side of the aisle who are the big spenders, and so forth, and talked about the surplus. There is no surplus.

The only basis on which anyone can claim they balanced the budget is to take nearly \$100 billion out of Social Security trust funds and use it over in the budget to claim there is a surplus. There is no surplus, and no one in this room ought to be persuaded to spend the surplus that doesn't exist. To the extent we will have a surplus after we have made whole the Social Security funds and used those trust funds for the purpose for which they were intended, when we get to that point, and only when we get to that point, will we have a surplus. And when we do, I think at least a part of that surplus ought to be used to pay down just a part of the Federal debt. In good times, you ought to be able to reduce indebtedness. But no one ought to rush around talking about a surplus that doesn't exist.

I believe that President Clinton will call tonight to use the accumulated revenues that come from a better economy to make good on those trust fund bonds, and that is exactly what we ought to do. No one ought to claim a surplus as long as those who are using those trust funds are using them as operating revenues.

Let me tell the Presiding Officer that, if you look at the Congressional Budget Office, which puts out byzantine reports, their most recent report shows that if a budget which they claim is in balance at some point—next year, I guess—they claim that the debt won't continue to grow. Why will they claim that? Because they don't include all the debt. I have just written them a letter saying you can't give us half-answers and half-truths. The answer is, when they claim the budget is in balance, the Federal debt will continue to increase, which is prima facie evidence that this notion of a budget being in balance when you are misusing Social Security trust funds is a fraud.

Campaign finance reform. We must address it and do it quickly. We had a little house race in New York State. In the middle of that race for one house seat in New York State, \$800,000 of out-of-State money came in under the notion of express issue advocacy, brought in against a candidate—I understand that was not money accountable to anybody; it could be soft money, corporate money—brought in precisely to defeat a congressional candidate, but essentially laundered through a system that now permits that kind of laundering so that no one in that district will ever know whose money it was. Is it unlimited corporate money that goes into this system and then is washed up

through some congressional district someplace to defeat a specific candidate and, therefore, it is not accountable? It is polluting the political system. It is wrong, and anyone in this Chamber who stands up and defends that, in my judgment, doesn't understand what the Founding Fathers decided about this political system of ours.

That ought not be the case, and we ought to take steps to change it. We are going to push and push in this Chamber to get a vote on these issues and get campaign finance reform done. Some will continue to filibuster. They have a right to filibuster, but the American people have a right to expect us to clean up this mess, and the sooner the better.

Health care. We ought to deal with health care. We ought to do that soon. I read in the New York Times about a woman who had fallen in an accident. Her brain was swelling. She was in an ambulance being rushed to the hospital. She had the presence of mind to say to the ambulance drivers, "I don't want to go to the nearest hospital," and she named it by name. "I want to be taken to a hospital farther away." This is a woman with a brain injury, in the back of an ambulance, speeding down the street. She said that because she knew by reputation that when you are wheeled into that nearest hospital, your health is a matter of their bottom line—dollars and cents. She said, "I want to go to a hospital where I am wheeled into an emergency room where they are not going to look at me with respect to dollars and cents."

Managed care. What does it mean to quality of care all across this country? We ought to address that. Do patients have rights? If so, what are the rights? Do they have a right to find out from their doctors in this country what the treatment options are? If not, why not? Who is withholding that information from patients and why? Which patient doesn't get it? Is it some function of a bottom line in some company that is making money off health care? Is it some 24-year-old accountant in some office 200 miles away that is telling a doctor what kind of health care that doctor can perform on that patient and what the doctor can tell that patient about the patient's options? This Congress has a right and a responsibility to deal with those health care issues, and we ought to do it soon in this session.

Mr. President, the issue of education is also critically important. There isn't a country that shortchanges education and remains a strong world-class power. Thomas Jefferson, at the start of this system, said anyone who believes this country can be ignorant and free believes in something that never was and never will be.

We can do things to improve education in the country, but I am not one who believes it is bankrupt. How did we

get to where we are? Does anyone want to leave this country to find better health care somewhere else? Do you know anybody who wants to go to a world-class university who looks overseas? Most of them are here in this country.

I am not one who says it is a bankrupt system, but we can improve it. We ought to get reports on our schools. We get reports about our kids. As parents and taxpayers, we deserve a report card about how our schools are doing in educating our kids.

Finally, Mr. President, we need to deal with the highway bill, and we need to do that quickly. On our agenda, we ought to decide tomorrow the highway bill ought to be brought to the floor of the Senate. We were supposed to have done it last year and didn't. And we were told now it will be the first item on the agenda this year.

I am told it may wait until the budget bill. I appeared on a television program this morning with the chairman of the relevant committee in the House of Representatives. He says, well, he is ready to bring up the bill in the House, but he has an agreement with the Speaker not to bring it up until the budget bill. That means 2, 3, or 4 months from now. That cannot happen.

We cannot wait 3 or 4 months for a highway bill that was supposed to have been passed last year. You do that and you have contractors in States that cannot do bid lettings, you have people being laid off of projects where the project should go forward to build and repair roads and bridges. So we cannot do that.

We need to expect, in the next day or two, that the majority leader will do what he told us he would do; that is, bring the highway bill to the floor of the Senate. Let us debate it and let us move it out.

Oh, they are worried about an amendment that is going to be offered to it. I understand that. But, you know, you can worry about amendments forever. Bring the bill to the floor, let us have a vote on the amendments and send the bill to conference—and let us put some pressure on the Speaker to do the same on the House side—and get a highway bill out so the American people can have some certainty about what kind of investment we are going to make in bridges and roads and repairs and the building of that infrastructure.

People pay taxes. It goes into a trust fund to do it. And I think they should be able to expect that we are going to do what is necessary.

Finally, Mr. President—and I know the Senator from Minnesota is waiting to speak so I will finish—I want to say, in the midst of all that is happening in this country now, there are some who perhaps get discouraged about this process of ours. And I understand why that can be the case. It is an unusual process.

A free and open democratic society is in some cases a society that does not look good from time to time. And yet, if you look at our system through a couple hundred years of very successful democracy, you see as democracies pass through angst and anxiety and pain and suffering and all the other things, it tends to make an open and democratic society make tough, thoughtful decisions about its future.

We have abolished slavery. We have survived depressions. We have defeated Hitler. We have cured polio. We have sent people to the Moon. I mean, we can talk a lot about what this country has endured and what this country has done.

My only point is, I do not think any of us ought to at this point in time be discouraged about democracy and about Congress and about our Government and about the press and about all the institutions in our lives. It is a good place to be. I do not know of anybody who wants to go elsewhere. I do not know of anybody who wants to exchange it for some other location in the world.

We should not be discouraged. Our job, it seems to me, is to do our work for the American people. And there is plenty of work to do. I have mentioned some—education, health care, finish the job on fiscal policy, deal with highways, deal with campaign finance reform, and more. And that is just a start.

I am here and I am ready, and I hope my colleagues feel the same. We ought to join hands and say there are things that Democrats and Republicans believe in and can do together. And we will be persuaded to do that if we can just turn off the rap music, turn off the rap that one side is all wrong and the other side is all right, one side is big spenders and the other side is not.

I finally say this. I do not think there is a plugged nickel's worth of difference between the two aisles in the U.S. Senate—Republicans and Democrats—in terms of how much they want to spend. Is there a difference on what they want to spend money for? Absolutely. But I will guarantee you, for everybody who stands up on one side of the aisle wanting to spend money on one program, there is somebody on the other side standing there saying, "No. I want it spent on my priorities." What we need to do is join together and, through this process, find the right priorities for this country's future.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. WELLSTONE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that morning business be extended for 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator is recognized to speak for 10 minutes.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I thank the Chair.

ARTICLE BY ROBERT REICH

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that an article in this past Sunday's New York Times Magazine, "When Naptime Is Over, The placid public mood is an illusion. Real Issues rumble beneath the calm and could soon send a wake-up call," by Robert Reich, former Secretary of Labor, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the New York Times Magazine, Jan. 25, 1998]

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO POLITICS?

(By Robert B. Reich)

There's no longer any political news, a reporter friend confided recently, explaining why "human interest" stories were oozing like syrup across his newspaper's front pages. We're in the Bland Decade now, a time when citizens march on Washington not to affect politics but to vow they'll be better people and when politicians speak out mainly to urge niceness: volunteer your time, enter into dialogues on race, hire someone off welfare, please. Apparently we need little more than charity, moral uplift and perhaps a modest program or two. Politics is dead, or so it seems.

The easiest explanation for this torpor is that the nation is fat, like an overstuffed bear starting hibernation. It's no longer the economy, stupid. Six years ago, a prolonged recession hurt white-collar workers, giving some urgency to the politics of "change." Prosperity, though, is a powerful sedative. Forget politics for now, we seem to be saying. Let's compare stock portfolios, banter about culture and identity and tut-tut over problems decades hence, like an insolvent Social Security trust fund or excessive greenhouse gases.

The great economic contests have been won. Communism vanished before it was even vanquished. The Japanese competitive threat is now a sorry heap of bad debt. European welfare states heave under double-digit unemployment. And here in the land of plenty we've never had it so good. Wealth is exploding, unemployment is at a 24-year low, inflation is quiescent (the Federal Reserve Board chairman, Alan Greenspan, publicly raised concerns about *deflation*), the stock market is riding high. American capitalism is the envy of the world.

But look more closely and the easy explanation falls short. Most Americans don't have it so good. They have jobs, but most wages and benefits are stuck or continue to drop. Wealth has exploded at the top, but the wages of people in the bottom half are lower today in terms of purchasing power than they were in 1989, before the last recession. This is in sharp contrast to every previous recovery in the postwar period. Corporate downsizing and mass layoffs are still the order of the day, which partly explains why so few workers demand raises in this tight labor market. They'd rather keep their jobs.

The reality is that Wall Street's advance hasn't been widely shared. The richest 1 percent hold more than 35 percent of the nation's wealth. The typical middle-class family has no more than \$7,000 in stocks and \$12,500 in mutual funds, according to a 1995 survey by the Federal Reserve and the Treasury Department. Even the recent market surge isn't likely to have changed this very much, given what has happened to wages.

Whatever savings Americans do have are imperiled by hospital bills. A growing portion of the public lacks health insurance—in 1989, 33 million Americans under age 65 were without it; by 1996, 41.3 million. (The President's proposal to extend Medicare coverage to early retirees and displaced workers as young as 55, which would be the largest expansion in 25 years, is expected to add only 300,000 to the rolls.)

Despite the boom, inequality has widened. The nation's poverty rate is slightly higher than it was before the last recession. In 1989, 12.6 million, or 19.6 percent, of the nation's children lived in poverty; now it's 14.5 million, or 20.5 percent. The Conference of Mayors reports rising demand for food and shelter among the homeless. And the successes of the civil rights movement notwithstanding, today's urban schools are more racially segregated than in the 1980's.

So why, then, the prevailing political somnolence? Traditional politics has been all about who's gaining and who's losing. Yet it has lately become unfashionable, indeed in poor taste, to notice such things. In the present upbeat climate, downbeat data are slightly subversive. It is necessary to minimize all worry about the economy lest the public lose confidence, a perfect tautology. Bankers and business leaders have become cheerleaders in the nationwide pep rally. Onward! Upward!

Recent polls show, accordingly, high rates of consumer confidence. A record 40 percent of consumers queried in the Conference Board's December survey called jobs "plentiful," although, tellingly, only 28 percent expected their own wages to rise. These are the ones who have heard the distant roar of surging wealth and assume that the rising tide will lift them, too—which may explain the record level of consumer debt. Personal bankruptcies are also at a record high.

Will politics revive when the economic tide ebbs and hardships appear like shipwrecks on the tidal flats? Not necessarily. Even in 1992, with the nation mired in recession, political engagement was grudging. Americans wanted "change" to get the economy moving again. But there was no sense of moral urgency. It was simply time to replace old management with new. Most Americans had long before stopped believing in government as a force for much good in their lives.

Some people will say we don't need a vital politics to be a vital society. We can expand the circle of prosperity through grass-roots moral activism, spearheaded by community groups, socially responsible businesses, not-for-profits, religious organizations and compassionate individuals—perhaps all deftly linked by fax and modem, a "virtual" social movement. Commentators rightly stress the importance of such civic engagement. But they make a serious mistake labeling it as an alternative to politics. Throughout our history, civic activism has been the precursor, and the propellant, of political movements.

Almost a century ago, American politics appeared similarly listless despite growing social problems. As today, the economy was booming, jobs were plentiful and vast for-

tunes were being accumulated. Yet real wages had stopped growing, and the gulf between rich and poor was widening into a chasm. New technologies (steam engines, railway locomotives, the telephones, steam turbines, electricity) were transforming the nation, pulling families off the farms and immigrants from aboard and depositing many into fetid slums. Wall Street magnates were consolidating their empires. Government was effectively bought by large corporations, and the broad public was deeply cynical. William McKinley won re-election—legended has it, on a pledge to "stand pat"—and as the century closed, the nation seemed politically comatose.

Within three years, however, there was an outburst of reform: muckrakers like Lincoln Steffens and Ida Tarbell exposed corruption, and the middle class demanded fundamental change; small businessmen railed at monopolies; Wisconsin's crusading Governor, Robert La Follette, enacted legislation regulating health and safety in factories; Oregon limited the hours of work for women (no more than 10 per day); Theodore Roosevelt, McKinley's energetic Vice President who took over after McKinley was assassinated, set out to bust the trusts; suffragists marched; campaigns were organized for pure food and drug laws, workers' compensation and a minimum wage. Politics gained new life and meaning.

What happened? Indignation, which had been rising steadily, suddenly burst out and flooded the country. Citizens were already active at the local level, as they are today. Common morality simply couldn't abide the way things were going. Yet instead of opting for revolution or radical change, Americans preferred to spread the benefits of the emerging industrial economy, thereby saving capitalism from its own excesses.

Another foreshadowing occurred in the placid Eisenhower era. The overall economy was doing nicely then as well, even though its benefits had not reached the rural poor, many of whom were black. Politics had grown inert. Ike golfed. In 1954, the Supreme Court decided that separate schools were not equal. In 1957, Eisenhower dispatched Federal troops to Little Rock's Central High School. But who could have predicted that within a few years the civil rights movement would have remolded American politics with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965?

The next revival of American politics can be expected to follow a similar course. The current economic boom has bypassed too many; the gap between winners and losers has grown too wide. Fortunately, there is a common morality at the heart of this capitalist democracy that ultimately keeps us on track and keeps us together. Glimpses of it can be had even in these languid times. For example, a majority of Americans supported last year's increase in the minimum wage to \$5.15, although only a tiny fraction stood to benefit. It was a matter of simple fairness. Or consider the broadscale indignation stirred up by revelations of garment sweatshops.

We got another glimpse this summer, when a sudden groundswell of support forced a skinflint Congress to extend health care to millions of children. And a majority of Americans supported the United Parcel Service strikers, not because the public is particularly fond of organized labor but because it seemed unfair for U.P.S. to pay its part-time work force so little.

Recall also the firestorm when, almost exactly two years ago, AT&T announced it was

firing some 40,000 employees and then gave the boss stock options that raised his total compensation to \$16 million, from \$6.7 million. Recall, by contrast, the celebration of Aaron Feuerstein, the owner of Malden Mills in Lawrence, Mass., who, after his synthetic-fleece business burned to the ground, assured his employees that he'd stick by them until the factory was rebuilt.

The pressure keeps rising. A final glimpse came just before the holidays, when the public signaled unease about giving the President "fast track" authority to whisk trade treaties through Congress without amendment and most members of the House of Representatives, including many Republicans, refused to support it. That may be a mistake. Trade is good for America. But the public's negative reaction shouldn't be seen as a repudiation of free trade. It was, at bottom, a matter of fairness: trade hurts some people, and we haven't made adequate provision for the losers.

Trade may, in fact, be the precipitating issue this time around. The economic implosion in East Asia will continue to reverberate here, as bahts, won, rupiahs, ringgit and yen drop in value relative to dollars—one of the biggest price-cutting contests in world history. American consumers will have the benefit of bargain-basement sales, but the cheap imports will put additional downward pressure on the wages of lower-skilled Americans. The tumult also will crimp profits of American companies that export to the region, causing more layoffs here. If the Asian flu turns more deadly, the infection here will be all the worse. However resolved, the Asian crisis portends larger jolts, as the global economy absorbs the surging output of 1.2 billion Chinese—more than a fifth of the world's population. When the current recovery ends, the underlying reality will be starkly evident and the political debate surrounding trade will intensify.

To an extent, that debate has already begun. The tension between economic nationalism and globalism is emerging as one of the most significant fissures in American politics, and it runs through both parties—as shown by the current dispute over financing for the International Monetary Fund.

But it would be unfortunate indeed if the revival of American politics were to turn on the question of whether the nation should engage in more or less commerce with the rest of the world. The underlying choice is larger, more important and more subtle: ultimately, we must decide whether we want to slow the pace of globalization or else take bold steps to help today's losers share in the benefits of the new economy. I cannot predict the outcome of that great debate to come, but I can express a clear preference. It is that we expand the circle of prosperity and that we do so on a scale that matches the challenge.

A new nationalism founded on shared prosperity might, for example, support "re-employment insurance" that would enable people who lose their jobs to move to new ones with far less disruption and pain than is the norm today. (If the new job paid less, half the difference should be offset for a year by a wage subsidy.)

In that spirit, we could enlarge and expand the earned-income tax credit—a reverse income tax that makes work pay if you're at or near the bottom. We could bring a larger portion of the next generation into the circle of prosperity by rebuilding decaying schools and helping states equalize spending between rich and poor school districts. And we would make sure that everyone has access to adequate health care and child care.

To finance all of this—and move beyond the small, feel-good programs that lack adequate scale to make much of a difference—we could simply reverse the current trend in public finance and adopt a truly progressive tax system (including payroll taxes).

None of this will come easily or without a fight. But in the end, the nation will be stronger and better for bringing everyone, or nearly everyone, along. Future historians looking back on the Bland Decade will conclude that, as before, American politics wasn't really dead. It was only caught napping.

Mr. WELLSTONE. I thank the Chair. It is really a superb article.

THE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I want to just speak briefly. I think we are all back. As the Senator from North Dakota said, I think most of us really are focused on the legislative work, Democrats and Republicans. I think that people want us to be focused on our work. But our work is connected to our conversations with people in our States, what people have said to us, and trying to connect what we do as legislators to the betterment of the lives of people that we serve.

Mr. President, I was impressed with Secretary Reich's piece because I have found in my travels in Minnesota and around the country that while all of the macroeconomic statistics look good—for that I am grateful; the GDP and other indicators of economic performance, the official levels of unemployment, a record low, so on and so forth—that in many ways we have a paradox which is that we also, at least since we started collecting social science data, we have the most stratification in our society that we have ever had.

We have the most glaring inequalities, and I think we have been moving to two Americas. It is not the other America that Michael wrote about in a very important book in 1963 about poverty, which I know the presiding officer has been concerned about, but it is two different Americas.

You have one America with mounting access to all the things that I suppose you could say make life richer in possibilities, and you have another America struggling to make ends meet.

You have one America that is barreling down the information superhighway, and you have another America without even the rudimentary skills to participate in our economy or to participate in our polity or to participate in our society.

You have one America with the economic resources to purchase the security of gated communities, living in gated communities, and you have another America that is beset by the decay of some of our very important social institutions which we have to rebuild if we are to rebuild communities, libraries, hospitals, and schools.

You have one America that is focused on a booming stock market, and you

have another America that is faced with the insecurities of a job market still with all of the downsizing and the latest news about AT&T, I think, laying off 18,000 employees.

You have one America that every summer sort of plans a trip to Asia or Europe, and you have another America where the discussion is, "How can we scrape up enough money to take the family to a ballgame?"

Mr. President, I find that, in just touring the cafes in Minnesota—I want to draw from my data, which is now less social science data and just conversations with people. You know, most people in the country—poor people, middle-income people, professional people, it does not really matter—from really almost all walks of life, I think first and foremost, are very focused on how they can earn a decent living and how they can give their children the care they know their children need and deserve.

To me, that translates into lots of specific conversations. I could talk a lot about health care. But there is one conversation I cannot forget. It was with a woman. I met her a year ago. It was very sad. Her husband is about 40 and found out he had cancer and was given a couple months to live. I met them about 2 months ago, and she reintroduced me to her husband, who is now in a wheelchair.

She said, "You know, Senator, the doctors said that my husband had only 2 months to live, but he's a real fighter. And I want you to come on over and say hello." You know how that happens when we are out and about. Of course, I did and was pleased to talk to him. Then she took me aside and said, "Every day it is just a nightmare. I'm constantly on the phone trying to find out what my insurance companies will cover, what they will not cover. It is a constant battle."

Mr. President, I think, therefore, health care is very much on the agenda. I do not have time to talk about all the specifics of policy, but I am very interested in making sure it is not just bottom-line medicine. I am very interested in all of us, Democrats and Republicans, making sure there is some consumer protection and also that the caregivers are able to give the kind of care they went to medical school or nursing school to be able to give.

I am very interested in our really thinking about a strategy, going into the next century, about how do we obtain universal coverage, comprehensive care. And I think it can be a decentralist thrust with States figuring out ways to do it within a national framework, within a package of benefits, affordable, and with consumer protection. That is a bill I look forward to introduce.

I think we can do better. I loved working with Senator DOMENICI on mental health. I tell you, there is an area I am really looking forward to do

work on as a legislator and that Senator BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL is going to be working with me on. That is in the whole area of the Substance Abuse Parity Act, trying to make sure that people—it is just wrong. People who are struggling with alcoholism, for example, where they get detox treatment once or twice, then there is no longer any coverage.

We can do much better. There is a tremendous amount of discrimination here. We can do much better as a nation. I look forward to working on that legislation.

Mr. President, above and beyond health care, I would like to talk just a little bit about jobs, and jobs with decent wages. I have had a chance to travel. It has been the best work I have done outside of Minnesota.

I would love to travel with you, I say to the Presiding Officer, because I think as a Senator from Indiana you have focused a lot on these issues. We may have different approaches, but you have just a tremendous commitment to this.

I have traveled in a lot of low-income communities from Letcher County, KY, where my wife's family is from, to Appalachia to Chicago to Baltimore to East L.A., to Watts to urban and rural Minnesota to the delta in Mississippi.

There are two questions people ask in these communities. One of those questions is, "Where are the jobs that we can be trained for and that we can find to support our families on?"

I think raising the minimum wage—I was speaking with Senator KENNEDY about this—is absolutely on the mark. I think we must do it. I think it is a matter of economic justice. It is also true, however, as William Julius Wilson, in his fine book about a year and a half ago, makes the fine point that in some communities and ghettos there is the disappearance of work, there is no work.

So the question is, how do we build the human capital and make sure there are jobs that are community-building jobs? And how do we link that with the private sector? How do we ultimately make sure people are able to get transitional jobs for a year to build those skills, to build community? And we can then at the same time have the job training and track the private-sector capital in those communities.

I think it is a real priority, if we are concerned about these issues of race and gender and poverty and children. They are all far more correlated and interrelated than some of us want to admit.

Another area I want to talk about is the President's initiative on child care. Two points I would like to make.

Again, I do not do justice to the policy debate which we will have, but at least I want to just try to survey this.

I think the President has really laid forth some good proposals. I think we can do more and should do more, and I

want to talk about that. We have to make sure that the tax credits, if that is the way we go, are refundable so families with incomes under \$28,000 who did not have a tax liability can benefit.

I think the after-school care is extremely important. But you know what? I read in the paper—and maybe, Mr. President, you are a part of this that Senator CHAFEE and others were talking about—how it is we also can target resources to families where one parent stays at home. I think that is an excellent idea.

I met with so many couples in Minnesota where one of them will say, "You know, Senator, one of us is not working. We understand why both parents work, but we made the decision not to. We forgo the income. We think one of us should be at home during these early years. And why not have some of the funding stream go toward providing us with some assistance?"

I think that is an excellent idea. I hope we can really kind of combine efforts and do something about early childhood development. It is so important.

The medical evidence—Mr. President, you have held some hearings—it is irrefutable and irreducible. We have to do well for these children. They are all God's children. And if we do not do well for these children—the private sector, public sector, community based—by age 3, many of them will never be ready for school. They will never be ready for life. And I cannot think of a more important investment. I want to talk some about that as well.

Mr. President, I will finish up because I only reserved 10 minutes for myself. I just say to my colleagues, there is so much work to be done, so many problems.

I was in East Grand Forks the other day. Last year we were on the floor talking about the floods. It was heart-breaking. James Lee Witt has just done a great job. I so appreciate what he has done for Minnesota. And FEMA came through. But you know what? We lost a third of our housing stock from the flood in East Grand Forks. There are seniors on fixed incomes, low-income people. They cannot find housing. We are going to have to build that housing. There is going to be State money. Maybe we can leverage Federal money.

There are many real problems, many important issues that face families in Minnesota and all across the country. I have delineated some of them.

I urge my colleagues, get out on the floor, do the work in committee, bring the bills and the amendments out here. Just do the work.

I can't resist this, since the Chair happens to be one of my very good friends and is about to tell me I am out of time, I look forward to debating Senator COATS out here on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. BRYAN. I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for a period of time not to exceed 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BRYAN. Mr. President, I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. BRYAN pertaining to the introduction of S. 1572 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. BRYAN. I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Massachusetts is recognized.

(The remarks of Mr. KENNEDY and Mr. WELLSTONE pertaining to the submission of S. 1573 are located in today's RECORD under "Submission of Concurrent and Senate Resolutions.")

Mr. KENNEDY. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Chair would just inform the Senator that, under a previous order, each Senator is allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes as in morning business.

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Thank you very much. I am pleased to hear it. I will not take the 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

OUR CRUMBLING SCHOOLS

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, tonight the President of the United States will address the country in the State of the Union Address and much of the focus of that speech, we have been told, will be on the subject of education, something that I know the Presiding Officer has worked on over the years, and certainly I have worked on as my No. 1 priority since I came to the U.S. Senate. I am really pleased, however, that among the items in the area of education that the President will touch on is a particular item that I have labored long and hard on since I came to the Senate, and that is the issue of our crumbling schools.

The President will tonight propose an initiative to rebuild our crumbling schools by making available support for local efforts to deal with the facilities and the infrastructure of their

schools in the respective parts of the country.

The centerpiece of the proposal that will be announced tonight is a plan to provide tax credits to help stimulate local school construction and modernization. The plan will help States and school districts address the enormous backlog of deferred maintenance to upgrade their schools to incorporate and accommodate modern technologies and to build new classrooms to accommodate soaring enrollment where appropriate.

The plan—and I would like to talk specifically about it—will propose the creation of a new class of zero-interest bonds which can be used exclusively for school facilities and infrastructure development. Instead of receiving interest payments on these bonds, purchasers of the bonds will instead receive Federal income tax credits.

This innovative plan will stimulate at least \$22 billion—\$22 billion—worth of school improvements over the next several years. Frankly, it is exactly the kind of new thinking and the kind of new partnership and innovative and creative financing that we will need to address the issue of our crumbling school infrastructure.

I would like to take a moment to revisit how this issue came about. Coming out of State and local government, I was very concerned that we maintain, on the one hand, the values of local control of education, but at the same time find some way to relieve the pressure on the local property taxes that elementary and secondary education so often requires.

Among the issues that seemed to me to be the most pressing and the most difficult for local districts to address was the question of school facilities. The buildings in which many of our children go to school are literally falling down around them. Most of these buildings have been built a generation ago when I was in school or the Presiding Officer was in school. Frankly, over time, these things just wear down. So you can see all over, certainly all over my State of Illinois and, indeed, all over the country, that our school facilities are crumbling right in front of us. Students talk about the fact that the windows are broken or the roof leaks or the lights—it even got to the point where Charles Schulz with the Peanuts cartoon did a series where Peppermint Patty is sitting in the classroom and raindrops are falling on her head.

The point is, we can do better. So I commissioned a study by the General Accounting Office to look at the issue of crumbling schools. They went around and did a really exhaustive and highly acclaimed survey in which they documented \$112 billion worth of deferred needs in terms of our school infrastructure; \$112 billion required to rebuild the schools, to fix the plants, to provide our children with an environment that is suitable for learning.

In addition to the aesthetics of it, that we want our kids to go to classrooms that are comfortable, consider for a moment that you cannot use a computer unless you plug it into the wall. If the electrical system is not there, then we will be denying our youngsters the opportunity to get trained, denying our work force the opportunity to be trained to compete in this global economy. It seems to me this is something of national importance and import and that it makes sense for the Federal Government to weigh in to help local districts meet the needs, the \$112 billion worth of needs, all over the country.

I started down this trail attempting to get a modest appropriation. I went in and got \$600 million authorized and \$100 million appropriated to this end. Then in the Congress of 1994, the \$100 million that I had gotten appropriated for rebuilding the crumbling schools was taken back in the rescission package. So there was no money for it.

We started the ball up the hill again, and the second time around, we were able to get the support of the White House and the Department of Education, and they proposed a \$5 billion tax credit program to do this. That went up through committee and then eventually fell because of the lack of support last year.

We have continued with this. Frankly, at every step of the way, even though we failed to actually get the full appropriation that we wanted, the public support built and built and built to the point that in the last session of the Congress, when we passed the Tax Relief Act, we were able in that bill to get some support for local districts going into the capital markets to borrow money. We changed the arbitrage rules a little bit. We raised the bond cap. So we were able to get some financial support but certainly not the \$5 billion that we had hoped to get.

Now the issue has gotten to the top of the pop charts, and polling data tells us again that 79 percent of the American people think there is an appropriate Federal role in rebuilding educational facilities.

This proposal that the President will announce tonight will allow us to access about \$22 billion—now, that is not the whole \$112 billion—but \$22 billion will help local districts repair their crumbling schools without having to increase property taxes. It seems to me that that is an absolutely appropriate role for us to take, given the national security interests, given the future of our work force, given the national stakes in all of this. If we can begin to have Federal support of elementary and secondary education in ways that preserve local control of education but allow us to contribute national resources to the enormous task that is before us, then we would have done our duty, frankly, by this next generation.

So I am very pleased that the creative financing proposal that will be

mentioned tonight represents a new direction, a new partnership. I believe firmly that the days when we can point fingers and say, "Well, it's the local taxpayers' fault that the schools are falling down," or, "It's the State government's fault the schools are falling down," or somebody else's fault, the days of fingerpointing are over. In fact, my mother used to say, when you point a finger, you always have three of them pointing back at yourself.

If we can begin to have a new kind of partnership where States and local governments and the National Government work together to provide our children with the education that they need and the work force development that our country deserves, we will have discharged our responsibility to them and to the future of this Nation.

We certainly have every opportunity with this proposal to go forward and pass this legislation. I am hopeful that we will do better this time around in achieving bipartisan support for the approach that says this is a new partnership; this new partnership will maintain local control and will give, if anything, local governments some financial support with regard to the challenge they face in rebuilding their crumbling schools.

I am very excited about it, but having had two previous successes that were undone, I am not going to get overly excited until such time as the President actually signs the bill. But I am very encouraged, Mr. President, that the force of this idea has continued to support it and the force of this concept means, I think, that it is an idea whose time has come. That being the case, I feel very confident that, if not now, we will eventually pass legislation to rebuild our crumbling schools so that America's schoolchildren are given suitable environments in which they can learn.

With that, I thank the Chair and I yield the floor. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RESERVE JUDGMENT

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have sought recognition to comment on statements made earlier today by Senator LEAHY concerning Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr. Senator LEAHY has challenged Mr. Starr on a number of items, matters of very substantial concern.

I telephoned Mr. Starr to find out what the facts were. Both Senator LEAHY and I are on the Judiciary Committee, which has oversight over the

Department of Justice and also the independent counsel. Senator LEAHY began his presentation by noting that he had spent nearly a decade as a prosecutor, and I have a similar background, actually a little longer than a decade, but about the same. Senator LEAHY then commented about his concern about law enforcement being non-partisan and nonideological, and on the facts. I most certainly agree with Senator LEAHY on his assertions to that extent. Then Senator LEAHY proceeded to criticize Mr. Starr for conducting a partisan investigation, for making leaks to the press, by coordinating the investigation with what is going on in the civil case involving Ms. Paula Jones, and charging that there was a sting operation to engage the President of the United States in secretly recorded conversations. All of these are obviously very serious accusations.

Mr. President, it seems to me that the current controversy involving the President and Ms. Monica Lewinsky is something that ought to be put behind the country at the earliest possible time. I made public statements last week when the President was questioned about this matter, while Chairman Arafat was in his office, and said that I thought it inappropriate to have that question and bad practice for the President to respond to that question, and made public statements last week and over the weekend about what I consider to be an unwise media frenzy on this matter—that we all ought to wait and see what the facts are before coming to any conclusions, and in the interim the President ought to be permitted to carry out his duties because they are very, very important duties.

I agree with what Senator LEAHY said when he recited the issues of foreign policy, Iraq, the State of the Union, and the matters which the President has to deal with.

There have been many reports in the press about what Mr. Starr did and how he got into this investigation and whether his activities were an inappropriate extension of what he had been authorized to do prior to the time he took his first steps on this matter involving Ms. Monica Lewinsky. Mr. Starr told me this afternoon in a telephone conversation that he did engage in a consensual monitoring in the eastern district of Virginia on a conversation with Ms. Linda Tripp and Ms. Monica Lewinsky. It was a consensual monitoring because it was consented to by Ms. Linda Tripp. Mr. Starr told me that Ms. Linda Tripp had been a witness on independent counsel matters in the past involving the White House Travel Office and Mr. Foster, and that the consensual monitoring was undertaken to corroborate what Ms. Linda Tripp had told Mr. Starr independently.

Mr. Starr said it was an appropriate exercise of his existing jurisdiction because in his investigation involving

Mr. Webr Hubble, Mr. Hubble's situation involved a matter where an individual was involved in providing job arrangements for Mr. Hubble outside the District of Columbia with a certain prospective employer. Mr. Starr said that the same person was involved in providing a job opportunity for Ms. Monica Lewinsky outside the District of Columbia with the same prospective employer and that this connection was sufficient for Mr. Starr to proceed with this consensual monitoring, which Mr. Starr pointed out was done professionally by the FBI and, as Mr. Starr described it, in a completely appropriate manner. Mr. Starr advised that he then took this matter to the Department of Justice after he had completed the consensual monitoring.

Mr. President, I will not become involved here in what the factual allegations are, what Ms. Tripp said or what Ms. Lewinsky said, because the issue which concerns me and the thrust of what Senator LEAHY complained about is the propriety of Mr. Starr's activity, and that need not involve the allegations and the substance. I think there has already been enough talk about that, in any event.

Mr. Starr then advised that he took the tape recordings to the Department of Justice, met with the senior attorney and the public integrity section. There was a collaborative determination between the Department of Justice and independent counsel as to who should carry out the further investigation. Mr. Starr advised that the Attorney General then asked the special court of the District of Columbia Circuit to specifically enlarge Mr. Starr's jurisdiction so that he could proceed with this investigation.

Now, we all know that Attorney General Reno has been very circumspect in the independent counsel issue as to appointment and as to extending jurisdiction—that has been a subject matter which has been talked about on this floor a great deal, to a substantial extent by this Senator. But the facts as Mr. Starr outlined them are that he proceeded in this way just as outlined, which is entirely appropriate because of the connection between what happened with Ms. Monica Lewinsky and what happened with Mr. Webster Hubble. That was obviously approved by Attorney General Reno when she then acted on information which Mr. Starr brought to her to request the special court of the District of Columbia Circuit to enlarge Mr. Starr's jurisdiction.

I asked Mr. Starr further about the other statements which Senator LEAHY had made. I now quote from the transcript:

Senator LEAHY: I look at the continuing and very selective leaks and tactics employed by Mr. Starr's office over the last few years and particularly over the last few days.

I asked not only Mr. Starr about the leaks, which he emphatically denied,

but also about the composition of the personnel who were handling this sensitive material, and Mr. Starr gave me some substantial detail about the attorneys who were on the matter in terms of their backgrounds and in terms of their professionalism, which Mr. Starr says is the effort made and he thinks is always the effort made, to avoid the leaks. We all know in Washington, DC, or for that matter, any place, the difficulty of establishing leaks, but if someone makes a contention, as Senator LEAHY does, as to leaks, the question is, what is the proof of those leaks.

Mr. Starr made an emphatic denial regarding the leaks, and spoke of the professionalism of the people that have the confidential information.

Senator LEAHY went on to say earlier today, "I have seen reports of two weekends ago that he," referring to Mr. Starr, "was intent on conducting a sting operation to engage the President of the United States in secretly recorded conversations. Have we sunk this low, Mr. President, that we would do things like this?"

I asked Mr. Starr about that, and he emphatically denied it. I, too, have seen press reports about the proposed sting operation, but I think it is very important that as we accord the President the presumption of innocence and as we look for proof before coming to any judgments about anyone, that the same thing apply to Mr. Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel, and that a serious accusation about the sting operation ought to have some authentication and verification before it is made on the floor of the U.S. Senate. At least that is my opinion.

Senator LEAHY went on earlier today saying, "I have seen complaints," he is referring to Mr. Starr, "he sought to curse a young woman"—I asked Kenneth Starr about that, and again he denied it in absolute terms—"and threatened her mother and father if she did not cooperate." Again, Mr. Starr denied that in absolute terms.

Senator LEAHY then went on to say, "Mr. Starr's office seems oddly coordinated to aid the civil lawsuit against the President involving the Miss Paula Jones case." Again I asked Mr. Starr about that, and it has been denied.

Mr. President, I make these comments after talking to Kenneth Starr, particularly to state for the record exactly how Mr. Starr got into this matter on the consensual monitoring. A consensual monitoring under Virginia law is appropriate when one party to the conversation agrees to it so that in the action by Mr. Starr and the FBI agents in recording the conversation of Ms. Monica Lewinsky and Ms. Linda Tripp, where Ms. Linda Tripp has consented to it—that was a lawful consensual monitoring—and as explained by Mr. Starr, the nexus or connection justifying his conduct was because the same person had suggested providing a

job opportunity for Ms. Monica Lewinsky with the same employer who had made similar activity with respect to Mr. Webster Hubble.

It would be my hope that as this matter proceeds, that there would be a toning down of the decibel level and a real effort made to find out what the facts are before accusations are made against anybody. I think that applies to President Clinton, as I said so last week and over the weekend, and applies to Mr. Starr, and there has been a concern expressed that there is now an orchestrated effort made to discredit Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr. I do not know whether that is true or not. There have been a number of statements coming out, but whatever the charges and accusations that were made against anybody—President Clinton, Independent Counsel Starr, anyone—they ought to be backed up by the facts and not a recitation of something that appeared in the newspaper where we know of the questionable reliability of what appears in the press.

The real issue here is not necessarily what Mr. Starr has done but what the underlying facts are on the substantive matter at issue. If Mr. Starr has acted in an inappropriate manner, that can be reviewed at some time. When you deal with issues such as those involved here, we are not looking at a respective criminal case where the admissible evidence is judged on certain standards. We are looking at a real determination to find what the facts are so that we can make a determination as to what ought to be done in this matter.

It is my view that once the facts are asserted, there will be general agreement about what the conclusions ought to be. But it is not the Independent Counsel's conduct at issue here. I think the Independent Counsel ought to conduct himself in a manner which comports with the manner of decency. That is his job and responsibility. Also, I think that he is entitled not to be vilified in newspaper headlines or newspaper stories. But the facts ought to be ascertained. The facts as Mr. Starr outlines them to me justify the steps that he took. That is not my view alone; that is corroborated by what Attorney General Reno has done in the case.

Mr. President, in the absence of any Senator on the floor seeking recognition, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GORTON). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to

the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitted sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE UNION—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 84

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was ordered to lie on the table.

The PRESIDENT. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Vice President, Members of the 105th Congress, distinguished guests, my fellow Americans:

Since the last time we met in this chamber, America has lost two patriots and fine public servants. Though they sat on opposite sides of the aisle, Representatives Walter Capps and SONNY BONO shared a deep love for this House and an unshakeable commitment to improving the lives of all our people. In the past few weeks they have been eulogized; tonight, let us send a message to their families and friends—let us celebrate their lives, and give thanks for their service to their nation.

For 209 years, it has been the President's duty to report to you on the State of the Union. Because of the hard work and high purpose of the American people, these are good times for America. We have more than 14 million new jobs. The lowest unemployment in 24 years. The lowest core inflation in 30 years. Incomes are rising, and we have the highest homeownership in history. Crime has dropped for a record five years in a row, and the welfare rolls are the lowest in 27 years. Our leadership in the world is unrivaled. The state of our union is strong.

But with barely 700 days left in the 20th Century, this is not a time to rest; it is a time to build, to build the America within our reach.

An America where everybody has a chance to get ahead with hard work. Where every citizen can live in a safe community. Where families are strong, schools are good, and all young people can go on to college. An America where scientists find cures for diseases from diabetes to Alzheimers to AIDS. An America where every child can stretch a hand across a keyboard and reach every book ever written, every painting ever painted, every symphony ever composed.

Where government provides opportunity, and citizens honor the responsibility to give something back to their

communities. An America which leads the world to new heights of peace and prosperity.

This is the America we have begun to build; this is the America we can leave to our children—if we join together to finish the work at hand. Let us strengthen our nation for the 21st Century.

Rarely have Americans lived through so much change, in so many ways, in so short a time. Quietly but with gathering force, the ground has shifted beneath our feet, as we move into an information age, a global economy, a truly new world.

For five years now, we have met the challenge of these changes as Americans have at every turning point—by renewing the very idea of America; widening the circle of opportunity, deepening the meaning of our freedom, forging a more perfect union.

We have shaped a new kind of government for the Information Age. I thank the Vice President for his leadership and the Congress for its support in building a government that is leaner, more flexible, a catalyst for new ideas. Most of all, a government that gives the American people the tools they need to make the most of their own lives.

We have moved past the sterile debate between those who say government is the enemy and those who say government is the answer. My fellow Americans, we have found a third way. We have the smallest government in 35 years, but a more progressive one. We have a smaller government, but a stronger nation.

We are moving steadily toward an even stronger America in the 21st Century. An economy that offers opportunity. A society rooted in responsibility. And a nation that lives as a community.

AN ECONOMY THAT OFFERS OPPORTUNITY

First, Americans in this chamber and across our nation have pursued a new strategy for prosperity: Fiscal discipline to cut interest rates and spur growth. Investments in education and skills, in science and technology and transportation, to prepare our people for the new economy. New markets for American products and American workers.

When I took office, the deficit for 1998 was projected to be \$357 billion, and heading higher. This year, our deficit is projected to be \$10 billion, and heading lower.

For three decades, six Presidents have come before you to warn of the damage deficits pose to the nation. Tonight, I come before you to announce that the federal deficit—once so incomprehensibly large that it had eleven zeroes—will be, simply . . . zero.

We will submit to Congress for 1999 the first balanced budget in 30 years.

And if we hold fast to fiscal discipline, we may balance the budget this year—four years ahead of schedule.

Turning a sea of red ink into black is no miracle. It is the product of hard work by the American people and of two visionary actions in Congress—the courageous vote in 1993 that led to a cut in the deficit of 90% . . . and the historic bipartisan balanced budget agreement passed by this Congress. And if we maintain our resolve, we will produce balanced budgets as far as the eye can see.

We must not go back to unwise spending, or untargeted tax cuts, that risk reopening the deficit. Last year, we enacted targeted tax cuts, so that typical middle class families will now have the lowest tax in 20 years.

My plan to balance the budget next year includes new investments and new tax cuts targeted to the needs of working families: for education, child care, and the environment.

But whether the issue is tax cuts or spending, I ask all of you to meet this test: approve only those priorities that can actually be accomplished without adding a dime to the deficit.

If we balance the budget for next year, it is projected that we will then have a sizeable surplus in the years immediately afterward. What should we do with this projected surplus?

I have a simple four word answer: Save Social Security first.

Tonight, I propose that we reserve 100% of the surplus—that's every penny of any surplus—until we have taken all the measures necessary to strengthen the Social Security system for the 21st Century.

Let us say to all Americans watching tonight—whether you are 70 . . . or 50 . . . or just beginning to pay into the system—Social Security will be there when you need it. Let us, tonight, make this commitment: Social Security first.

I urge all Americans to join us—in facing these issues squarely, and forming a true consensus on how to proceed. We'll start by conducting nonpartisan forums in every region of the country, and I hope that lawmakers of both parties will participate. We will host a White House conference on Social Security in December. And one year from now, I will convene the leaders of Congress to craft historic, bipartisan legislation to achieve a landmark for our generation—a Social Security system that is strong in the 21st Century.

In an economy that honors opportunity, all Americans must be able to reap the rewards of prosperity.

Because these times are good, we can afford to take one simple, sensible step to help millions of workers struggling to provide for their families: We should raise the minimum wage.

The information age is first and foremost an education age . . . in which education must start at birth and continue throughout a lifetime.

Last year, from this podium, I said education was our highest priority. I laid out a ten point plan to move us

forward, and urged us all to make sure politics ends at the schoolhouse door.

Since then, this Congress and the American people have responded, in the most important year for education in a generation . . . expanding public school choice . . . opening the way to 3,000 charter schools . . . working to connect every classroom to the information superhighway . . . committing to expand Head Start to 1 million children . . . launching America Reads, sending thousands of college students into our schools to make sure all our 8 year olds can read.

Last year I proposed, and you passed . . . 220,000 new Pell Grant scholarships for deserving students. Student loans are already less expensive and easier to repay, and now you can deduct the interest. Families all over America can put savings into our new, tax free education IRAs. And this year, for the first two years of college, families will get a \$1,500 tax cut—a Hope Scholarship that will cover the cost of most community college tuition. And for junior and senior year, graduate school, and job training, there's a lifetime learning credit.

So I have something to say to each and every American family listening tonight: your children can go on to college. If you know a child from a poor family, tell her not to give up. She can go to college. If you know struggling young parents who are worried they won't be able to save for their children's education, you tell them not to give up. Their children can go on to college. If you know somebody caught in a dead-end job, afraid he can't afford the classes that will get him better jobs for the rest of his life, tell him not to give up. He can go to college.

We can make college as universal as high school is today. And my friends, this will change the face of 21st Century America.

We have opened wide the doors of the world's best system of higher education. Now we must make our public elementary and secondary schools the best in the world, too—by raising standards, raising expectations, and raising accountability.

Thanks to the actions of this Congress last year, we will soon have, for the first time, a voluntary national test based on national standards in 4th grade reading and 8th grade math. Parents have a right to know whether their children are mastering the basics.

And every parent already knows the key: good teachers and small classes. Tonight I propose the first ever national effort to reduce class size in the early grades. My balanced budget will help to hire 100,000 new teachers who have passed a state competency test. With these teachers, we will reduce class size in the first, second, and third grades to an average of 18 students a class.

If I've got the math right, more teachers teaching smaller classes re-

quires more classrooms. So I also propose a school construction tax cut to help communities modernize or build 5,000 schools.

We must also demand accountability. When we promote a child from grade to grade who hasn't mastered the work, we do that child no favors. It is time to end social promotion in America's schools.

Last year, in Chicago, they made that decision—not to hold children back, but to lift them up. Chicago stopped social promotion, and started mandatory summer school to help students who are behind to catch up. I proposed an effort to help other communities follow Chicago's lead. Let's say to them: Stop promoting children who don't learn, and we will give you the tools you need to make sure they do.

I also ask this Congress to support our effort to enlist colleges and universities to reach out to disadvantaged children starting in the 6th grade—to give them guidance and hope so they too can go on to college.

As we enter the 21st Century, the global economy requires us to seek opportunity not just at home, but in all the markets of the world. We must shape this global economy, not shrink from it. In the last five years, we have led the way in opening new markets, with 240 trade agreements that remove foreign barriers to products bearing the proud stamp, "Made in the USA."

Today, record high exports account for fully one third of our economic growth. I want to keep them going, because that's the way to keep American growing and to advance a safer, more stable world.

This is a great opportunity for America. I know there is opposition to more comprehensive trade agreements, rooted in two fears: first that our trading partners will have lower environmental and labor standards which will give them an unfair advantage in our markets—and do their own people no favors; and, second, that with more trade, more of our workers will lose their jobs and have to start over.

We should seek to advance worker and environmental standards around the world. It should be a part of our trade agenda. But we can't influence other countries' decisions if we send a message to them that we're backing away from trade.

This year, I will send legislation to Congress, and ask other nations to join us, to fight the most intolerable labor practice of all—abusive child labor.

We should also offer help and hope to those Americans temporarily left behind by the global marketplace, or by the march of technology.

That is why we have more than doubled funding for training dislocated workers since 1993—and if my new budget is adopted, we will triple it.

That is why we must do more, more quickly, to help workers who lose their

jobs for any reason. We help communities when their military base closes. We ought to help them in the same way if their factory closes.

And that is why, again, I ask the Congress to continue its bipartisan work to consolidate the tangle of training programs into a GI Bill for Workers, a simple skills grant so people can move quickly to new jobs and higher incomes.

Change is not always easy, but we have to reap its benefits. And remember the big picture: While we have been entering into hundreds of new trade agreements, we have been creating millions of new jobs.

So this year we will forge new partnerships with Latin America, Asia and Europe. We should pass the new African Trade Act.

And I renew my request for the fast track negotiating authority necessary to open more new markets and create more new jobs, which every President has had for two decades.

Whether we like it or not, in ways that are mostly positive, the world's economies are more and more interconnected.

Today, an economic crisis anywhere can affect economies everywhere. Recent months have brought serious financial problems to Thailand, Indonesia, South Korea and beyond.

Why should Americans be concerned about this?

First, these countries are our customers—and if they sink into recession, they won't be able to buy the goods we want to sell them. They are also our competitors—and if their currencies lose their value, the price of their goods will drop, flooding our market and others with cheap goods, making it tougher for our people to compete. Finally, they are our strategic partners. Their stability bolsters our security.

The American economy remains sound and strong—and I want to keep it that way. But because the turmoil in Asia will have an impact on all the world's economies, including ours, making that negative impact as small as possible is the right thing to do for a safer world—and the right thing to do for America.

Our policy is clear. No nation can recover if it does not reform itself. But when nations are willing to undertake serious economic reform, we should help them to do it. So I call on Congress to renew America's commitment to the International Monetary Fund.

Preparing for a far-off storm that may reach our shores is far wiser than ignoring the thunder until the clouds are overhead.

A SOCIETY ROOTED IN RESPONSIBILITY

A strong nation rests on the rock of responsibility.

A society rooted in responsibility must first promote the value of work, not welfare. We can be proud that after decades of finger pointing and failure,

together we ended the old welfare system. Now we are replacing welfare checks with paychecks.

Last year, after a record four year decline in welfare rolls, I challenged our nation to move two million more Americans off welfare by the year 2000. I am pleased to report that we have also met that goal—two years ahead of schedule.

This is a grand achievement, the sum of many acts of individual courage, persistence and hope. For 13 years, Elaine Kinslow of Indianapolis, Indiana was on and off welfare. Today, she is a dispatcher with a van company. She's saved enough money to move her family to a good neighborhood. And she's helping other welfare recipients get to work.

Elaine Kinslow and all those like her are the real heroes of the welfare revolution; there are millions just like her across America. I am happy she could join the First Lady tonight. Elaine, we are very proud of you.

We must all do more to make welfare reform a success—providing child care, helping families move closer to available jobs, challenging more companies to join the welfare-to-work partnership, increasing child support collections from deadbeat parents who have a duty to support their own children. I also want to thank Congress for restoring some benefits to immigrants who are here legally and working hard—and I ask you to finish the job this year.

We must make it possible for hard-working families to meet their most important responsibilities.

Two years ago, we helped guarantee that Americans keep their health insurance when they change jobs. Last year, we extended health care to up to 5 million children. This year, I challenge Congress to take the next historic steps.

160 million Americans are in managed care plans. These plans can save money and can improve care. But medical decisions should be made by medical doctors, not insurance company accountants.

I urge the Congress to write into law a Consumer Bill of Rights that says this: You have the right to know all your medical options—not just the cheapest. You have the right to choose the doctor you want for the care you need. You have the right to emergency room care, wherever and whenever you need it. You have the right to keep your medical records confidential. Traditional care or managed care, every American deserves quality care.

Millions of Americans between the ages of 55 and 65 have lost their health insurance. Some are retired; some are laid off; some lost their coverage when their spouses retire. After a lifetime of work, they are left with nowhere to turn. So I ask the Congress: let these hardworking Americans buy into the Medicare system. It won't add a dime to the deficit—but the peace of mind it will provide will be priceless.

Next, we must help parents protect their children from the gravest health threat they face: an epidemic of teen smoking, spread by multimillion dollar marketing campaigns.

So I challenge Congress: let's pass bipartisan, comprehensive legislation that will improve public health, protect tobacco farmers, and change the way tobacco companies do business forever. Let's do what it takes to bring teen smoking down. Let's raise the price of cigarettes by up to \$1.50 a pack over the next ten years, with penalties on the tobacco industry if it keeps marketing to kids. Tomorrow, like every day, 3000 children will start smoking. 1000 of them will die early as a result. Let this Congress be remembered as the Congress that saved their lives.

In the new economy, most parents work, harder than ever. They face a constant struggle to balance their obligations to be good workers—and their even more important obligations to be good parents.

The Family and Medical Leave Act was the very first bill I signed into law. I ask you to extend the law to cover 10 million more workers, and to give parents time off for parent-teacher conferences and doctor's visits.

Child care is the next frontier. Last year, the First Lady and I hosted the very first White House conference on child care. From all corners of America, we heard the same message: we must raise the quality of child care and make it safer and more affordable.

Here is my plan: Help families to pay for child care for one million more children. Scholarships and background checks for child care workers, and a new emphasis on early learning. Tax credits for businesses that provide child care for their employees.

And a larger child care tax credit for working families—so that if you pass my plan a family of four with an income of \$35,000 and high child care costs will no longer pay a penny of federal income tax.

You know, I have often wondered how my mother—as a young widow—would have been able to go away to school if my grandparents had not been able to care for me. She and I were lucky. How many other families never get that same opportunity? We don't know the answer to that question. But we do know what the answer should be: Not a single family should have to choose between the job they need and the child they love.

A society rooted in responsibility must provide safe streets, safe schools, safe neighborhoods.

We are pursuing a strategy of more police, tougher punishment and smarter prevention, with crimefighting partnerships with local law enforcement and citizen groups.

I can report to you tonight that it is working. Violent crime is down, robbery is down, assault is down, burglary

is down . . . for five years in a row, all across America.

Now we need to finish the job of putting 100,000 more police on the streets.

Again I ask Congress to pass a juvenile crime bill that provides more prosecutors and probation officers to crack down on gangs, guns and drugs, and bar violent juveniles from buying guns for life.

And I ask you to dramatically expand our support for after-school programs. Most juvenile crime is committed between the hours of 3 in the afternoon and 8 at night. We can keep so many of our children out of trouble in the first place if we give them someplace to go other than the streets.

Drug use is on the decline. I thank General Barry McCaffrey for his leadership, and I thank this Congress for passing the biggest anti-drug budget in history. Now I ask for the resources to hire, 1,000 new border patrol agents, and to deploy sophisticated new technologies, to help close the door on drugs at our borders.

Police, prosecutors, and prevention programs, good as they are, can't work if the court system doesn't work. Today, there are large numbers of vacancies in the federal courts. Here is what the Chief Justice of the United States wrote: "[Judicial] vacancies cannot remain at such high levels indefinitely without eroding the quality of justice." I ask the United States Senate to heed this plea, and vote on the highly qualified judicial nominees before you, up or down.

We must exercise responsibility not only at home but abroad.

On the eve of a new century, we have the power and the duty to build a new era of peace and security. But today's possibilities are not tomorrow's guarantees.

America must stand up for its interests and stand against the poisoned appeals of extreme nationalism. We must combat an unholy axis of new threats from terrorists, international criminals and drug traffickers. These 21st Century predators feed on technology and the free flow of information, ideas and people. And they will be all the more lethal if weapons of mass destruction fall into their hands.

To meet these challenges, we are helping to write international rules of the road for the 21st Century, protecting those who join the family of nations, and isolating those who do not.

Within days, I will ask the Senate for its advice and consent to make Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic the newest members of NATO. For fifty years, NATO contained Communism and kept America and Europe secure. These three formerly Communist countries have said "yes" to democracy. I ask the Senate to say yes to them—our new allies.

By taking in new members and working closely with new partners, including Russia and Ukraine, NATO can

help to assure that Europe is a stronghold for peace in the 21st Century.

Next, I will ask Congress to continue its support for our troops and their mission in Bosnia. This Christmas, Hillary and I traveled to Sarajevo with Senator and Mrs. Dole and a bipartisan Congressional delegation. We saw children playing on the streets, where two years ago they were hiding from snipers and shells. Shops are filled with food, cafes alive with conversation.

The progress is unmistakable—but not yet irreversible. To take firm root, Bosnia's fragile peace still needs the support of American and allied troops when the current NATO mission ends in June. Senator Dole said it best: this is like being ahead in the fourth quarter of a football game. Now is not the time to walk off the field and forfeit the victory.

I wish all of you could have seen our troops in Tuzla. They are very proud of what they are doing in Bosnia. And America is very proud of them. One of those brave soldiers is sitting with the First Lady tonight—Army Sergeant Michael Tolbert. His father was a decorated Vietnam vet. After college in Colorado, he joined the Army. And last year, he led an infantry unit that stopped a mob of extremists from taking over a radio station that is a voice of democracy and tolerance in Bosnia.

In Bosnia and around the world, our men and women in uniform always do their mission well. Our mission must be to keep them well-trained and ready . . . to improve their quality of life . . . and to provide the 21st Century weapons they need to defeat any enemy.

I also ask Congress to join me in pursuing an ambitious agenda to reduce the serious threat of weapons of mass destruction.

This year, four decades after it was first proposed by President Eisenhower, a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty is within our reach. By ending nuclear testing, we can help to prevent the development of new and more dangerous weapons and make it more difficult for non-nuclear states to build them. I am pleased to announce that four former chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff—Generals John Shalikashvili, Colin Powell, David Jones and Admiral William Crowe—have endorsed this treaty. I ask the Senate to approve it—this year.

Together, we also must confront new hazards: chemical and biological weapons and the outlaw states, terrorists and organized criminals seeking to acquire them.

Saddam Hussein has spent the better part of this decade, and much of his nation's wealth, not on providing for the Iraqi people but on developing nuclear, chemical and biological weapons—and the missiles to deliver them. The United Nations weapons inspectors have done a remarkable job, finding and destroying more of Iraq's arsenal than was destroyed during the Gulf

War itself. Now, Saddam Hussein wants to stop them from completing their mission.

I know I speak for everyone in this chamber, Republicans and Democrats, when I say to Saddam Hussein: You cannot defy the will of the world. You have used weapons of mass destruction before. We are determined to deny you the capacity to use them again.

Last year, the Senate ratified the Chemical Weapons Convention to protect our soldiers and citizens from poison gas. Now, we must act to prevent the use of disease as a weapon of war and terror. The Biological Weapons Convention has been in effect for 23 years. The rules are good, but the enforcement is weak. We must strengthen it with a new international inspection system to detect and deter cheating.

In the months ahead, I will pursue our security strategy with old allies in Asia and Europe and new partners from Africa to India and Pakistan . . . from South America to China. And from Belfast, to Korea to the Middle East, America will continue to stand with those who stand for peace.

Finally, it's long past time to make good on our debt to the United Nations. More and more, we are working with other nations to achieve common goals. If we want America to lead, we must set a good example. As we see so clearly in Bosnia, allies who share our goals can also share our burdens. In this new era, our freedom and independence are actually enriched, not impoverished, by our increasing interdependence with other nations.

A NATION THAT LIVES BY COMMUNITY

Our Founders set America on a permanent course toward "A more perfect union." It is a journey we can only make together—living as one community.

First of all, we must continue to reform our government—the instrument of our national community.

Everyone knows elections have become too expensive, fueling a fundraising arms race. This year, by March 6, the Senate will vote on bipartisan campaign finance reform proposed by Senators MCCAIN and FEINGOLD. Let's be clear: a vote against McCain-Feingold is a vote for soft money, for the status quo. I ask you to strengthen our democracy and pass campaign finance reform.

Even more, we must address the reason for the explosion in campaign costs—the high cost of media advertising. I will formally request that the Federal Communications Commission act to provide free or reduced cost television time for candidates. The airwaves are a public trust, and broadcasters also have a responsibility to help strengthen our democracy.

Under the leadership of Vice President GORE, we have reduced the federal payroll by 300,000 workers, cut 16,000 pages of regulations, eliminated hundreds of programs, and improved the

operations of virtually every agency. But we can do more.

Like every taxpayer, I am outraged by the reports of abuses by the IRS. We need some changes there: new citizen advocacy panels, a stronger taxpayer advocate, phone lines open 24 hours a day, relief for innocent taxpayers. Last year, by an overwhelming bipartisan margin, the House passed sweeping IRS reforms. This bill must not languish in the Senate. Tonight I challenge the Senate: pass our bipartisan package of IRS reforms as your first order of business.

A nation that lives as a community must value its communities.

For the past five years, we have worked to bring the spark of private enterprise into inner city and poor rural areas—with community development banks, more commercial loans into poor neighborhoods, cleanups of polluted sites for development. Under the continued leadership of the Vice President, we propose to triple the number of empowerment zones, which give businesses incentives to invest in poor areas and create jobs. We also should give poor families more help to move into homes of their own. And we should use tax cuts to spur the construction of more low income housing.

Last year this Congress took strong action to help the District of Columbia. Let us renew our resolve to make this capital city a great city for all who live and visit here.

Our cities are the vibrant hubs of our great metropolitan areas. They are still the gateways for new immigrants, from every continent, coming to work for their own American Dream. Let's keep our cities going strong into the 21st Century.

Our communities are only as healthy as the air our children breathe, the water they drink, the Earth they will inherit.

Last year, we put in place the toughest-ever controls on smog and soot. We moved to protect Yellowstone, the Everglades, Lake Tahoe. We expanded every community's right to know about the toxics that threaten their children.

Yesterday, our food safety plan took effect, using new science to protect consumers from dangers like e-coli and salmonella.

Tonight, I ask you to join me in launching a new Clean Water Initiative, a far-reaching new effort to clean our rivers, lakes and coastal waters.

Yet our overriding environmental challenge is a worldwide problem requiring worldwide action: the gathering crisis of global warming.

The vast majority of scientists have concluded unequivocally that if we do not reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases, at some point in the next century we will disrupt our climate and put our children and grandchildren at risk. This past December, America led the world to reach a historic agreement committing nations to reduce

greenhouse gas emissions through market forces, new technology and energy efficiency.

We have it in our power to act right here, right now. I propose \$6 billion in tax cuts and research and development to encourage innovation, renewable energy, fuel efficient cars, energy efficient homes.

Every time we have acted to heal our environment, pessimists have said it would hurt our economy. Well, today our economy is the strongest in a generation—and our air and water are the cleanest in a generation. Americans have always found a way to grow the economy and clean the environment at the same time. And when it comes to global warming, we'll do it again.

Finally, community means living by the defining American value—the ideal heard round the world—that we are all created equal.

Throughout our history, we have not always honored this ideal—and we have never fully lived up to it. Often it is easier to believe that our differences matter more than what we have in common. It may be easier, but it is wrong.

What must we do in our day and generation to make sure that America truly becomes one nation, even as we become more and more diverse?

The answer cannot be to dwell on our differences, but to build on our shared values. We all cherish family and faith, work and community, freedom and responsibility. We all want our children to grow up in a world where their talents are matched by their opportunities.

I have launched a national initiative on race to help us to recognize our common interests and bridge the opportunity gaps that keep us from becoming One America.

Let us begin by recognizing what we still must overcome. Discrimination against any American is un-American. We must vigorously enforce the laws that make it illegal. I ask your help to end the backlog at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. 60,000 of our fellow citizens are waiting in line for justice, and we should act now to end that wait.

We also should recognize that the greatest progress we can make toward building one America lies in the progress we make for all Americans.

When we open the doors of college to all Americans, when we rid all our streets of crime, when there are jobs available to people from all neighborhoods, when we make sure that all parents have the children they need, we help to build one nation.

We, in this chamber and in government, must do all we can to address this continuing American challenge. But we will only move forward if all Americans—including every one of you watching at home tonight—are also committed to this cause.

We must work together, learn together, live together, and serve to-

gether. On the forge of common enterprise Americans of all backgrounds can hammer out a common identity. We see that in the United States military, in the Peace Corps, in AmeriCorps, wherever people of all races and backgrounds come together in a shared endeavor.

With shared values, meaningful opportunities, honest communication, and citizen service, we can unite a diverse people in freedom and mutual respect. We are many. We must be one.

THE MILLENNIUM—GIFTS TO THE FUTURE

In that spirit, let us lift our eyes to the new millennium. How will we mark that passage?

This year, Hillary and I launched the White House Millennium Program to promote America's creativity and innovation, and to preserve our heritage and culture into the 21st Century. Our culture lives in every community—and every community has places of historic value that tell our stories as Americans. We should protect them. I am proposing a public private partnership to advance our arts and humanities and to celebrate the millennium by saving America's treasures, great and small.

While we honor the past, let us imagine the future.

The entire store of human knowledge now doubles every five years. In the 1980s, scientists identified the gene causing cystic fibrosis—it took 9 years. Last year, we located the gene that causes Parkinson's Disease—in only 9 days. Within a decade, "gene chips" will offer a roadmap for prevention of illness throughout a lifetime. Soon, we will be able to carry all the phone calls on Mother's Day on a single strand of fiber the width of a human hair. A child born in 1998 may well live to see the 22nd Century.

Tonight, as part of our gift to the millennium, I propose a 21st Century Research Fund for pathbreaking scientific inquiry. This will be the largest funding increase in history for the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and the National Cancer Institute. We have already discovered genes for breast cancer and diabetes. I ask you to support this initiative, so that ours will be the generation that finally wins the war against cancer . . . and begins a revolution in our fight against all deadly diseases.

As important as rapid scientific progress is, science must continue to serve humanity, never the other way around. We must prevent the misuse of genetic tests to discriminate against any American. And we must ratify the ethical consensus of the scientific and religious communities, and ban the cloning of human beings.

We should enable all the world's people to explore the far reaches of cyberspace.

The first time I reported to you on the State of the Union, only a handful

of physicists used the World Wide Web. Now, in schools, libraries, homes and businesses, millions of Americans surf the Net every day.

We must give parents the tools they need to protect their children from inappropriate material on the Internet. And the Internet is an exploding global marketplace of ideas as well as commerce.

I ask Congress to step up support for building the next generation Internet, which will operate up to a thousand times faster than today.

Even as we explore innerspace, in the new millennium we will open new frontiers in outer space.

Throughout history, humankind has had only one place to call home—the planet Earth. Beginning this year, 1998, men and women from 16 countries will build a foothold in the heavens—the international space station. With its vast expanses, scientists and engineers will set sail on this uncharted sea of limitless mystery and unlimited potential.

And this October, a true American hero, a veteran pilot of 149 combat missions, and one five hour space flight that changed the world, will return to the heavens.

Godspeed, John Glenn.

You will carry with you America's hopes, and on your uniform you will carry America's flag, marking the unbroken connection between the deeds of America's past and the daring of America's future.

Nearly 200 years ago, a tattered flag, its broad stripes and bright stars still gleaming through the smoke of a fierce battle, moved Francis Scott Key to scribble a few words on the back of an envelope. Those words became our national anthem. Today, that Star Spangled Banner, along with the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights are on display just a short walk from here. They are America's treasures, and we must save and preserve them for the ages. I ask all Americans to support our project to restore all of our treasures so that generations of the 21st Century can see for themselves the images and the words that are the old and continuing glory of America.

An America that has continued to rise through every age, against every challenge; a people of great works and greater possibilities, who have always found the wisdom and strength to come together as one nation—to widen the circle of opportunity—to deepen the meaning of our freedom—to form that more perfect union. Let that be our gift to the 21st Century.

God Bless You, and God Bless the United States of America.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 7, 1997, the Secretary of the Senate, on December 4,

1997, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MORELLA) has signed the following enrolled bills and joint resolution:

H.R. 1604. An Act to provide for the division, use, and distribution of judgment funds of the Ottawa and Chippewa Indians of Michigan pursuant to dockets numbered 18-E, 58, 364, and 18-R before the Indian Claims Commission.

H.R. 1658. An Act to reauthorize and amend the Atlantic Striped Bass Conservation Act and related laws.

H.R. 2265. An Act to amend the provisions of titles 17 and 18, United States Code, to provide greater copyright protection by amending the criminal copyright infringement provisions, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2476. An Act to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the National Transportation Safety Board and individual foreign air carriers to address the needs of families of passengers involved in aircraft accidents involving foreign air carriers.

H.R. 2796. An Act to authorize the reimbursement of members of the Army deployed to Europe in support of operations in Bosnia for certain out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the members during the period beginning on October 1, 1996, and ending on May 31, 1997.

H.R. 2977. An Act to amend the Federal Advisory Committee Act to clarify public disclosure requirements that are applicable to the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Public Administration.

H.R. 2979. An Act to authorize acquisition of certain real property for the Library of Congress, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3025. An Act to amend the Federal charter for Group Hospitalization and Medical Services, Inc., and for other purposes.

H.R. 3034. An Act to amend section 13031 of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985, relating to customers user fees, to allow the use of such fees to provide for customs inspectional personnel in connection with the arrival of passengers in Florida, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 95. Joint Resolution granting the consent of Congress to the Chickasaw Trail Economic Development Compact.

H.J. Res. 96. Joint Resolution granting the consent and approval of Congress for the State of Maryland, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the District of Columbia to amend the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Regulation Compact.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 7, 1997, the enrolled bills were signed on December 4, 1997 during the adjournment of the Senate by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:46 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 548. An Act to designate the United States courthouse located at 500 Pearl Street in New York City, New York, as the "Ted Weiss United States Courthouse".

H.R. 595. An Act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse lo-

cated at 475 Mulberry Street in Macon, Georgia, as the "William Augustus Bootle Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

H.R. 1262. An Act to authorize appropriations for the Securities and Exchange Commission for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1476. An Act to settle certain Miccosukee Indian land takings claims within the State of Florida.

H.R. 2165. An Act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act applicable to the construction of FERC Project Number 3862 in the State of Iowa, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2007. An Act to amend the Act that authorized the Canadian River reclamation project, Texas, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to allow use of the project distribution system to transport water from sources other than the project.

H.R. 2207. An Act to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act concerning a proposal to construct a deep ocean outfall off the coast of Mayaguez, Puerto Rico.

H.R. 2233. An Act to assist in the conservation of coral reefs.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 137. Concurrent Resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives concerning the urgent need for an international criminal tribunal to try members of the Iraqi regime for crimes against humanity.

H. Con. Res. 197. Concurrent Resolution calling for the resignation or removal from office of Sara E. Lister, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

At 4:01 p.m. a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 1564. An Act to provide redress for inadequate restitution of assets seized by the United States Government during World War II which belonged to victims of the Holocaust, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following resolutions:

H. Res. 336. Resolution stating that the Clerk of the House informs the Senate that a quorum of the House is present and that the House is ready to proceed with business.

H. Res. 338. Resolution stating that the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable Sonny Bono, a Representative from the State of California.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 201. Concurrent Resolution providing for an adjournment of both Houses.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 548. An Act to designate the United States courthouse located at 500 Pearl Street

in New York City, New York, as the "Ted Weiss United States Courthouse"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 1262. An Act to authorize appropriations for the Securities and Exchange Commission for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1476. An Act to settle certain Miccosukee Indian land takings claims within the State of Florida; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 2165. An Act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act applicable to the construction of FERC Project Number 3862 in the State of Iowa, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2007. An Act to amend the Act that authorized the Canadian River reclamation project, Texas, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to allow use of the project distribution system to transport water from sources other than the project; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2207. An Act to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act concerning a proposal to construct a deep ocean outfall off the coast of Mayaguez, Puerto Rico; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 2233. An Act to assist in the conservation of coral reefs; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

The following concurrent resolutions were read and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 137. Concurrent Resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives concerning the urgent need for an international criminal tribunal to try members of the Iraqi regime for crimes against humanity; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H. Con. Res. 197. Concurrent Resolution calling for the resignation or removal from office of Sara E. Lister, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs; to the Committee on Armed Services.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following measures were read the second time and placed on the calendar:

S. 1530. A Bill to resolve ongoing tobacco litigation, to reform the civil justice system responsible for adjudicating tort claims against companies that manufacture tobacco products, and establish a national tobacco policy for the United States that will decrease youth tobacco use and reduce the marketing of tobacco products to young Americans.

H.R. 2709. An Act to impose certain sanctions on foreign persons who transfer items contributing to Iran's efforts to acquire, develop, or produce ballistic missiles, and to implement the obligations of the United States under the Chemical Weapons Convention.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated.

EC-3282. A communication from the Acting Comptroller General of the United States,

transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to rescissions for fiscal year 1996; referred jointly, pursuant to the order of January 30, 1975, as modified by the order of April 11, 1986, to the Committee on Appropriations, and to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-3283. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice of fund transfers; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-3284. A communication from the Chief, Programs and Legislation Division, Office of Legislative Liaison, Department of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a cost comparison at Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3285. A communication from the Chief, Programs and Legislation Division, Office of Legislative Liaison, Department of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a cost comparison at MacDill Air Force Base, Florida; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3286. A communication from the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Nuclear and Chemical and Biological Defense Programs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the Deep Digger program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3287. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning appropriations legislation within seven days of enactment; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-3288. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning direct spending or receipts legislation within seven days of enactment, dated October 16, 1997; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-3289. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning direct spending or receipts legislation within seven days of enactment, dated October 20, 1997; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-3290. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning appropriations legislation within seven days of enactment; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-3291. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning appropriations legislation within seven days of enactment; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-3292. A communication from the Director of the Executive Office for Immigration Review, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Adjustment of Status to That of Person Admitted for Permanent Residence" (RIN1125-AA20) received on November 6, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3293. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Temporary Exemption From Chemical Registration for Distributors of Pseudoephedrine and Phenylpropanolamine Products" (RIN2900-AH72) received on November 4, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3294. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General (Office of Legislative

Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Interim Guidance on Verification of Citizenship, Qualified Alien Status and Eligibility Under Title IV of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996" received on November 4, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3295. A communication from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a proposal to transfer an aircraft carrier; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3296. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans' Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Death of Appellant During Pendency of Appeal" (RIN2900-AI86) received on October 21, 1997; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3297. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans' Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Veterans and Reservist Education: Additional Educational Assistance While Serving the Selected Reserve" (RIN2900-AI79) received on October 24, 1997; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3298. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans' Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, one rule entitled "Veterans Education: Increase in Rates Payable Under the Montgomery GI Bill—Active Duty" (RIN2900-AI90) received on October 28, 1997; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3299. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans' Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, one rule entitled "Grants to States for Construction or Acquisition of State Home Facilities" (RIN2900-AI84) received on November 24, 1997; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3300. A communication from the Acting General Counsel of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "National Flood Insurance Program: Insurance Coverage and Rates" received on October 28, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3301. A communication from the Acting General Counsel of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Disaster Assistance; Snow Assistance" received on October 21, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3302. A communication from the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Modernization of the Authorities of the Defense Production Act"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3303. A communication from the Fiscal Assistant Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Treasury securities; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3304. A communication from the President and Chairman of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to China; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3305. A communication from the Fiscal Assistant Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Treasury auctions; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3306. A communication from the Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Comptroller of the Currency, Administrator of National Banks, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Risk-Based Capital Requirements"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3307. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the strategic plan for fiscal years 1997 through 2002; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3308. A communication from the Managing Director of the Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Restrictions on Advances to Non-Qualified Thrift Lenders" (RIN3069-AA60) received on October 24, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3309. A communication from the Chairman of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Flood Insurance Compliance"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3310. A communication from the Secretary of the Senate, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the receipts and expenditures of the Senate for the period April 1, 1997 through September 30, 1997; ordered to lie on the table.

EC-3311. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-160 adopted by the Council on September 22, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3312. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-161 adopted by the Council on September 22, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3313. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-163 adopted by the Council on September 22, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3314. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-164 adopted by the Council on September 22, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3315. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-166 adopted by the Council on September 22, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3316. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-167 adopted by the Council on September 22, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3317. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-168 adopted by the Council on September 22, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3318. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-169 adopted by the Council on September 22, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3319. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of

D.C. Act 12-170 adopted by the Council on September 22, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3320. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-171 adopted by the Council on September 22, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3321. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-172 adopted by the Council on September 22, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3322. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-176 adopted by the Council on October 7, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3323. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-177 adopted by the Council on October 7, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3324. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-180 adopted by the Council on October 7, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3325. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "Audit of the District of Columbia's Public Library's Procurement and Financial Management Practices and the Library's Relationship with the District of Columbia Public Library Foundation"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3326. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "Audit of ANC 6C Covering the Period October 1, 1993 through December 31, 1996; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3327. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Bahamas; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3328. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Presidential Determination 97-36 on the Export-Import Loan to China for Shanghai Metro; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3329. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules including a rule entitled "Deposits" (RIN 1550-AB00, 1557-AB14, 3064-AB57, 1550-AB11) received on October 17, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3330. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the availability of credit to small business; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3331. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Regulation D" received on October 31, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3332. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Rules Regarding Avail-

ability of Information" received on November 12, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3333. A communication from the Deputy Director, US&FCS/Russia-NIS Program Office, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Cooperative Agreement Program for an American Business Center in Russia" received on November 4, 1997; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3334. A communication from the Regulatory Policy Officer, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Removal of Restrictions on Importation of Defense Articles" (RIN1512-AB62) received on November 6, 1997; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3335. A communication from the Chairman of the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3336. A communication from the Director of the International Labor Organization, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports entitled "Program and Budget for 1998-99 (Summary and Analysis)" and "The ILO and Global Change: 1990-97"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3337. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the American Institute in Taiwan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3338. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the report of the texts of international agreements, other than treaties, and background statements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3339. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the report of the texts of international agreements, other than treaties, and background statements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3340. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the United Nations agencies and affiliated agencies; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3341. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of thirty-one notices of proposed issuances of export licenses; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3342. A communication from the Director of the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Census Tract Program for Census 2000" received on October 21, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3343. A communication from the Acting Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the list of General Accounting Office reports and testimony for September 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3344. A communication from the Director of the Office of the Secretary of Defense (Administration and Management), transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "The Privacy Program" received on October 22, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3345. A communication from the Federal Acquisitions Regulation Secretariat, Office of Governmentwide Policy, U.S. General

Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule, a rule entitled "Alternative Dispute Resolution" (RIN9000-AH72) received on November 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3346. A communication from the Director of Commissioned Personnel, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps Retirement System; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3347. A communication from the Acting Director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, one rule entitled "Fellowship and Similar Appointments in the Excepted Service" (RIN3206-AH91) received on October 28, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3348. A communication from the Acting Director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, a draft bill of proposed legislation entitled "Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance Improvement Act of 1997"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3349. A communication from the Executive Director of the Committee For Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the internal controls and financial systems in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3350. A communication from the Executive Director, Committee for Purchase From People Who are Blind or Severely Disabled, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to additions to the procurement list, received on November 12, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3351. A communication from the Executive Director, Committee for Purchase From People Who are Blind or Severely Disabled, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to additions to the procurement list, received on October 21, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3352. A communication from the Chairman of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the internal controls and financial systems in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3353. A communication from the Chief Financial Officer of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3354. A communication from the Office of the Independent Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on audit and investigative activities for the period ending September 30, 1996; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3355. A communication from the Office of the Independent Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on audit and investigative activities for the period ending September 30, 1996; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3356. A communication from the Independent Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls for the period March 1997 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3357. A communication from the Independent Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls for the period March 1997 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3358. A communication from the Office of Special Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3359. A communication from the Deputy Independent Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Inspector General Act on audit and investigative activities during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3360. A communication from the Executive Director of the Marine Mammal Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report of the Inspector General for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3361. A communication from the President and Chief Executive Office of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3362. A communication from the Director of the U.S. Office of Government Ethics, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect and the report of the Office of Inspector General for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3363. A communication from the Regulatory Policy Official, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule entitled "Transfer of Electronic Records to the National Archives" (RIN3095-AA70), received on October 23, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3364. A communication from the Director of the National Gallery of Art, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect and the report of the Office of Inspector General for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3365. A communication from the Executive Director of the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect and the report of the Office of Inspector General for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3366. A communication from the Chairman of the Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect and the report of the Office of Inspector General for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3367. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3368. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3369. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in

effect and the report of the Office of Inspector General for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3370. A communication from the Director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3371. A communication from the Chair of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, the strategic plan for fiscal years 1997 to 2002; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3372. A communication from the Executive Director of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3373. A communication from the Executive Director of the Japan-United States Friendship Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1996 and the report of the Office of Inspector General for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3374. A communication from the Board Members of the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act (PFCRA); to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3375. A communication from the Executive Director of the United States Arctic Research Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General and Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Acts for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3376. A communication from the Chair of the U.S. Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect and the report of the Office of Inspector General for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3377. A communication from the Chairman of the U.S. Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect and the report of the Office of Inspector General for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3378. A communication from the President and Chief Executive Officer of the U.S. Enrichment Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect and the report of the Office of Inspector General for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3379. A communication from the Executive Director of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General and Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Acts for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3380. A communication from the Director of the U.S. Trade and Development Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General and the Federal Managers' Financial Act (FMFIA) for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3381. A communication from the Acting Director of the Woodrow Wilson Center,

transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect and the report of the Office of Inspector General for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3382. A communication from the General Sales Manager and Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule governing the financing of commercial sales of agricultural commodities received on October 22, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3383. A communication from the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Amendment to the Production Flexibility Contract Regulations" (RIN0560-AF25) received on October 21, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3384. A communication from the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing and Regulatory Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan" received on October 24, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3385. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Food and Consumer Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Commodity Supplemental Food Program-Caseload Assignment" (RIN0584-AC60) received on October 28, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3386. A communication from the Acting Chief Financial Officer, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the strategic plan for fiscal years 1997 through 2002; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3387. A communication from the Manager, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, three rules including a rule entitled "General Crop Insurance Regulations"; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3388. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection, Marketing and Regulatory Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, three rules including a rule entitled "Mediterranean Fruit Fly"; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3389. A communication from the Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, six rules including a rule entitled "Walnuts Grown in California"; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3390. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior (Land and Minerals Management), transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Patent Preparation and Issuance" (RIN1004-AC88) received on November 4, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3391. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Regulations for the Licensing of Hydroelectric Projects" received on October 30, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3392. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report of the Metals Initiative for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3393. A communication from the Administrator of the Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 1996"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3394. A communication from the Director of the Minerals Management Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Natural Gas Resource Management Program: Cumulative Effects 1992-94"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3395. A communication from the Director of the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules including a rule entitled "Indiana Regulatory Program"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3396. A communication from the Director of the Office of Rulemaking Coordination, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, three rules including a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products" (RIN1904-AA38, AA52); to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3397. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of Revenue Procedures 97-49 through 97-53; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3398. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of Notices 97-56, 58-60, 63, 64, 66; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3399. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of Revenue Rulings 97-44, 47; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3400. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of Announcements 97-111, 114; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3401. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of three actions on decisions received on November 5, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3402. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a Treasury regulation entitled "Tax Treatment of Cafeteria Plans" (RIN1545-AV43) received on November 6, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3403. A communication from the Regulatory Policy Officer of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Mendocino Ridge Viticultural Area (95R-017P)" (RIN1512-AA07) received on November 4, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3404. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Branch, U.S. Customs Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Anticounterfeiting Consumer Protection Act" (RIN1515-AC10) received on November 12, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3405. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of the Treasury, transmitting, a draft of proposed legis-

lation entitled "The Savings Bond Simplification Act of 1997"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3406. A communication from the U.S. Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to modify the marking of certain silk products and containers; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3407. A communication from the Deputy Administrator of the Health Care Financing Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Medicare Program" (RIN0938-AG03) received November 3, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3408. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Medicare Program" (RIN0938-A116) received on October 30, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3409. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans' Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Miscellaneous Educational Revisions" (RIN2900-A169) received on October 28, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3410. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Education (Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services), transmitting, a report relative to persons with disabilities; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3411. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "To Assure the Free Appropriate Public Education of All Children With Disabilities"; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3412. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules including a rule entitled "Unemployment Insurance Program Letter Nos. 41-97 and 44-97"; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3413. A communication from the Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules including a rule entitled "Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans" (RIN1212-AA82) received on November 12, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3414. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, three rules including a rule entitled "National Awards Program for Model Professional Development" (RIN1850-ZA02, AA52) received on November 12, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3415. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment Standards, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules including a rule entitled "Longshore Act Civil Money Penalties Adjustment" (RIN1215-AB17); to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3416. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Office of Policy, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, four rules including a rule entitled "Quality Mammography Standards" (RIN0910-AA24, AA93, AA59); to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3417. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on family planning for fiscal years 1994 and 1995; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3418. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Metropolitan Area Treatment Enhancement System for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3419. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Mammography Quality Standards (RIN0910-AA24) received on November 13, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3420. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Deceptive Use of Leakproof" received on November 17, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3421. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on ombudsman activities with the New Independent States for the period July 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3422. A communication from the Office of the Director of the Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Federal, State, and Local Transportation Financial Statistics: Fiscal Years 1982-94"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3423. A communication from the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on civil aviation security for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3424. A communication from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the administration of the Marine Mammal Protection Act for calendar year 1995; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3425. A communication from the Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the budget; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3426. A communication from the Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for calendar year 1995; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3427. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, six rules; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3428. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3429. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, three rules; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3430. A communication from the Principal Deputy (Acquisition and Technology), Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the selected acquisition reports for the period July 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3431. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Nonproliferation and

Disarmament Fund; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3432. A communication from the Associate Managing Director for Performance Evaluation and Records Management, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, sixteen rules; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3433. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, 191 rules; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3434. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit of the Internal Revenue Service, Department of Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, Revenue Ruling 97-45 received on November 17, 1996; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3435. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit of the Internal Revenue Service, Department of Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, Revenue Ruling 97-46 received on November 17, 1996; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3436. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit of the Internal Revenue Service, Department of Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, Revenue Notice 97-67 received on November 17, 1996; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3437. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit of the Internal Revenue Service, Department of Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, Revenue Notice 97-68 received on November 17, 1996; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3438. A communication from the Chief Counsel of the Bureau of the Public Debt, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on November 17, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3439. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the notice of determination and certification relative to antiterrorism; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3440. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the report of the texts of international agreements, other than treaties, and background statements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3441. A communication from the Chairman of the U.S. International Trade Commission, transmitting, a draft to proposed legislation to provide authorization of appropriations for the United States International Trade Commission for fiscal year 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3442. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the transmittal of the certification of proposed issuance of an export license; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3443. A communication from the Independent Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls for the period October 1, 1996 through March 31, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3444. A communication from the Office of Independent Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period ending September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3445. A communication from the Acting Director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, one

rule entitled "Reduction in Force Performance Management" (RIN3206-AH32) received on November 17, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3446. A communication from the Chairman of the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to the law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3447. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Statistical Programs of the U.S. Government: Fiscal Year 1998"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3448. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administration, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, one rule entitled "Implementation of the Comprehensive Methamphetamine Control Act of 1996; Possession of List I Chemicals, Definitions, Record Retention, and Temporary Exemption From Chemical Registration for Distributors of Combination Ephedrine Products" (RIN1117-AA42) received on November 17, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3449. A communication from the President of the National Safety Council, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the combined financial statements for the fiscal years ended on June 30, 1997 and 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3450. A communication from the Chief Financial Officer of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, pursuant to the law, a report relative to mixed waste; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3451. A communication from the Administrator of the U.S. General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a prospectus; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3452. A communication from the Director of the Office of Rulemaking Coordination, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products" (RIN1904-AA93) received on October 21, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3453. A communication from the Director of the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the rule entitled "Illinois Regulatory Program" received on October 21, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3454. A communication from the Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the biennial report on the Flood Insurance Compliance Program for calendar years 1996 and 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3455. A communication from the Acting General Counsel of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules including one rule entitled "Snow Load Map for Manufactured Homes" received on November 17, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3456. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection, Marketing and Regulatory Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, one rule entitled "Import/Export User Fees" received on November 17, 1997; to the Com-

mittee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3457. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection, Marketing and Regulatory Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, one rule relative to importation of pork products received on November 17, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3458. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection, Marketing and Regulatory Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, one rule relative to quarantine regulations received on November 14, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3459. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management Policy), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report concerning institutions of higher education that have been deemed ineligible for certain federal funding; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3460. A communication from the Director of the Office of the Secretary of Defense (Administration and Management), transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "DoD Freedom of Information Act Program" received on November 17, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3461. A communication from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice to award a contract with options covering a nine year period; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3462. A communication from the Chief, Programs and Legislative Division, Office of Legislative Liaison, Department of the Air Force, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a cost comparison study relative to Elmendorf Air Force Base (AFB), Alaska; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3463. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3464. A communication from the Acting Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the list of General Accounting Office reports and testimony for October 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3465. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3466. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to accounts containing unvouchered expenditures; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3467. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3468. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator for Acquisition Policy, Office of Governmentwide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, fifteen rules including a rule entitled "Travel Reimbursement"

(RIN9000-AH77, AH75, AG87, AH24, AH80, AH79, AH50, AH37, AH76, AH81, AH18, AH78, AH74) received on December 2, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3469. A communication from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3470. A communication from the Attorney General, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3471. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3472. A communication from the Director of the United States Information Agency, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3473. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the management report on management decisions and final actions of the Office of the Inspector General audit recommendations for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3474. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3475. A communication from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3476. A communication from the Chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3477. A communication from the Chairman of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3478. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3479. A communication from the Executive Officer of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Government in the Sunshine Act for calendar years 1995 and 1996; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3480. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3481. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission,

transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1, 1997 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3482. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3483. A communication from the Office of the Public Printer, U.S. Government Printing Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3484. A communication from the Chairman of the International Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General Act for the period of April 1, 1997 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3485. A communication from the Regulatory Policy Official, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule entitled "Prices and Availability of Federal Register, Acceptance of Digital Signatures" received on December 2, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3486. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1996; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3487. A communication from the Director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, one rule entitled "Student Educational Program" (RIN3206-AH82) received on December 3, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3488. A communication from the Director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3489. A communication from the Acting Director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, a draft bill of proposed legislation to provide for the correction of retirement coverage errors; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3490. A communication from the Director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to cost-of-living allowance (RIN3206-AH51) received on December 3, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3491. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors, United States Postal Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report for the period ending September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3492. A communication from the Chairman of the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3493. A communication from the Board Members of the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, a draft bill of proposed legislation to make permanent the exemption of certain trust funds; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3494. A communication from the Chairman of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3495. A communication from the Commissioner of the Office of Social Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the accountability report for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3496. A communication from the President of the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence In Education Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3497. A communication from the Executive Secretary of the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence In Education Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3498. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Corporation For Public Broadcasting, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3499. A communication from the Chairman of the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3500. A communication from the Chairman of the National Endowment For the Arts, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3501. A communication from the Chairman of the National Endowment For the Humanities, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3502. A communication from the Chairman of the National Science Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3503. A communication from the Chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997 and the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3504. A communication from the Chairman of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997 and the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3505. A communication from the Executive Director of the State Justice Institute, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal

year 1997 and the report of the Office of Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3506. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "Evaluation of the Accounts and Operation of the Office of Tourism and Promotions for Fiscal Years 1996 and 1997; the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3507. A communication from the Chief of the Regulation Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a Treasury regulations received on January 27, 1998; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3508. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the OMB Final Sequestration Report for fiscal year 1998; referred jointly, pursuant to the order of January 30, 1975, as modified by the order of April 11, 1986, to the Committee on Appropriations, to the Committee on the Budget, to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, to the Committee on Armed Services, to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, to the Committee on Environment and Public Works, to the Committee on Finance, to the Committee on Foreign Relations, to the Committee on Governmental Affairs, to the Committee on the Judiciary, to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources, the Committee on Small Business, to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, to the Committee on Indian Affairs, and to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC-3509. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Hunting" (RIN1018-AB80) received on November 25, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3510. A communication from the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to highway construction; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3511. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a prospectus; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3512. A communication from the Chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the nondisclosure of safeguards information for the period July 1, 1997 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3513. A communication from the Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, six rules including a rule entitled "Perimeter Intrusion Alarm Systems"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3514. A communication from the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on October 17, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3515. A communication from the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on October 30, 1997; to

the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3516. A communication from the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on October 30, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3517. A communication from the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on November 25, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3518. A communication from the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on December 9, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3519. A communication from the Acting Assistant of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice relative to an emergency; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3520. A communication from the Acting Assistant of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to navigation improvements at Miami Harbor, Florida; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3521. A communication from the Acting Assistant of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a hurricane and storm damage reduction project; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3522. A communication from the Acting Assistant of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a flood damage reduction project; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3523. A communication from the Acting Assistant of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a storm damage reduction and shoreline protection project; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3524. A communication from the Acting Assistant of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Lake Worth Inlet, Palm Beach Harbor, Florida; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3525. A communication from the Acting Assistant of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a deep-draft navigation project; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3526. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on October 22, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3527. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on October 17, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3528. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on October 17, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3529. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Pro-

tection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, five rules received on October 21, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3530. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on November 4, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3531. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, six rules received on November 4, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3532. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, seven rules received on November 6, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3533. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules received on November 7, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3534. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, three rules received on November 12, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3535. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on November 13, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3536. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules received on November 19, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3537. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, thirteen rules received on November 21, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3538. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on November 25, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3539. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, eight rules received on November 25, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3540. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, four rules received on December 2, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3541. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to

law, eight rules received on December 4, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3542. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, three rules received on December 5, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3543. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, three rules received on December 5, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3544. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on December 10, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3545. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, six rules received on December 10, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3546. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the budget request for fiscal year 1999; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-3547. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on direct spending or receipts legislation within seven days of enactment dated November 21, 1997; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-3548. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on appropriations legislation within seven days of enactment; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-3549. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on direct spending or receipts legislation within seven days of enactment dated December 1, 1997; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-3550. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on direct spending or receipts legislation within seven days of enactment dated December 4, 1997; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-3551. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on direct spending or receipts legislation within seven days of enactment dated November 21, 1997; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-3552. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans' Affairs, transmitting, seven rules including a rule entitled "Loan Guaranty: Electronic Payment of Funding Fee"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3553. A communication from the Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, four rules; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3554. A communication from the Director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, Depart-

ment of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules received on December 9, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3555. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of calendar year 1996 Forensic DNA Laboratory Improvement Program grant awards; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3556. A communication from the Director of the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on accomplishments for fiscal years 1995 and 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3557. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Loan Policies and Operations" (RIN3052-AB78) received on November 25, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3558. A communication from the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "1997-Crop Peanuts" (RIN0560-AF01) received on November 19, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3559. A communication from the Administrator of the Risk Management Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Pea Crop Insurance Regulations" received on December 2, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3560. A communication from the Acting Administrator, Marketing and Regulatory Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules including a rule entitled "Winter Pears Grown in Oregon, Washington, and California" received on November 25, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3561. A communication from the Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules including a rule entitled "Raisins Produced From Grapes Grown in California" received on November 25, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3562. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, nine rules; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3563. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, the notice of a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3564. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice relative to the report on Reserve retirement initiatives; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3565. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management Policy), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of determinations relative to institutions of higher education; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3566. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement (Acquisition and Technology), Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on November 25, 1997; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3567. A communication from the Chief of the Programs and Legislation Division,

Office of Legislative Liaison, Department of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the initiation of a cost comparison; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3568. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on payment of restructuring costs under defense contracts for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3569. A communication from Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Program Integration, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the Military Retirement System for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3570. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management Policy), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Rewarding, Organizing, and Managing People for the 21st Century, Time for a Strategic Approach"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3571. A communication from the Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Comptroller of the Currency, Administrator of National Banks, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Assessment of Fees" (RIN1557-AB41) received on December 3, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3572. A communication from the President and Chairman of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Russia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3573. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on November 19, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3574. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment" (RIN1550-AB01) received on November 25, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3575. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Liquidity" (RIN1550-AA77) received on November 18, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3576. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning the national emergency with respect to Iran; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3577. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning the national emergency with respect to Serbia and Montenegro; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3578. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning the national emergency with respect to Burma; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3579. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, three rules; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3580. A communication from the Deputy Congressional Liaison, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules; to the

Committee on Banking, Housing, Urban Affairs.

EC-3581. A communication from the Legal Counsel of the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, four rules; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3582. A communication from the Secretary of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3583. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Worker Adjustment Assistant Training Funds; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3584. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Welfare-to-Work Grants" (RIN1205-AB15) received on November 21, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3585. A communication from the Chief of Staff of Social Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Definition of United States Resident" (RIN0960-AE05) received November 25, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3586. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to telemedicine services; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3587. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning emigration laws; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3588. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the operation of the Andean Trade Preference Act; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3589. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, Notices 97-62, 65, 69, 73; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3590. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, Revenue Rulings 97-48, 49, 51, 53; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3591. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, Announcements 97-120, 122; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3592. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, two Treasury regulations; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3593. A communication from the Assistant Commissioner (Examination), Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on December 5, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3594. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the notice of the proposed issuance of an export license; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3595. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the notice of a military justification; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3596. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Af-

airs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3597. A communication from the Administrator of the U.S. Agency For International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Denton Program for the period July 1, 1996 through June 30, 1997; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3598. A communication from the Executive Director of the Japan-United States Friendship Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3599. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, the report of the texts of international agreements, other than treaties, and background statements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3600. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the prevention of nuclear proliferation for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3601. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the administration of the Foreign Agents Registration Act for the period July 1 through December 31, 1996; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3602. A communication from the Chief of the Regulation Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a Treasury regulations received on January 27, 1998; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3603. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Land and Minerals Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules including a rule entitled "Minerals Management Service" (RIN1010-AC06, 1004-AC91); to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3604. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Safety Belt Use Within the NPS System" (RIN1024-AC63) received on December 8, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3605. A communication from the Deputy Associate Director for Compliance, Royalty Management Program, Minerals Management Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, notice of the intention to make refunds of offshore lease revenues where a refund or recoupment is appropriate; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3606. A communication from the Director of the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Implementation of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996" (RIN1029-AB90) received on November 25, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3607. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the status of Exxon and stripper well oil overcharge funds for the period January 1 through March 31, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3608. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on low-level radioactive

waste management program for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3609. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the Clean Coal Technology Demonstration Program for the period January 1, 1996 through June 30, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3610. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules received on December 2, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3611. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Water and Science, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Adjusted 1988 Newlands Project Operating Criteria and Procedures" (RIN1006-AA37) received on December 11, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3612. A communication from the Co-Chairs of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the final report of the Commission; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-3613. A communication from the Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for the period January through September 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3614. A communication from the Navy Wives Clubs of America National Treasurer, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the audit of the NWCA for the period September 1, 1996 through August 31, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3615. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on direct spending or receipts legislation within seven days of enactment dated December 4, 1997; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-3616. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on direct spending or receipts legislation within seven days of enactment dated December 10, 1997; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-3617. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of two rules; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3618. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the rule entitled "Loan Policies and Operations" (RIN3052-AB81) received on December 15, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3619. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer of the Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Application Processing" (RIN1550-AA83) received on December 18, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3620. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on a national emergency; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3621. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the executive

order prohibiting certain transactions with respect to UNITA; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3622. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a statement of justification; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3623. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, the report of the texts of international agreements, other than treaties, and background statements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3624. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Rewards Program Participants; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3625. A communication from the President and Chairman of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Indonesia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3626. A communication from the Managing Director of the Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Authority to Approve Federal Home Loan Bank Bylaws" (RIN3069-AA70) received on December 29, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3627. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, case number 93-33; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-3628. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, the report of the texts of international agreements, other than treaties, and background statements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3629. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning direct spending or receipts legislation within seven days of enactment; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-3630. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans' Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Active Military Service Certified Under Section 401 of Public Law 95-202 (RIN2900-AI91) received on January 5, 1998; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3631. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the strategic plan for fiscal years 1998 through 2003; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3632. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the National Institute of Justice for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3633. A communication from the Chairperson of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled, "Racial and Ethnic Tension in American Communities: Poverty, Inequality, and Discrimination"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3634. A communication from the Acting Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information

Act for calendar year 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3635. A communication from the Clerk of the United States Court of Federal Claims, transmitting, pursuant to law, the court's report for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3636. A communication from the Director of the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, three rules; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3637. A communication from the Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the High Plains States Groundwater Demonstration Program; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3638. A communication from the Director of the Office of Rulemaking Coordination, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on December 17, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3639. A communication from the Administrator of the Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Energy Outlook 1998"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3640. A communication from the Freedom of Information Act Administrator, Office of the General Counsel, Legal Services Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar year 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3641. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3642. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans' Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Minimum Income Annuity" (RIN2900-AI83) received January 8, 1998; to the Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3643. A communication from the Manager of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, six rules including a rule entitled "Sweet Corn Insurance Regulations" received on January 5, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3644. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of four rules; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3645. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Karnal Bunt" (RIN0579-AA83) received on January 8, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3646. A communication from the Administrator of the Rural Housing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Rural Rental Housing Assistance" (RIN0575-AC15) received on December 29, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3647. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Land and

Minerals Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the rule entitled "Royalty Relief for New Leases in Deep Water" (RIN1010-AC14) received on January 9, 1998; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3648. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Land and Minerals Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on January 9, 1998; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3649. A communication from the Director of the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Mississippi Regulatory Program" received on January 7, 1998; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3650. A communication from the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Endangered Status for Brother's Inland Tuatara" (RIN1018-AD06) received on January 5, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3651. A communication from the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants" (RIN1018-AD07) received on January 9, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3652. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Surface Transportation Research and Development Plan; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3653. A communication from the Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Nuclear Fuel Cycle Facility Accident Analysis Handbook" received on January 8, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3654. A communication from the Acting Assistant of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a deep-draft navigation project in Charleston Harbor, South Carolina; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3655. A communication from the Acting Assistant of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to an environmental restoration project for the Lower Savannah River, Georgia and South Carolina; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3656. A communication from the Acting Assistant of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a flood damage reduction project for the Blue River Basin at the Dodson Industrial District, Kansas City, Missouri; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3657. A communication from the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the status of the Hazardous Air Pollutant Program; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3658. A communication from the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Superfund Innovative Technology Evaluation Program"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3659. A communication from the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to

law, a report on the mercury study; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3660. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, five rules received on December 12, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3661. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, nineteen rules received on December 12, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3662. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules received on December 17, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3663. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules received on December 18, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3664. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, six rules received on December 18, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3665. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, seven rules received on December 22, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3666. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, six rules received on December 29, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3667. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules received on January 5, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3668. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on January 7, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3669. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, three rules received on January 7, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3670. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, fifteen rules received on January 7, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3671. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to

law, six rules received on January 7, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3672. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, three rules received on January 8, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3673. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, three rules; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3674. A communication from the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Amendments to the Bank Secrecy Act Regulations Regarding Reporting and Recordkeeping by Card Clubs" (RIN1506-AA18) received on January 7, 1998; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3675. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules received on January 7, 1998; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3676. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice relative to the continuation of the Libyan Emergency; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3677. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Risk-Based Capital Standards" received on December 22, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3678. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the U.S. government for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3679. A communication from the Director of the Office of the Secretary of Defense (Administration and Management), transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on December 29, 1997; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3680. A communication from the Acting Director of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice relative to a cost comparison study of the DOD Civilian Payroll functions; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3681. A communication from the Acting Director of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice relative to a cost comparison study of the DOD Retired and Annuitant Payroll functions; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3682. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a determination to combine multiple depot-level maintenance and repair workloads; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3683. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3684. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Acquisition Workforce Reductions"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3685. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Naval Petroleum Reserve Numbered 1, Elk Hills, California; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3686. A communication from the Director of the Washington Headquarters Services, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on December 29, 1997; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3687. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a Presidential Determination relative to Albania, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3688. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning the emigration laws and policies of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3689. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the trade and employment effects of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3690. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the trade and employment effects of the Andean Trade Preference Act; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3691. A communication from the National Director, Tax Forms and Publications Division, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on December 12, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3692. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on January 8, 1998; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3693. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Monitoring the Impact of Medicare Physician Payment Reform on Utilization and Access"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3694. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on January 8, 1998; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3695. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Branch, U.S. Customs Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3696. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of Notices 97-74, 77, 98-1 through 98-7; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3697. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of thirteen Treasury regulations; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3698. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of three actions on decisions received on January 6, 1998; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3699. 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 "Empowerment Zone Employment Credit" received on December 30, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3700. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of three rules received on January 6, 1998; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3701. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of Revenue Rulings 97:55-57, 98:1, 98:4; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3702. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of Revenue Procedures 97:55, 57, 98:1-10, 98:13; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3703. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on December 3, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3704. A communication from the Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to the budget; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3705. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the study of the contribution of bycatch to charitable organizations; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3706. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning the Telecommunications and Information Infrastructure Assistance Program; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3707. A communication from the Director of the Program Office of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Advanced Technology Program; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3708. A communication from the Director of the Bureau of Economic Analysis, Economics and Statistics Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of two rules concerning surveys of international transactions in services; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3709. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Task Force On Assistance To Families of Aviation Disasters"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3710. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "High-Speed Ground Transportation For America"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3711. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice on the enforcement policy statement on U.S. origin claims; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3712. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the appliance labeling rule received on January 5, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3713. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on individual reference services; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3714. A communication from the AMD-Performance Evaluation and Records Management, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, eleven rules; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3715. A communication from the National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on January 5, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3716. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on November 21, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3717. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of six rules; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3718. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of fifteen rules; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3719. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of four rules; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3720. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of nine rules; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3721. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of 191 rules; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3722. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-190 adopted by the Council on September 22, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3723. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-191 adopted by the Council on October 7, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3724. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-198 adopted by the Council on November 4, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3725. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-199 adopted by the Council on November 4, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3726. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Colum-

bia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-200 adopted by the Council on November 4, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3727. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-204 adopted by the Council on November 4, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3728. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-205 adopted by the Council on November 4, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3729. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-209 adopted by the Council on November 4, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3730. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-210 adopted by the Council on November 4, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3731. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-211 adopted by the Council on November 4, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3732. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3733. A communication from the Chairman and General Counsel of the U.S. National Labor Relations Board, transmitting jointly, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3734. A communication from the Chairman of the Postal Rate Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3735. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3736. A communication from the Chairperson of the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3737. A communication from the Acting Chairman of the Thrift Depositor Protection Oversight Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3738. A communication from the Chairman of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3739. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3740. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3741. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3742. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3743. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3744. A communication from the Senior Deputy Chairman of the National Endowment For the Arts, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3745. A communication from the Chairman of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3746. A communication from the Chair of the Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3747. A communication from the Director of the Policy and Communications Staff, National Archives at College Park, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3748. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3749. A communication from the Chairman of the National Mediation Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3750. A communication from the Chairman of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3751. A communication from the Administrator of the Panama Canal Commis-

sion, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3752. A communication from the Chair of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3753. A communication from the Director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3754. A communication from the Director of the U.S. Information Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3755. A communication from the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3756. A communication from the Attorney General, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3757. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3758. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3759. A communication from the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3760. A communication from the Chairman of the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3761. A communication from the Inspector General of the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3762. A communication from the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation For National Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3763. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Free-

dom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3764. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3765. A communication from the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3766. A communication from the Federal Co-Chairman of the Appalachian Regional Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3767. A communication from the Inspector General of the U.S. General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3768. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Office of the Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3769. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission of Fine Arts, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3770. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3771. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3772. A communication from the President of the U.S. Institute of Peace, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual reports on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997 and under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3773. A communication from the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual reports on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997 and under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3774. A communication from the Director of the Morris K. Udall Foundation Scholarship and Excellence In National Environmental Policy Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual reports on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997 and under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3775. A communication from the Secretary of the American Battle Monuments Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual reports on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997 and under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3776. A communication from the Director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3777. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Freedom of Information Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3778. A communication from the Director of the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules including a rule entitled "Block Group Program for Census 2000" received on January 5, 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3779. A communication from the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, the President's Pay Agent, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to locality-based comparability payments; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3780. A communication from the Director of the Office of Administration, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, an aggregate report on personnel for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3781. A communication from the Executive Director of the Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of additions to the Procurement List; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3782. A communication from the Acting Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the list of reports, testimony, correspondence, and other publications for November 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3783. A communication from the Acting Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Internal Revenue Service; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3784. A communication from the General Manager of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, the comprehensive annual financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3785. A communication from the Chairman of the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of management reform plans; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3786. A communication from the Director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of seven rules; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3787. A communication from the Director of the Office of Insular Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "Impact of the Compacts of Free Association on the United States Territories and Commonwealths and on the State of Hawaii"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3788. A communication from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the proceedings of the Judicial Conference of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3789. A communication from the Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, one rule relative to business persons received on January 12, 1998; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3790. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar year 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3791. A communication from the Chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar year 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3792. A communication from the Chairperson of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Equal Educational Opportunity and Nondiscrimination for Students with Limited English Proficiency"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3793. A communication from the Chief Administrative Officer of the Postal Rate Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3794. A communication from the Director of the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, one rule entitled "Establishing New Research Data Centers (RDC)" received on January 15, 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3795. A communication from the Director of Selective Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3796. A communication from the Secretary of the Postal Rate Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Government in the Sunshine Act for calendar year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3797. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Federal Advisory Committee Act and the Negotiated Rulemaking Act; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3798. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3799. A communication from the Director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, one rule relative to agency relationships (RIN3206-AH72) received on January 15, 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3800. A communication from the Board Members of the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3801. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the internal controls and financial systems in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3802. A communication from the Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on internal controls and financial systems in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3803. A communication from the Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3804. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Federal Employees Clean Air Act; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3805. A communication from the Independent Counsel, Office of the Independent Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for the period ending September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3806. A communication from the Deputy Financial Officer of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3807. A communication from the Executive Director of the Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of additions to the Procurement List; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3808. A communication from the Director of the Peace Corps, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the internal controls and financial systems in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3809. A communication from the Director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3810. A communication from the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the internal controls and financial systems in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3811. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors, United States Postal Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Government in the Sunshine Act for calendar year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3812. A communication from the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3813. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3814. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the

annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3815. A communication from the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice of approval for a personnel management demonstration project for the Department of the Navy; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3816. A communication from the Executive Director of the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "District of Columbia Public Schools Performance Audit: Fiscal Year 1997 Capital Improvement Program Procurement Process"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3817. A communication from the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-224 adopted by the Council on December 4, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3818. A communication from the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-223 adopted by the Council on December 4, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3819. A communication from the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-219 adopted by the Council on December 4, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3820. A communication from the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, copies of D.C. Act 12-194 adopted by the Council on December 4, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3821. A communication from the Public Printer, U.S. Government Printing Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the status of GPO access; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-3822. A communication from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on unauthorized appropriations and expiring authorizations; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-3823. A communication from the Acting Director of the Indian Arts and Crafts Board, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Protection for Products of Indian Art and Craftsmanship" (RIN1090-AA45) received on January 15, 1998; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-3824. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on contract support cost funding in Indian self-determination contracts and compacts; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-3825. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report that a reward had been paid pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2708; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3826. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on negative security assurances; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3827. A communication from the Director of the Office of Rulemaking Coordination, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Records Maintained on Individuals (Privacy Act)" (RIN1901-AA62) received on January 21, 1998; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3828. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer of the Bureau of

Land Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Federal Timber Contract Payment Modification" (RIN1004-AC69) received on January 12, 1998; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3829. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior (Land and Minerals Management), transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Multiple Use, Mining" (RIN1004-AD05) received on December 10, 1997; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3830. A communication from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Niobrara National Scenic River; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3831. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report from foreign entities for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3832. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Future Years Defense Program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3833. A communication from the Chief of the Programs and Legislation Division, Office of Legislative Liaison, Department of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a cost comparison of libraries at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3834. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations and Environment), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the strategic overview of the Navy's commercial activity studies; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3835. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, a report of a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3836. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the National Defense Stockpile; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3837. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the Government in the Sunshine Act for calendar year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3838. A communication from the Director of the National Science Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the internal controls and financial systems in effect during fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3839. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3840. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on outreach to gulf war veterans; to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

EC-3841. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on appropriations legislation within seven days of enactment; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-3842. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on appropriations legislation within seven days of enactment; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-3843. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a Presidential Determination relative to the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3844. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a determination relative to the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3845. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the report of the texts of international agreements, other than treaties, and background statements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3846. A communication from the Chief Counsel of the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to U.S. nationals and the government of North Korea, received on December 4, 1997; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3847. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule regarding international traffic in arms regulations, received on December 8, 1997; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3848. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule regarding issuance of immigrant visas, received on January 5, 1997; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3849. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Grape Grown in a Designated Area of Southeastern California; Temporary Suspension of Continuing Assessment Rate" received on January 9, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3850. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to tart cherries, received on January 9, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3851. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, and tangelos grown in Florida received on January 9, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3852. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to onions grown in South Texas received on January 9, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3853. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to grapes grown in a designated area of southeastern California received on January 9, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3854. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to tomatoes grown in Florida and imported to tomatoes received on January 9, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3855. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to the importation of ruminants, meat, and meat products received on January 9, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3856. A communication from the Manager of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, Risk Management Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to hybrid seed corn received on January 9, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3857. A communication from the Manager of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, Risk Management Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to the availability of information to the public received on January 9, 1998; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3858. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a certification regarding the incidental capture of sea turtles; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3859. A communication from the Director for Executive Budgeting and Assistance Management, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Financial Assistance for Internship Program for Postsecondary Students" received on December 11, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3860. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on tar, nicotine, and carbon monoxide of the smoke of 1249 varieties of domestic cigarettes for calendar year 1995; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3861. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on January 8, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3862. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on January 15, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3863. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator For Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on January 15, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3864. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3865. A communication from the Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules received on January 12, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3866. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, six rules received on January 13, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3867. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, fifteen rules received on Transportation.

EC-3868. A communication from the AMD (Performance Evaluation and Records Management), Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, four rules; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3869. A communication from the Secretary of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of two rules; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3870. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of two rules; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3871. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the notice of the continuation of the emergency regarding terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3872. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the national emergency with respect to Libya; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3873. A communication from the President and Chairman of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on a transaction involving U.S. exports to the People's Republic of China (China); to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3874. A communication from the Managing Director of the Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Membership Eligibility" (RIN3069-AA66) received on January 21, 1998; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3875. A communication from the Acting Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on January 21, 1998; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3876. A communication from the Comptroller of the Currency, Administrator of National Banks, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report regarding the National Flood Insurance Program; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3877. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Securities Credit Transactions" received on January 9, 1998; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3878. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3879. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning emigration laws and policies of Mongolia; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3880. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, initiative for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3881. A communication from the Assistant Commissioner (Examination), Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule re-

ceived on January 12, 1998; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3882. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services (Administration For Children and Families), transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule received on December 10, 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3883. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on data processing; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3884. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, three rules; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3885. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Revenue Procedures 98: 11, 12, 14-16; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3886. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of three regulations; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3887. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Revenue Rulings 98: 3, 6-8; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3888. A communication from the Chairman of the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Government in the Sunshine Act for calendar year 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3889. A communication from the Administration of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "The Incidence and Severity of Sediment Contamination in Surface Waters of the United States"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3890. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules including one entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans" received on January 13, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3891. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, one rule entitled "Consolidation of Certain Food and Feed Additive Tolerance Regulations" received on January 13, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3892. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, incorporated by Approved State Hazardous Waste Program for Florida" received on January 15, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3893. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, one rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Missouri" received on January 15, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3894. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection

Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules including one entitled "Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; Final Approval of State Underground Storage Tank Program" received on January 16, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3895. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, one rule entitled "Significant Uses of Certain Chemical Substances" received on January 20, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3896. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA) for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on the Environment and Public Works.

EC-3897. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the Blair County, Pennsylvania, demonstration project; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3898. A communication from the Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule regarding Freedom of Information Act Amendments (RIN3150-AF78) received on January 7, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3899. A communication from the Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to deliberate misconduct by unlicensed persons (RIN3150-AF35) received on January 22, 1998; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3900. A communication from the Executive Secretary of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for calendar year 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3901. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of the Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefit Plans; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3902. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the American Red Cross; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3903. A communication from the Chief Executive Officer of the annual report for calendar year 1995; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3904. A communication from the President of the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3905. A communication from the Chairman of the Commission On Dietary Supplement Labels, transmitting, pursuant to law, the final report of the Commission; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3906. A communication from the Acting Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "Federal Sector Report on EEO Complaints and Appeals" for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3907. A communication from the Acting Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the employment of minorities, women and people with disabilities in the Federal government; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3908. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the final performance report regarding the Prescription Drug User Fee Act of 1992; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3909. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Council on Alzheimer's Disease for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3910. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation entitled "The Safety of Imported Food Act of 1997"; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources. Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the results of the evaluations of the 100-Hour Rule Waivers in California, Utah and Wisconsin; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3911. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the results of the evaluations of the 100-Hour Rule Waivers in California, Utah, and Wisconsin; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3912. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the implementation of the Age Discrimination Act for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3913. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the National Health Service Corps for calendar year 1995; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3914. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on assistance to persons with developmental disabilities for fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3915. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Pension and Welfare Benefits, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of two rules; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3916. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Respiratory Protection" (RIN1218-AA05) received on January 5, 1998; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3917. A communication from the Director of Regulations Policy in Management Staff, Office of Policy, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health & Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, seventeen rules including one rule with respect to carcinogenicity testing of compounds used in food-producing animals; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3918. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report concerning surplus Federal real property; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3919. A communication from the Chairman of the Jacob K. Javits Fellowship

Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, an interim report relative to modifications to the program; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3920. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations in the Office of the General Counsel, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule regarding 21st Century Learning Centers Program (RIN1850-ZA01) received on November 25, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3921. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations in the Office of the General Counsel, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule regarding Federal Work-Study Programs (RIN1840-AC50) received on November 25, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3922. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations in the Office of the General Counsel, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule regarding protection of human Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3923. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations in the Office of the General Counsel, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule regarding relief from regulatory provisions for student assistance received on January 15, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3924. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations in the Office of the General Counsel, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule regarding the Federal Family Education Loan and William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Programs (RIN1840-AC45) received on December 15, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3925. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations in the Office of the General Counsel, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled "Student Assistance General Provisions: Standards of Financial Responsibility" (RIN1840-AC36) received on November 21, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3926. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment Standards, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of two rules; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3927. A communication from the Assistant of Labor for Mine Safety and Health Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of two rules; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3928. A communication from the Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the reports of three rules; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-3929. A communication from the Assistant of Labor for Employment and Training, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule received on December 3, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-299. A resolution adopted by the Michigan Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils relative to

the Natural Resources Conservation Service; to the Committee on Appropriations.

POM-300. A resolution adopted by the North Alabama Mayor's Association relative to Redstone Arsenal; to the Committee on Armed Services.

POM-301. A resolution adopted by the Council of the City of Monterey Park, California relative to the Federal Aviation Administration; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

POM-302. A resolution adopted by the Jerry Voorhis Claremont Democratic Club, Claremont, California, relative to the tobacco industry; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

POM-303. A resolution adopted by the Council of the City of Lakewood, California relative to the Los Angeles River; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-304. A resolution adopted by the East Tennessee Development District relative to American Heritage Rivers; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-305. A resolution adopted by the Council of the City of Oak Ridge, Tennessee relative to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-306. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) relative to the Middle East peace process; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

POM-307. A resolution adopted by the Virginia Coal and Energy Commission relative to global warming; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

POM-308. A resolution adopted by Pilipino-American Political Aggregation, Inc. relative to the proposed "Filipino Veterans Equity Act"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

POM-309. A resolution adopted by the Council of the City of Dixon, California relative to a veterans' hospital; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

POM-310. A joint resolution adopted by the Assembly of the State of California; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 36

Whereas, Motor vehicle accidents are the leading cause of death and injury to children; and

Whereas, A properly installed child passenger restraint system can reduce the risk of serious or fatal injury to a child in a crash by 71 percent and reduce the need for hospitalization by 67 percent, and child restraint systems are 50 percent effective in preventing minor injury; and

Whereas, The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimates that if all child safety seats were correctly installed in vehicles, 5,300 injuries would be prevented and the lives of 500 young children would be saved each year; and

Whereas, NHTSA estimates that child restraint systems saved the lives of 2,934 children under the age of five years in the United States from 1982 through 1995; and

Whereas, NHTSA estimates that 600 children under five years of age were killed and approximately 70,000 were injured due to improper, or lack of, use of child car safety seats in the United States in 1996; and

Whereas, In 1996, the Department of the California Highway Patrol issued 15,516 citations for noncompliance with child restraint system laws; and

Whereas, As many as 80 percent of all child safety seats are used incorrectly in the

United States, and safety seat checkups conducted in California have shown that as many as 92 percent of child safety seats in the state are misused; and

Whereas, The Department of the California Highway Patrol reports that 30 of the 48 children under four years of age who died as passengers in 1993 were in a car seat, but only eight of those car seats were properly installed; and

Whereas, Of the children who died in California car accidents in 1995, 85 percent would have survived had they been sitting in correctly installed child restraint systems; and

Whereas, The impact received by a child in an improperly installed child restraint system at 30 miles per hour is the same as being thrown out of a third-story window; and

Whereas, For a child traveling in a vehicle, the most dangerous place to be is in an adult's arms, otherwise known as the "child crusher position"; and

Whereas, In a crash at approximately 30 miles per hour, a 10-pound infant will be ripped from a belted adult's arms with a force of almost 200 pounds; and

Whereas, A mother weighing 100 pounds, sharing an adult seat belt with her child, in a car traveling 25 miles per hour, on impact will throw 2,500 pounds of pressure against the child; and

Whereas, According to NHTSA, 479 children could have been saved nationwide in 1995 if they had been properly restrained in their child care safety seat; and

Whereas, For consumers the most likely point of contact for information regarding child restraint systems for new vehicles is the automobile dealer, and yet sales, service, and parts personnel are generally unaware of child restraint system installation problems and techniques, and supplemental tools needed for installation; and

Whereas, The only other existing sources of information and assistance about child restraint systems for consumers are printed manuals, instructions, and labels provided by child restraint system and automobile manufacturers; and

Whereas, While some of this information is mandated by regulation, it is often provided at the discretion of the manufacturer, and does not necessarily accurately display or describe proper installation; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature encourages the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to continue developing and assembling data on CD ROM to demonstrate which child restraint systems are compatible with which vehicles; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature supports the recommendations of President Clinton that, under the National Transportation Department Plan, every child car safety seat have two standard buckles at its base, that every automobile manufacturer install standard latches in the back seat that are designed specifically to fasten these buckles, that universal attachments be developed to secure the top of the child care safety seat to the automobile's interior, and that the new safety system, referred to as the Uniform Child Restraint Anchorages (UCRA), be available for purchase by 1999; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature commends the General Motors Corporation for committing \$10.6 million for a five-year partnership with the National SAFE KIDS Campaign to promote correct installation and use of child restraint systems; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature commends the automobile manufacturers that are cur-

rently developing and disseminating safety information, and encourages all automobile manufacturers to develop educational materials on the correct placement and installation of child restraint systems in their vehicles for use by automobile dealer sales, service, and parts personnel, child restraint system trainers, and child restraint system manufacturers; and be it further

Resolved, That warnings of incompatibility between vehicle seating positions and child restraint systems should be prominent in automobile and child restraint system owner's manuals, as well as in vehicles; and be it further

Resolved, That child restraint system manufacturers should develop comprehensive, consistent language on and illustration of, correct installation of child restraint systems in their instruction manuals; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature encourages the manufacturers of child restraint systems to identify which automobile makes and models their products are compatible with, and enclose this information in the initial child restraint system packaging; and be it further

Resolved, That an intensive child restraint system educational campaign on the correct use and installation of child restraint systems should be undertaken by federal and state governments and automobile and child restraint system manufacturers; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature memorializes the President and Congress of the United States to work together to promote and support practical methods of encouraging automobile manufacturers to address the problems discussed in this resolution as well as the safety risks that arise because of the problems; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature urges the President and Congress of the United States to encourage automobile manufacturers, that are not presently informing their customers about the need to correctly install child restraint systems, to take steps to educate consumers with regard to the correct installation procedures for child restraint systems; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and the Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, to the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and to the Chief Executive Officers of the General Motors Corporation.

POM-311. A joint resolution adopted by the Assembly of the State of California; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 39

Whereas, the passage of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) in 1991 represented a watershed event in the evolution of federal transportation policy; and

Whereas, the reauthorization of ISTEA is expected to be adopted by the United States Senate and House of Representatives later this year; and

Whereas, all members of California's Congressional delegation have created a caucus which has advocated on behalf of California and its interests during the ISTEA reauthorization process; and

Whereas, several proposals are currently being considered by the United States Senate and House of Representatives; and

Whereas, in considering these proposals for reauthorizing ISTEA, the federal government is evaluating numerous factors for calculating the distribution of federal Highway Trust Fund moneys; and

Whereas, each of these proposals contain some provisions that will be fiscally beneficial to California, and some provisions that will be fiscally detrimental to California; and

Whereas, current federal program categories limit the flexibility of the states with regard to the manner in which the states may spend their funding; and

Whereas, the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program has proven to be effective at improving air quality in California given the state's substantial air quality improvement needs despite the current funding limitation on the program for large states; and

Whereas, California has traditionally been a "donor" state, having received on average over the six-year authorization of ISTEA just 91 percent of the amount California provided in gas tax revenues to the Highway Account of the federal Highway Trust Fund over that period; and

Whereas, recent projections estimate that, within the next two years, international trade will account for 25 percent of California's economy, and intermodal goods movement as a result of international trade places a significant burden on the state's transportation infrastructure; and

Whereas, it is imperative that the federal government place a high priority on providing transportation funding for the heavy infrastructure needed to advance the nation's competitiveness in accommodating the growing international trade shipped through the nation's ports, airports, and border crossings; and

Whereas, California has been compelled to divert hundreds of millions of dollars from county, street, and road allocations to pay for border infrastructure improvements needed as a result of increased commercial and industrial traffic caused by the North American Free Trade Agreement; and

Whereas, local and regional transit systems are indispensable to the daily transportation needs of millions of Californians; and

Whereas, California has recently enacted welfare reform legislation that is expected to result in a significant increase in transportation and transit needs of new workers leaving welfare; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature of the State of California memorializes the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to reauthorize ISTEA in a manner that ensures more flexibility for states in spending Highway Trust Fund moneys, increases the amount of funding designated for the CMAQ program and removes the current limitations on CMAQ allocations to larger states, guarantees that each state receives at least 95 percent of its contribution to the Highway Account of the federal Highway Trust Fund each year, provides adequate funding to reflect the level of intermodal activity in each state, and allocates funding to offset the cost of local improvements to California's border infrastructure needed as a result of the implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement, ensures consistent funding support for transit, and reflects support at the highest funding level possible for discretionary welfare-to-work transportation access programs; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to

the President and Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, to each member of the United States House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, each member of the United States Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, and each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.

POM-312. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SENATE RESOLUTION

Whereas, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) mandates have forced Pennsylvania and the Northeast states to make significant reductions in ground-level ozone pollution by requiring the reduction of ozone-causing emissions from factories and power plants and vehicles that go beyond those adopted in other states; and

Whereas, The EPA reduced the standard for ground-level ozone pollution from 120 parts per billion to 80 parts per billion on July 18, 1997; and

Whereas, The EPA Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee concluded in reviewing the standard that there is no "bright line" below which the public health impacts of ozone pollution are significantly worse than above a certain level; and

Whereas, The studies the EPA conducted of the potential health impacts from ozone pollution were inaccurate and overstated the potential health benefits from a revised ozone standard; and

Whereas, The EPA failed to comply with the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act that requires agencies to determine the impact of regulations on small businesses; and

Whereas, The EPA set the new ground-level ozone standard without proposing how the standard was to be implemented by states, what obligations stationary or mobile sources will have or what the deadline is for compliance; and

Whereas, Air monitoring data from the summer of 1997 show that air coming into Pennsylvania from states to the west and south already violates the new ground-level ozone standard adopted by the EPA; and

Whereas, The Ozone Transport Assessment Group recommended on June 12, 1997, that the EPA adopt a uniform, region-wide standard for reducing ozone-causing emissions in a 37-state area; and

Whereas, Pennsylvania-based utilities and businesses are already at a competitive disadvantage and Pennsylvania's motorists are impacted more harshly because the Commonwealth is required to reduce ozone pollution to more stringent levels than states to the west and south to meet the existing ozone standard; and

Whereas, The EPA has provided no assurances that other states will be required to take steps to control ozone-causing pollutants that contribute to present ozone violations in Pennsylvania; and

Whereas, The EPA set a standard for particulate without conducting the necessary background studies to document how widespread and significant the particulate problem may be, therefore be it

Resolved (the House of Representatives concurring), That the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania memorialize the Congress of the United States and the EPA to halt the imposition of the National

Ambient Air Quality Standards for ground-level ozone and particulate and reconsider its decision to impose even more stringent standards upon this Commonwealth until the required studies and impact analyses are completed; and be it further

Resolved, That the EPA not require Pennsylvania and other Northeast states to adopt new or expanded control measures until states contributing to ozone violations in this Commonwealth are required to control pollution to at least the same levels as Pennsylvania; and be it further

Resolved, That the EPA grant the petitions filed by the Commonwealth and other Northeast states under Section 126 of the Clean Air Act seeking uniform reductions in ozone-causing air pollution in states which contribute to ozone violations in Pennsylvania; and be it further

Resolved, That the EPA be prohibited from reclassifying any region of this Commonwealth to a more stringent ozone pollution designation where ozone pollution violations are primarily caused by pollution coming from other states; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Pennsylvania Congressional Delegation and the Administrator of the EPA.

POM-313. A joint resolution adopted by the Assembly of the State of California; to the Committee on Finance.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 17

Whereas, A recent study by the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) found that Mexican trucks entering the United States often fail to meet basic federal safety standards; and

Whereas, Investigators from the GAO found that Mexican trucks entering the United States may have serious safety violations, including broken suspension systems, substandard tires, inoperable brakes, overweight loads, and unsecured and hazardous cargo; and

Whereas, Mexico has no nationwide automated systems for monitoring the safety history or violation records of Mexican companies and drivers, and it is therefore difficult for California law enforcement personnel to obtain essential safety data; and

Whereas, If trucks from Mexico are allowed unrestricted access to the state, verification of foreign insurance policies and access to the foreign judicial system will be very difficult when accidents occur, possibly resulting in the delay of settlements and payments to those involved; and

Whereas, Large quantities of illegal drugs are smuggled into California from foreign nations, including Mexico; and

Whereas, The federal government has chosen not to implement provisions of the North American Free Trade Agreement that called for unlimited access by Mexican trucks to the territory of the State of California; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature memorializes the President and Congress of the United States to maintain the existing restrictions on trucks from Mexico and other foreign nations entering California and continue efforts to assure full compliance by the owners and drivers of those trucks with all highway safety, environmental, and drug enforcement laws; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House

of Representatives, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.

POM-314. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

HOUSE RESOLUTION

Whereas, Richard Humphreys was born on February 13, 1750, in Tortola, British Virgin Islands, and arrived in Philadelphia as a teen to receive apprenticeship training in goldsmithing and silversmithing; and

Whereas, Richard Humphreys was a dedicated member of the Society of Friends, an active citizen in community affairs, a philanthropist who valiantly served as a Captain in the Colonial Army during the Revolutionary War; and

Whereas, Upon his death in 1832, Richard Humphreys' convictions led him to donate a portion of his wealth for the purpose of educating former slaves; and

Whereas, Cheyney University of Pennsylvania, the first institution in America devoted to the vocational education of descendants of the African race, was founded in 1837; and

Whereas, Cheyney University of Pennsylvania has continued its proud heritage and celebrates 160 years of service to the academic community in 1997; therefore be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania memorialize the Citizens' Committee of the United States Postal Service to consider and recommend to the United States Postal Service Board of Governors the issuance of a commemorative stamp honoring Richard Humphreys, Quaker, goldsmith and philanthropist, on the 160th Anniversary of the founding of Cheyney University of Pennsylvania; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the presiding officers of each house of Congress, to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania, the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, the Board of Governors of the United States Postal Service and the Postmaster General.

POM-315. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Texas; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 55

Whereas, Americans recognize and appreciate the enormous sacrifices made by United States military personnel who served courageously in the Vietnam War and the conflict in Southeast Asia, some of whom are still classified as missing in action; and

Whereas, While the status of most of the American soldiers who lost their lives or were injured during this long military engagement is certain, the fate of more than 2,000 military personnel remains unknown decades after the United States' final withdrawal from Vietnam; and

Whereas, The unresolved status of those brave individuals is, understandably, a source of great concern for their families, their friends, and their fellow citizens and represents a chapter in our nation's history that cannot be satisfactorily concluded until their whereabouts are known; and

Whereas, Recognizing the importance of this vital obligation to American military personnel and their families, the United States Congress has sought to locate these individuals in the past and should continue to take all necessary steps to fulfill this im-

portant duty in the future; now, therefore, be it

Resolve, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 74th Legislature, hereby request the Congress of the United States to continue its efforts to determine the location and status of all United States military personnel still missing in Southeast Asia; and, be it further

Resolved, That official copies of this Resolution be prepared for the President of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, the President of the Senate of the United States Congress, and all members of the Texas delegation to the Congress.

POM-316. A joint resolution adopted by the Assembly of the State of California; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 37

Whereas, It is estimated that 26,800 new cases of ovarian cancer will develop in the United States in 1997, and that ovarian cancer will cause approximately 14,200 deaths in 1997; and

Whereas, Ovarian cancer ranks second among gynecological cancers in the number of new cases each year and causes more deaths than any other cancer of the female reproductive system; and

Whereas, Approximately 78 percent of ovarian cancer patients survive longer than one year after diagnosis and more than 46 percent of these patients survive longer than five years after diagnosis. If diagnosed and treated before the cancer spreads outside of the ovary, the five-year survival rate is 92 percent. However, only approximately 24 percent of all cases of ovarian cancer are detected at this stage; and

Whereas, Ovarian cancer research is desperately needed. Research would encourage more women to undergo screening tests earlier, as well as reduce medical costs associated with later discovery; and

Whereas, House Bill No. 953, authored by Representative Patsy Mink, the Ovarian Cancer Research and Information Amendments of 1997, would authorize \$90 million to conduct ovarian cancer research; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature of the State of California respectfully memorializes the President and Congress of the United States to support House Bill No. 953 by Representative Patsy Mink, the Ovarian Cancer Research and Information Amendments of 1997; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and the Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.

POM-317. A joint resolution adopted by the Assembly of the State of California; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4

Whereas, There are 110,000,000 landmines scattered in 69 countries, with this figure increasing dramatically year by year, continuing violence against civilians long after warfare has ceased; and

Whereas, These landmines are widely deployed in the developing countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America; and

Whereas, Another victim is killed or maimed by landmines every 20 minutes, more than 25,000 each year, and most of the victims are children playing or women peasants seeking to feed their families; and

Whereas, In the worst affected areas, the landmines play havoc with the economy; refugees cannot return home, farmers cannot till the fields, relief shipments cannot be delivered, animals cannot reach waterholes, suitable lands are overfarmed, health care systems are overwhelmed, mine clearance costs are exorbitant; and

Whereas, The United States has been a major producer and exporter of anti-personnel landmines for a quarter century, although it has declared a moratorium, recently extended to 1999, on the export of anti-personnel landmines; and

Whereas, Many U.S. military leaders, including General Schwarzkopf, have confirmed that there is no need for anti-personnel landmines as weapons; and

Whereas, The United States has recognized the humanitarian cost of anti-personnel landmines and is pursuing efforts in the United Nations and elsewhere to address the problem; and

Whereas, Despite international momentum for a global ban on anti-personnel landmines, the latest United Nations conference failed to negotiate a ban; and

Whereas, More than 150 U.S. humanitarian organizations including the Red Cross, CARE, Save the Children, Catholic Relief Services, and World Vision, have joined more than 500 humanitarian organizations around the world in calling for an immediate ban on the production, stockpiling, use, and transfer of anti-personnel landmines; and

Whereas, The United States has joined over 70 other nations in putting forth a United Nations resolution calling for an international ban on the production, stockpiling, use and transfer of anti-personnel landmines, as well as being an active participant in the recent conference in Ottawa, Canada, that called for an international treaty; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature of the State of California encourages the leaders of the United States to work with our allies and other nations toward the creation of an international ban on the manufacture, stockpiling, sale and use of anti-personnel landmines; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of the State of California also urges the President and the Congress of the United States to turn the recently enacted three-year extension of a moratorium on exports of anti-personnel landmines into a permanent ban; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.

POM-318. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Kentucky; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SENATE RESOLUTION

Whereas, The United States is a signatory to the 1992 Rio Framework Convention on Global Climate Change ("FCCC"), and currently is participating in international negotiations pursuant to a United Nations agreement negotiated in Berlin in 1995 ("Berlin Mandate") to expand the scope of the FCCC; and

Whereas, The Berlin Mandate requires the United States, Western Europe, Japan, and other advanced industrial nations ("Developed Country Parties") to negotiate legally

binding quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives for greenhouse gases for the post-2000 period, while not increasing the commitments of developing countries such as China, India, and Mexico ("Developing Country Parties"); and

Whereas, the United States and other Developed Country Parties are pursuing policies aimed at reducing emissions of greenhouse gases to 1990 levels by the year 2000, pursuant to the terms of the FCCC; and

Whereas, man-made emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide are caused primarily by the combustion of oil, coal, and natural gas fuels by industries, automobiles, and other uses of energy; and

Whereas, the United States relies on carbon-based fossil fuels for more than 90% of its total energy supply; and

Whereas, Developing Country Parties exempt from the Berlin Mandate are expected to increase their rates of economic growth and fossil fuel use over the next two decades, and to surpass the United States and other Developed Country Parties in total emissions of greenhouse gases; and

Whereas, 1997 studies prepared by the United States government estimate that legally binding requirements for the stabilization of greenhouse gases at 1990 levels would result in the loss of 900,000 jobs in the United States, sharply increased energy prices, reduced family incomes and wages, and severe losses of output in energy-intensive industries; and

Whereas, the exemption in the Berlin Mandate for new commitments by Developing Country Parties creates an unfair competitive imbalance between industrial and developing nations, potentially leading to the transfer of jobs and industrial development from Developed Country Parties to Developing Country Parties; and

Whereas, increased emission of greenhouse gases by Developing Country Parties would offset any environmental benefits associated with emission reductions achieved by the United States and other Developed Country Parties; and

Whereas, on July 25, 1997, the United States adopted Senate Resolution No. 98 by a vote of 95-0, expressing the Sense of the Senate that "the United States should not be a signatory to any protocol to or other agreement regarding the Framework convention on Climate Change. * * * which would require the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, which would mandate new commitments to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions for the Developed Country Parties, unless the protocol or other agreement also mandates specific scheduled commitments within the same compliance period to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions for Developing Country Parties"; and

Whereas, Senate Resolution No. 98 further states that "the Senate strongly believes that the proposals under negotiation, because of the disparity of treatment between Developed and Developing Countries, and the level of required emission reductions, could result in serious harm to the United States economy, including significant job loss, trade disadvantages, increased energy and consumer costs, and tax increases"; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. The Senate and House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky urge the President of the United States to avoid entering into any new climate treaty commitments pursuant to the Berlin Mandate that could

lead to the loss of jobs, income, or economic development in the United States, or to increases in the price of energy to consumers, without corresponding commitments by Developing Country Parties as called for in United States Senate Resolution No. 98.

Section 2. The Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky urges the United States Senate to reject any proposed protocol or other amendment to the FCCC that is inconsistent with this Resolution, or that does not comply fully with United States Senate Resolution No. 98.

Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit copies of this Resolution to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20500; the Honorable Albert Gore, Vice President, Old Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Wendell H. Ford, 173A Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Mitch McConnell, 361A Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Ed Whitfield, 236 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; the Honorable Ron Lewis, 412 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Anne Northup, 1004 Longworth Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Jim Bunning, 2437 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Harold Rogers, 2468 Rayburn Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and the Honorable Scotty Baesler, 113 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.

POM-319. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SENATE RESOLUTION

Whereas, antipersonnel land mines kill or maim an average of 71 persons per day, the majority of whom are civilian; and

Whereas, the estimated 80,000,000 to 110,000,000 antipersonnel land mines strewn across at least 64 countries cause havoc in the economics of developing nations; refugees cannot return home, farmers cannot till fields, relief shipments cannot be delivered, herd animals cannot approach water holes, health care systems are overwhelmed by land mine victims and clearance costs are extraordinary; and

Whereas, the ecological and economic impact of antipersonnel land mines has yet to be fully calculated; and

Whereas, land mines render arable land useless and contribute to over-farming of suitable land; and

Whereas, the President of the United States spoke out at the United Nations in 1994 for a universal ban on the production, export, and use of land mines subsequent to which the United States has banned the export of land mines; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Massachusetts Senate urges the United States to take action to negotiate an international ban on the manufacture, stockpiling, transfer and use of antipersonnel land mines, with a view to completing the negotiations as soon as possible, by active participation in the Ottawa process by which an international treaty banning antipersonnel land mines will be ready for signing in December, 1997; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted forthwith by the clerk of the Senate to the President of the United States, the presiding officers of the Congress and to the members thereof from this commonwealth.

POM-320. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the Common-

wealth of Pennsylvania; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 260

Whereas, The United States is a signatory to the 1992 Rio Framework Convention on Global Climate Change (FCCC) and currently is participating in international negotiations pursuant to a United Nations agreement negotiated in Berlin in 1995 (Berlin Mandate) to expand the scope of the FCCC; and

Whereas, The Berlin Mandate requires the United States, western Europe, Japan and other advanced industrial nations (Developed Country Parties) to negotiate legally binding quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives for greenhouse gases for the post-2000 period while not increasing the commitments of developing countries such as China, India and Mexico (Developing Country Parties); and

Whereas, The United States and other Developed Country Parties are pursuing policies aimed at reducing emissions of greenhouse gases to 1990 levels by the year 2000 pursuant to the terms of the FCCC; and

Whereas, Man-made emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide are caused primarily by the combustion of oil, coal and natural gas fuels by industries, automobiles and other uses of energy; and

Whereas, The United States relies on carbon-based fossil fuels for more than 90% of its total energy supply; and

Whereas, Developing Country Parties exempt from the Berlin Mandate are expected to increase their rates of economic growth and fossil fuel use over the next two decades and to surpass the United States and other Developed Country Parties in total emissions of greenhouse gases; and

Whereas, The 1997 studies prepared by the United States Government estimate that legally binding requirements for the stabilization of greenhouse gases at 1990 levels would result in the loss of 1.7 million jobs in the United States, sharply increased energy prices, reduced family incomes and wages and severe losses of output in energy-intensive industries; and

Whereas, The exemption in the Berlin Mandate for new commitments by Developing Country Parties creates an unfair competitive imbalance between industrial and developing nations, potentially leading to the transfer of jobs and industrial development from Developed Country Parties to Developing Country Parties; and

Whereas, Increased emissions of greenhouse gases by Developing Country Parties would offset any environmental benefits associated with emissions reductions achieved by the United States and other Developed Country Parties; and

Whereas, On July 25, 1997, the United States Senate adopted Senate Resolution No. 98 by a vote of 95-0, expressing the Sense of the Senate that:

"(1) the United States should not be a signatory to any protocol to, or other agreement regarding, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change of 1992, at negotiations in Kyoto in December 1997, or thereafter, which would—

(A) mandate new commitments to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions for the Annex I Parties, unless the protocol or other agreement also mandates new specific scheduled commitments to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions for Developing Countries Parties within the same compliance period, or

(B) would result in serious harm to the economy of the United States; and

(2) any such protocol or other agreement which would require the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification should be accompanied by a detailed explanation of any legislation or regulatory actions that may be required to implement the protocol or other agreement and should also be accompanied by an analysis of the detailed financial costs and other impacts on the economy of the United States which would be incurred by the implementation of the protocol or other agreement"; and

Whereas, Senate Resolution No. 98 further states that "the Senate strongly believes that the proposals under negotiation, because of the disparity of treatment between Annex I Parties and Developing Countries and the level of required emission reductions, could result in serious harm to the United States economy, including significant job loss, trade disadvantages, increased energy and consumer costs, or any combination thereof"; therefore be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania call upon the President of the United States to avoid entering into any new climate treaty commitments pursuant to the Berlin Mandate that could lead to the loss of jobs, income or economic development in the United States or to increases in the price of energy to consumers without corresponding commitments by Developing Country Parties as called for by Senate Resolution No. 98; and be it further

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania call upon the United States Senate to reject any proposed protocol or other amendment to the FCCC that is inconsistent with this resolution or that does not comply fully with Senate Resolution No. 98; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate and to the members of the United States Senate.

POM-321. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 101

Whereas, The United States is a signatory to the 1992 Rio Framework Convention on Global Climate Change (FCCC) and currently is participating in international negotiations pursuant to a United Nations agreement negotiated in Berlin in 1995 (Berlin Mandate) to expand the scope of the FCCC; and

Whereas, The Berlin Mandate requires the United States, western Europe, Japan and other advanced industrial nations (Developed Country Parties) to negotiate legally binding quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives for greenhouse gases for the post-2000 period while not increasing the commitments of developing countries such as China, India and Mexico (Developing Country Parties); and

Whereas, The United States and other Developed Country Parties are pursuing policies aimed at reducing emissions of greenhouse gases to 1990 levels by the year 2000 pursuant to the terms of the FCCC; and

Whereas, Man-made emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide are caused primarily by the combustion of oil, coal and natural gas fuels by industries, automobiles and other uses of energy; and

Whereas, The United States relies on carbon-based fossil fuels for more than 90% of its total energy supply; and

Whereas, Developing Country Parties exempt from the Berlin Mandate are expected to increase their rates of economic growth and fossil fuel use over the next two decades and to surpass the United States and other Developed Country Parties in total emissions of greenhouse gases; and

Whereas, The 1997 studies prepared by the United States Government estimate that legally binding requirements for the stabilization of greenhouse gases at 1990 levels would result in the loss of 1.7 million jobs in the United States, sharply increased energy prices, reduced family incomes and wages and severe losses of output in energy-intensive industries; and

Whereas, The exemption in the Berlin Mandate for new commitments by Developing Country Parties creates an unfair competitive imbalance between industrial and developing nations, potentially leading to the transfer of jobs and industrial development from Developed Country Parties to Developing Country Parties; and

Whereas, Increased emissions of greenhouse gases by Developing Country Parties would offset any environmental benefits associated with emissions reductions achieved by the United States and other Developing Country Parties; and

Whereas, On July 25, 1997, the United States Senate adopted Senate Resolution No. 98 by a vote of 95-0, expressing the Sense of the Senate that:

"(1) the United States should not be a signatory to any protocol to, or other agreement regarding, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change of 1992, at negotiations in Kyoto in December 1997, or thereafter, which would—

(A) mandate new commitments to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions for the Annex I Parties, unless the protocol or other agreement also mandates new specific scheduled commitments to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions for Developing Country Parties within the same compliance period; or

(B) would result in serious harm to the economy of the United States; and

(2) any such protocol or other agreement which would require the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification should be accompanied by a detailed explanation of any legislation or regulatory actions that may be required to implement the protocol or other agreement and should also be accompanied by an analysis of the detailed financial costs and other impacts on the economy of the United States which would be incurred by the implementation of the protocol or other agreement"; and

Whereas, Senate Resolution No. 98 further states that "the Senate strongly believes that the proposals under negotiation, because of the disparity of treatment between Annex I Parties and Developing Countries and the level of required emission reductions, could result in serious harm to the United States economy, including significant job loss, trade disadvantages, increased energy and consumer costs, or any combination thereof"; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania call upon the President of the United States to avoid entering into any new climate treaty commitments pursuant to the Berlin Mandate that could lead to the loss of jobs, income or economic development in the United States or to increases in the price of energy to consumers without corresponding commitments by Developing Country Parties as called for by Senate Resolution No. 98; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania call upon the United States Senate to reject any proposed protocol or other amendment to the FCCC that is inconsistent with this resolution or that does not comply fully with Senate Resolution No. 98; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate and to the members of the United States Senate.

POM-322. A petition from citizens of the United States relative to global climate change; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

POM-322. A petition from citizens of the United States relative to global climate change; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

POM-323. A resolution adopted by the United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers and Allied Workers relative to the Million Solar Roof Initiative; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-324. A petition from a citizen of the State of North Dakota relative to a redress of grievance; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-325. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION NO. 185

Whereas, Teterboro Airport is located in the boroughs of Teterboro and Moonachie in Bergen County, New Jersey, a heavily populated residential and commercial area; and

Whereas, Teterboro Airport is designated as one of the reliever airports for Newark International Airport's scheduled airline service and also functions as a major business aviation center for corporate and private aviation operations; and

Whereas, In recent years the character of Teterboro Airport has changed from an airport which has had a limited number of larger jet aircraft and corporate jet activity to one in which a greater number of larger jets are permitted to operate at the airport and where corporate jet activity operates at a high level; and

Whereas, Plans are being discussed to expand corporate jet activity at Teterboro Airport by using it as a reliever airport for Newark International Airport's corporate jet traffic; and

Whereas, The confluence of airline traffic from Newark International Airport, Teterboro Airport, LaGuardia and Kennedy Airports over the residential communities of northern New Jersey, such as the communities of Hasbrouck Heights, Little Ferry, Lodi, Moonachie, South Hackensack and Wood-Ridge in the Teterboro area, creates an intolerable level of aircraft noise for residents of these communities which adversely affects their physical and mental health and well-being, and lowers the property values of their residences; and

Whereas, It is in the public interest for steps to be taken to control the level of aviation noise caused by excessive aircraft traffic at Teterboro Airport and prevent the expansion of further corporate jet activity at that facility; now, therefore; be it

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey.

1. The Congress of the United States and the Federal Aviation Administration are respectfully memorialized to take appropriate steps to control the level of aviation noise at Teterboro Airport in Bergen County, New

Jersey, and to prevent the expansion of further corporate jet activity at that facility.

2. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the Speaker of the General Assembly and attested by the Clerk thereof, shall be transmitted to the Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, every member of Congress from this State and the Director of the Federal Aviation Administration.

POM-326. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION NO. 169

Whereas, The Port of New York and New Jersey ("port district") is at a critical and historic juncture in its economic development as the Northeast's primary transportation hub; and

Whereas, The port district's transportation network will be increasingly pressured to facilitate the movement of both people and freight commodities throughout the port district as efficiently and as cost effectively as possible; and

Whereas, Although the port district is endowed with an existing rail-freight infrastructure, this infrastructure is in need of comprehensive repair and modernization and is currently underutilized because of these conditions, resulting in a considerable imbalance between the use of rail freight and the use of truck freight throughout the port district; and

Whereas, The New York Cross Harbor Railroad (NYCHRR), the port district's only interstate short-line marine rail-freight carrier, with direct links to the recently approved "Conrail, CSX and the Norfolk & Southern Network," is considered a key rail-freight hub for the port district and an integral part of the effort to improve interstate rail-freight commerce between the economic and transportation networks of New Jersey and New York; and

Whereas, The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) is a six-year program authorized to provide a total of \$155 billion for highway and mass transportation purposes; and

Whereas, ISTEA has provided significant, annual federal funding to New Jersey and all other states to help develop a strong, globally-competitive economy and to improve the mobility, safety and well-being of our nation's residents; and

Whereas, The NYCHRR has requested, as part of the reauthorization of the ISTEA, approval of a project, entitled the "Rail Freight Initiative," to enhance the NYCHRR's operational infrastructure and to upgrade its operational equipment, in order to bolster its ability to facilitate interstate commerce in the port district; and

Whereas, This "Rail Freight Initiative," would include a minimal expenditure of \$4.75 million from the ISTEA reauthorization bill, with 80 percent of the estimated project cost coming from the federal government, and with the NYCHRR funding the remaining 20 percent; and

Whereas, \$1.5 million of the \$4.75 million cost will be used for improvements to the NYCHRR's Greenville Yards facilities in Jersey City, which will allow the NYCHRR to handle much higher volumes of rail freight, without cost to the State of New Jersey or the city of Jersey City; and

Whereas, Congressional approval of the "Rail Freight Initiative" will serve to correct the current imbalance between regional

truck freight and the use of rail and intermodal freight systems throughout the Port of New York and New Jersey, and promote the development of, and the investment in, enhanced rail, intermodal and float-barging systems within the port district; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. The Congress of the United States is memorialized to approve a project request, as part of reauthorization of the federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, to support the efforts to enhance, trans-harbor rail-freight float-barging operations throughout the Port of New York and New Jersey.

2. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the Speaker of the General Assembly and attested to by the Clerk thereof, shall be transmitted to the Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of Congress elected thereto from New Jersey.

POM-327. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Whereas, Thousands of Holocaust survivors who fled Poland and Eastern Europe to the United States, Israel, Russia and other Eastern European nations may be living around the world, not knowing that family members from whom they were separated during the Holocaust are also still alive; and

Whereas, In July 1996, Russian resident Solomon Bromberg and his sister, Israeli resident Rivka Bromberg Feingold, were reunited after a separation of more than 60 years, both having believed that their entire family had been murdered during the Holocaust; and

Whereas, The Bromberg siblings were reunited after a business acquaintance, returning from a trip to Russia, contacted Israel's Jewish Agency, an organization which attempts to reunite family members separated during the Holocaust; and

Whereas, Many other Holocaust survivors are trying to locate living family members from whom they were separated during the Holocaust, thereby highlighting the significance of efforts long pursued by organizations such as the Red Cross and Israel's Jewish Agency to reunite family members separated during the Holocaust; and

Whereas, Coordinated efforts of the United States, foreign nations, especially Israel, Russia, Poland and other Eastern European nations, and organizations such as the Red Cross and Israel's Jewish Agency will help to reunite family members separated during the Holocaust; and

Whereas, A concurrent resolution sponsored by Congressman Robert Franks introduced in the United States Congress encouraging the Secretary of State, foreign nations and others to work together to support the effort to reunite family members separated during the Holocaust has yet to be reported from the Committee on International Relations to the entire House of Representatives; now, therefore,

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. This House recognizes the enormous significance of helping families locate family members who may have survived the Holocaust, pays tribute to the inspirational efforts of those helping reunite family members separated during the Holocaust and endorses every attempt to coordinate these meaningful efforts.

2. This House urges the United States Congress to adopt House Concurrent Resolution 14 of 1997, which encourages the Secretary of State, foreign nations, especially Israel, Russia, Poland and other Eastern European nations, and organizations such as the Red Cross and Israel's Jewish Agency to coordinate efforts to help reunite family members separated during the Holocaust.

3. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the Speaker of the General Assembly and attested by the Clerk thereof, shall be transmitted to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and every member of the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives.

POM-328. A resolution adopted by the Council of the City of Lincoln Park, Michigan relative to a proposed global warming treaty; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

POM-329. A resolution adopted by the Orange County Legislative Delegation of the Legislature of the State of Florida relative to the former Orlando Naval Training Center; to the Committee on Armed Services.

POM-330. A resolution adopted by the Council of the City of Crossville, Tennessee relative to the Obed River; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-331. A resolution adopted by the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. relative to the Artic Council; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

POM-332. A resolution adopted by the Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission relative to the Foothills Parkway; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-333. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 304

Whereas, Over the past 111 years, Westinghouse Electric Corporation, a Pittsburgh institution, has developed into a major national and international force in the fields of nuclear development, power generation, manufacturing and research, having helped create America's nuclear naval fleet and establishing worldwide leadership in the commercial nuclear power fields; and

Whereas, More than 7,000 people in western Pennsylvania are employed by Westinghouse Electric Corporation, and thousands of other jobs are affected by the spin-off effects of Westinghouse Electric Corporation's business enterprises; and

Whereas, On December 1, 1997, Westinghouse Electric Corporation is changing its name to CBS Corporation and moving its headquarters from Pittsburgh to New York City; and

Whereas, Westinghouse Electric Corporation has announced the sale of its non-nuclear power generation business, which had \$2.2 billion in sales last year, to its former competitor, Siemens AG, a German company, for \$1.53 billion; and

Whereas, Westinghouse Electric Corporation has announced plans to sell its commercial nuclear power business, and the leading bidders are expected to be Siemens AG of Germany; Framatome SA, partially owned by the French government; or the Swedish/Swiss-owned ASEA Brown Boveri; and

Whereas, The sale of the Westinghouse nuclear and non-nuclear business divisions to foreign-owned companies could have an impact on the military preparedness of the United States; and

Whereas, The elimination of such a leading company in the domestic energy market may serve to restrict that market and stifle free market trade, thereby having a detrimental impact on American consumers and suppliers; and

Whereas, The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice each have the authority to examine the antitrust implications of the proposed Westinghouse Electric Corporation sale of its nuclear and non-nuclear business holdings; therefore be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania memorialize the President and Congress of the United States to direct both the FTC and the Department of Justice to examine the proposed actions of Westinghouse Electric Corporation to determine whether the sales would stifle competition, significantly raise consumer and supplier prices or detrimentally impact suppliers of the nuclear and non-nuclear power generation market; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JEFFORDS, from the Committee on Labor and Human Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1237. A bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to further improve the safety and health of working environments, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-159).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. COVERDELL (for himself and Mr. McCAIN):

S. 1569. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to raise the 15 percent income tax bracket into middle class income levels, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. FAIRCLOTH:

S. 1570. A bill to limit the amount of attorneys' fees that may be paid on behalf of States and other plaintiffs under the tobacco settlement; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. McCAIN:

S. 1571. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the earnings test for individuals who have attained retirement age; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BRYAN (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. REID, and Mr. SESSIONS):

S. 1572. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from promulgating certain regulations relating to Indian gaming activities; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. WELLSTONE, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. KERRY, Mr. TORRICELLI, and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 1573. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to increase the Federal minimum wage; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. 1574. A bill to prohibit the cloning of humans; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. COVERDELL (for himself, Mr. HELMS, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. LOTT, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. HATCH, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. COATS, Mr. GREGG, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. MACK, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. FRIST, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. DEWINE, and Mr. GRAMS):

S. 1575. A bill to rename the Washington National Airport located in the District of Columbia and Virginia as the "Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport"; read the first time.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE):

S. Res. 164. A resolution informing the President of the United States that a quorum of each House is assembled; considered and agreed to.

S. Res. 165. A resolution informing the House of Representatives that a quorum of the Senate is assembled; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself and Mr. ALLARD):

S. Res. 166. A resolution recognizing the outstanding achievements of the Denver Broncos in winning Super Bowl XXXII; considered and agreed to.

S. Res. 167. A resolution recognizing the outstanding achievement of the Denver Broncos' quarterback, John Elway, in the victory of the Denver Broncos in Super Bowl XXXII; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. HUTCHINSON (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. COATS, Mr. GREGG, Mr. DEWINE, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. ENZI, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. HELMS, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. MACK):

S. Res. 168. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Department of Education, States, and local education agencies should spend a greater percentage of Federal education tax dollars in our children's classrooms; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. BOND, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, and Mr. DASCHLE):

S. Res. 169. A resolution to designate February 3, 1998, as "Four Chaplains Day"; considered and agreed to.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. COVERDELL (for himself and Mr. McCAIN):

S. 1569. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to raise the 15

percent income tax bracket into middle class income levels, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

THE MIDDLE CLASS TAX RELIEF ACT OF 1998

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Middle Class Tax Relief Act of 1998. Last year, this Congress passed historic legislation: the Balanced Budget Act providing the first balanced budget in nearly thirty years, and the Taxpayer Relief Act providing tax relief for the first time in sixteen years. As a result, faith in the Nation's economy is strong, and we are seeing the results of that faith.

Now is the time for us to consider sweeping middle class tax relief. This tax relief proposal accomplishes several goals. First, it directs the vast majority of the relief to those who feel the tax squeeze the most: middle-income taxpayers.

Second, because it is across-the-board relief, every middle class taxpayer wins. Every American earning \$25,000 taxable income or more would see relief. Estimates by the Tax Foundation show that approximately 25 million taxpayers would see tax relief this year with two-thirds earning less than \$75,000 annually.

Third, it provides significant marriage penalty relief without adding complexity to the tax code.

Fourth, this is one of the very few proposals that is also entirely consistent with the long-term goal of a flatter, simpler tax code.

My proposal, the Middle Class Tax Relief Act, achieves these goals by raising the roof on the 15% individual income tax bracket. In other words, it returns middle class taxpayers to the lowest individual income bracket. Married couples with taxable income of \$70,000 or less would be taxed at the 15% tax bracket, an increase over the 1998 threshold of \$42,350. The threshold for heads of households would be \$52,600, an increase over the current threshold of \$33,950. Finally, the thresholds for single workers would be set at \$35,000, an increase over the current threshold of \$25,350.

In the coming weeks, a great deal of discussion will focus on providing the American people with the tax relief they need and deserve, and how that is to be accomplished. There are a number of proposals providing tax relief, some of which I am a supporter. However, I believe the Middle Class Tax Relief Act will be successful ultimately because it is actually achievable during this Congress. I ask my colleagues to join me in this effort.

By Mr. McCAIN:

S. 1571. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the earnings test for individuals who have attained retirement age; to the Committee on Finance.

THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S FREEDOM TO WORK ACT

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the "Senior Citizen's Freedom to Work Act." This bill would fully repeal the erroneous Social Security earnings limit.

Since coming to the Senate in 1987, I have been working to eliminate the discriminatory and unfair Earnings Test.

I am pleased that in 1996, Congress passed and President Clinton signed into law my bill, the Senior Citizens Right to Work Act. This legislation took a step in the right direction by increasing the earning threshold for senior citizens from \$11,520 to \$30,000 by the year 2000. Now it is time to eliminate the unjust Earnings Test in its entirety.

Most Americans are shocked and appalled when they discover that older Americans are penalized for working. Nobody should be penalized for working or discouraged from engaging in work. Yet, this is exactly what the Social Security Earnings Test does to our nation's senior citizens. The Social Security Earnings Test punishes Americans between the ages of 65 and 70 for their attempts to remain productive after retirement.

The Social Security Earnings Test mandates that for every \$3 earned by a retiree over the established limit, \$19,999.92 in 1998, the retiree loses \$1 in Social Security benefits. This is clearly age discrimination, and it is very wrong. Due to this cap on earnings, our senior citizens, many of whom exist on fixed, low-incomes, are burdened with a 33.3 percent tax on their earned income. When this is combined with Federal, State, local and other Social Security taxes, it amounts to an outrageous 55 to 65 percent tax bite and even higher. This earnings limit is punitive and serves as a tremendous disincentive to work. An individual who is struggling to make ends meet on approximately \$19,000 a year should not be faced with an effective marginal tax rate which exceeds 55 percent.

The Social Security Earnings Test is a relic of the Great Depression, designed to move older people out of the workforce and create employment for younger individuals. This is an archaic policy and should no longer be our goal because our nation's labor pool is shrinking. Many senior citizens can make a significant contribution, and often their knowledge and experience compliments or exceeds that of younger employees. Tens of millions of Americans are over the age of 65, and together they have over a billion years of cumulative work experience. These individuals have valuable experience to offer our society, and we need them.

In addition, experts predict a labor shortage when the "baby boom" generation ages, and it is evident that employers will have to develop new sources of income as our elderly popu-

lation continues to grow much faster than the number of workers entering the workforce. According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, "retaining older workers is a priority in labor intensive industries, and will become even more critical as we approach the year 2000." To me it seems counterproductive and foolish to keep willing, diligent workers out of the American workforce. Our country must continue to support pro-work, not pro-welfare policies.

More importantly, many of the older Americans penalized by the earnings test need to work in order to cover their basic expenses; health care, housing and food. Many seniors do not have significant savings or a private pension. For this reason, low-income workers are particularly hard-hit by the earnings test.

It is important to note that wealthy seniors, who have lucrative investments, stocks, and substantial savings are not affected by the earnings limits. Their supplemental "unearned" income is not subject to the earnings threshold. The earnings limit only affects seniors who must work and depend on their earned income for survival.

Finally, let me stress that repealing the burdensome and unfair earnings test would not jeopardize the solvency of the Social Security funds. Opponents who claim otherwise are engaging in cruel scare tactics. It is important to remember that the Social Security benefits which working seniors are losing due to the earnings test penalty are benefits they have rightfully earned by contributing to the system throughout their working years before retiring. These are benefits which they should not be losing because they are trying to survive by supplementing their Social Security income. Furthermore, certain studies indicate that repealing the earnings test would result in a net increase of \$140 million in federal revenue.

Mr. President, there is no compelling justification for denying economic opportunity to an individual on the basis of age. It is quite evident that the earnings test is outdated, unjust and discriminatory. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation which would eliminate this egregious law.

By Mr. BRYAN (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. REID, and Mr. SESSIONS):

S. 1572. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from promulgating certain regulations relating to Indian gaming activities; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

GAMING ACTIVITIES LEGISLATION

Mr. BRYAN. Mr. President, Senators ENZI, REID and I are today introducing legislation to stop the Interior Department from moving forward with regulations that in my view trample on States rights and invade the province

of Governors and State legislators to determine what kinds of gaming activities will occur in their States. This proposed regulation flies in the face of the intent of Congress.

I must say I am disappointed we are forced to take this step and would hope that the Secretary of the Interior would reconsider his ill-advised action. Last week the Secretary of Interior proposed rules that would allow the Interior Department to be the sole arbiter in the compacting process as to what kinds of gaming activities can be conducted on Native American lands. This is being done over the strong objections of the Nation's Governors and the Nation's Attorneys General, as well as the intent of Congress.

I believe that in so doing, the Secretary is overstepping his authority and is making a grave mistake. In what I consider particularly convoluted logic, the Department has asserted that because the courts have struck down certain provisions of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, referred to as IGRA, that they can step in and decide on their own what gaming activities States must allow tribes to engage in.

I think by way of background, Mr. President, it may be helpful to share with my colleagues the basis of the underlying legislation as it relates to Native American gaming activities. In 1988, the Congress passed the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, and in so doing, tribal gaming activities were and are divided into three categories, with class I being reserved as traditional Indian games, class II being bingo-type games, and class III being casino-type games. Now, with respect to class III gaming, under the law, States and tribal governments negotiate a compact as to what type of games are to be permitted, if any, within class III.

Under recent court decisions, Governors are required to negotiate with tribes only on gaming activity that is permitted by law in that State. For instance, Hawaii and Utah prohibit all forms of gaming, and therefore their respective Governors are not required to negotiate with tribes for any types of gaming activity. In Nevada, where we permit all forms of casino gaming, that is class III gaming, the State is required to enter into a compact with tribes allowing them to engage in all forms of gaming, and indeed without conflict or controversy five such compacts have been entered into.

The Secretary has chosen, however, to put his own legal interpretation of what types of gaming activities must be put on the negotiating table. This so-called "scope of gaming" issue was fought out in the courts and decided in favor of Governors in the Rumsey case. The Rumsey case held that Governors are not forced to negotiate other gaming activities that are not permitted in the State in general.

The Secretary appears to be trying to circumvent this decision and would force States, for example, that would allow a lottery and require them to negotiate with Indian tribes to make slot machines available, even though slot machines are illegal in that State. Given this clearly skewed legal interpretation, it seems to me that the Governors' fears are well-founded.

The Department holds the position of fiduciary and trust obligation to the tribes and is an acknowledged advocate for tribal interests. The Department is taking the position that it should be the sole arbiter between the interest of the State and tribes in negotiating what form and scope of gaming should be permitted when it clearly has a bias in favor of one of the parties.

It is no wonder the Governors said in their December 5 letter to President Clinton that they will actively oppose any independent assertion by the Secretary of his power to authorize tribal governments to operate class III gaming.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the December 5, 1997, letter addressed to the President by the Western Governors' Association, signed by its chairman, Governor Knowles of Alaska, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

WESTERN GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION,
Denver, CO, December 5, 1997.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON,
President of the United States,
The White House, Washington, DC

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: It is the understanding of the Western Governor's Association that the Secretary of Interior has proposed a rule-making on Indian Gaming that would usurp the Governors authority to enter into compact negotiations on gaming with Indian tribes. States have repeatedly voiced their concerns about the Secretary's desire to promulgate this rule. On October 10, a letter was sent by the National Governors' Association Chairman and Vice Chairman to the Secretary of Interior on this rule-making proposal.

It is evident that the states' concerns have gone unheard or at least have not been responded to by the Secretary. As a former Governor, you can appreciate how troubling it is when a cabinet member fails to consider or enter into a dialogue with us about state's legitimate concerns.

The Secretary is using the Seminole Tribe of Florida vs. Florida decision by the Supreme Court to inappropriately expand his authority. The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) established a procedure whereby decisions could be made when a state and tribe were unable to agree to the terms of a compact. Before the Secretary is authorized to provide a compact to a tribe under IGRA, the courts must first make a finding of bad faith on the part of the state. When the Supreme Court stuck down the portion of IGRA that permitted tribes to sue states in Federal Court, it eliminated the mechanism for arriving at a finding of bad faith by the court. It would be inappropriate for the Secretary to now take the authority to render a finding of bad faith and then to authorize a gaming compact to a tribe over the objec-

tions of a state. Moreover, the Secretary's action contradicts the clear intent of Congress as embodied in the final Interior conference report that you signed, which imposes a one-year moratorium on imposition of a procedure that would result in tribal Class III gaming in the absence of a tribal-state compact as required by law.

As the National Governors' Association policy states "nothing remains in the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act or any other law that endows the Secretary with the authority to independently create such a process. The Governors will actively oppose any independent assertion by the Secretary of the power to authorize tribal governments to operate Class III Gaming. State and tribal governments are best qualified to craft agreements on the scope and conduct of Class III Gaming under IGRA." Furthermore, under the duties of the office, the Secretary has a special legal relationship to Native Americans, and it would be impossible for him to be objective in making decisions settling compact differences between states and tribes—in effect the Secretary becomes a self-appointed judge and jury.

There are difficult issues, and we understand the Secretary intepretating his role as advocate for Native Americans. However, Governors have Constitutional responsibilities to all of the people of our states. Based on these responsibilities we are compelled to tell you that the Secretary started down an unproductive path when we concluded that the Interior Department should become the sole arbiter in the compact process.

We urge you to find a resolution to the conflicts between the states and tribes that is more appropriate than that initiated by the Secretary. The Western Governors Association stands ready to participate in such an effort.

Sincerely,

TOM KNOWLES,
Governor of Alaska,
Chairman.

Mr. BRYAN. The Governors have repeatedly called the Secretary's proposal an inappropriate expansion of his authorities. Governors of the State in the process of negotiating a gaming compact with tribes will be severely disadvantaged by this proposal. Tribes will be much better off letting the Secretary of the Interior decide their fate—believing they can get a better deal from a person who is an acknowledged advocate for their interests and indeed encourages gaming as a means of generating tribal revenues.

The Department asserts the States must be acting in bad faith for the Secretary to strip the States of their rights. Of course, the Secretary is the judge and jury over whether the States, in fact, are negotiating in bad faith. To make matters even worse and to heighten the concerns the Governors have, the Department has informed us that they would consider the actions of Governor Wilson of California to be negotiating in bad faith because he refuses to negotiate with any tribe that persists in operating illegal games on tribal reservations. As Governor Wilson has indicated, he has a simple rule: If it is legal under State law, all can do it; if it is not legal under State law, no one can do it. The Governor wants the

tribes to cease and desist illegal gaming activities before he will negotiate a compact or legal game, and the Interior Department would consider that bad faith.

Now, that situation is not peculiar to California alone. Let me cite an example, if I may, Mr. President, in a letter addressed to the Honorable Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior, July 1, 1996, on behalf of the National Governors' Association. I quote a single paragraph from that letter. It arises out of the situation that occurred in the State of Florida.

The factual situation underlying the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Seminole is an example of typical tribal-State conflict over IGRA implementation. Florida refused to negotiate with the Seminole Tribe over the operation of slot machines. Slot machines are prohibited by Florida law, and state voters have rejected three referenda to legalize such devices, as well as other casino-style games. The state's public policy and the preference of Florida citizens with respect to this type of gambling activity could not be clearer. Yet the Seminole Tribe proceeded to take the state to court on the grounds that Florida had failed to negotiate in good faith, even though the state was merely negotiating within the limits of state law and state public policy on gambling.

Again, under the proposed regulation, the Interior Department would interpret the Florida situation as being one of bad faith and therefore the Interior Department could step in—in effect, supersede the negotiations and the position taken by Florida's Governor in response to voter preference and public policy in the State of Florida—and to negotiate a compact that could conceivably allow a full range of casino gaming activity contrary to the public policy of that State.

Mr. President, I am personally offended that the Department has chosen to proceed with rulemaking in clear violation of the intent of Congress. Members will recall that Senator ENZI and I attached language to the Interior appropriations bill which imposes a moratorium on the Department implementing such a rule. The language reads: "During fiscal year 1998, the Secretary may not expend any funds made available under this act to review or approve any initial tribal-State compact for class III gaming entered into on or after the day of the enactment of this act, except for a compact which has been approved in accordance with IGRA and State law." That contemplates the negotiating process between Governors and the tribal governments, as I indicated previously.

Nevertheless, the Department has chosen to ignore our intent and to proceed with putting this process in place, which Congress has clearly said it doesn't want. Since the Department has chosen to ignore the clear intent of Congress, we are forced to stop this power grab once again through the legislative process.

I might note over 100 compacts between States and tribes for class III

gaming have been successfully negotiated. As I pointed out previously, five of those compacts are in place in Nevada. In only a handful of States has the compacting process failed. I believe the failure can be attributed to the unwillingness of Federal prosecutors to close down illegal tribal gaming operations. Tribes running illegal operations have no incentive to reach an agreement with States as long as they face no consequences for their illegal gaming activities.

In California alone, tribes are operating 14,000 illegal slot machines. It is not clear to me why the Secretary of Interior feels the need to stack the deck even further against the interests of those States who do not favor, as a matter of public policy, slot machines in their States.

So, Mr. President, I hope that the Secretary will reconsider this ill-advised proposal. If not, we will work with the Nation's Governors and Nation's attorneys general on this legislation to block the emasculation of States' rights.

This bill is introduced by myself, Senator ENZI, and Senator REID.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be received and appropriately referred.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. WELLSTONE, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. KERRY, Mr. TORRICELLI and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 1573. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to increase the Federal minimum wage; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

THE FAIR MINIMUM WAGE ACT OF 1998

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, on behalf of Senators WELLSTONE, MIKULSKI, MOSELEY-BRAUN, KERRY, TORRICELLI, BOXER, and myself, I am introducing the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 1998, a bill to raise the minimum wage in three annual increases of 50 cents each in the next three years, to bring the minimum wage from its current level of \$5.15 an hour today to \$6.65 an hour on September 1 in the year 2000. Congressmen BONIOR and GEPHARDT are introducing identical legislation in the House of Representatives.

After the third year, the legislation calls for the minimum wage to be indexed, so that it will rise automatically as the cost of living increases. Working Americans should not have to depend on the whim of Congress each election year to determine whether they are paid a fair minimum wage.

In 1996, after a hard-fought battle in the last Congress, we raised the minimum wage, and the economy continued to grow. The scare tactics about lost jobs proved to be as false as they are self-serving. A recent study by the Economic Policy Institute documents that "the sky hasn't fallen" as a result of the last increase.

Raising the minimum wage does not cause job loss for teenagers, adults, men, women, African-Americans, Latinos, or anyone else. Certainly, the 12 million Americans who would benefit from this legislation deserve the increase.

We know who these workers are. Sixty percent are women. Nearly three-quarters are adults. Half of those who would benefit from this bill work full-time. Over 80 percent of them work at least 20 hours a week. They are teachers' aides and child care providers. They are single heads of households with children. They are people who clean office buildings in countless communities across the country. Working 40 hours a week, 52 weeks a year, minimum wage workers earn \$10,712 a year—\$2,600 below the poverty level for a family of three.

No one who works for a living should have to live in poverty. In good conscience, we cannot continue to proclaim or celebrate the Nation's current prosperity while consigning millions who have jobs to live in continuing poverty.

The value of the minimum wage still lags far behind inflation. To have the purchasing power that it had in 1968, the minimum wage today would have to be \$7.33 an hour instead of the current level of \$5.15 an hour. That fact is a measure of how far we have not just fallen short, but actually fallen back, in giving low-income workers their fair share of our extraordinary economic growth.

In the past 30 years, the stock market, adjusted for inflation, has gone up by 115 percent, while the purchasing power of the minimum wage has gone down by 30 percent. Lavish end-of-the-year bonuses were recently distributed on Wall Street—but not to the working families on Main Street, who actually created the wealth in the first place.

Americans understand that those on the bottom rungs of the economic ladder deserve a raise. Seventy-six percent of those surveyed in the January 21 ABC-Washington Post poll said they supported increasing the minimum wage.

Seventy-seven percent of those surveyed by Peter Hart Research earlier this month specifically supported a three-year, \$1.50 increase.

The American people understand the unfairness of requiring working families to subsist on a sub-poverty minimum wage. Across the country, soup kitchens, food pantries and homeless shelters are increasingly serving the working poor, not just the unemployed. In 1996, according to the U.S. Conference of Mayors, 38 percent of those seeking emergency food aid held jobs—up from 23 percent in 1994. Low-paying jobs are the most frequently cited cause of hunger. Officials in 67 percent of the cities cited this factor.

I look forward to the early enactment of this legislation. Twelve mil-

lion working Americans deserve a helping hand. No one who works for a living should have to live in poverty.

Mr. President, we have had the opportunity, since the minimum wage was increased in the last two years, to test the validity of the principal argument in opposition to this bill. We will hear this claim again this year on the floor of the U.S. Senate, and that is, that this adds to the problems of inflation. Yet, we have had virtually no inflation over these last 18 months.

We will also hear that raising the minimum wage will cause the loss of hundreds of thousands of jobs. I can already hear the same tired, old arguments we have heard every time this body has debated an increase in the minimum wage—an estimate that we will lose anywhere from 200,000 to 300,000 to 400,000 jobs. Those were the statements made the last time we debated this issue on the floor of the Senate. And our good Republican friends in the House of Representatives said there was absolutely no way that their body was going to consider an increase in the minimum wage, and there was strong opposition over here among the Republican leadership in the Senate even to giving us an opportunity to vote on this measure. It was only after lengthy efforts that we were able actually to gain a vote and to develop bipartisan support for the minimum wage. Ultimately, the Senate of the United States and the House of Representatives responded after we added significant tax reductions for businesses to the legislation.

Mr. President, if we do not take action now to increase the minimum wage, then the progress we made in the last two years is gradually going to deteriorate. Even with a three-year increase of 50 cents, 50 cents, and 50 cents, by the third year the about 40 cents of the value of that \$1.50 would have dissipated because of inflation. We are talking about working families who are trying to make it in this country, who have played an important role in this whole economic expansion. But those at the bottom rungs of the economic ladder have not gotten their fair share of the extraordinary prosperity that we are experiencing under President Clinton's leadership.

So I don't understand why there is such opposition to the very modest increases that we are talking about, that even if implemented will hardly permit workers to provide for their families and be out of poverty. As a result of the 1996 welfare reform legislation, many, many more people were thrown into poverty. In many instances, they are not going to get the health care or the day care that they need, depending on a particular State's rules in this regard. But there will be millions of Americans who will be out there in the job market without the health care for their children that Medicaid would

have provided or child care coverage that welfare benefits would have provided.

What we are asking is that at least we pay them a livable wage. I don't think a single parent, with \$10,000 or \$12,000, is going to have the kind of child care that any of us would understand or respect. Yesterday, I was in Dorchester, Massachusetts, meeting with parents about an after school program, which has been in effect for a number of years. It's going to be expanded. The mayor of Boston calls it the 2-to-6 program, and is trying to make available, in all parts of Boston, after-school programs for children. It is a very ambitious program. We have seen our Republican Governor indicate that he is supporting the after-school program. I listened to the parents who were out there, who talked about what happens after their children are 12 years old. The State of Massachusetts has a program that provides modest support for this kind of program for children up to 12 years old, but cuts it off there. Parents with tears in their eyes were saying, "We work hard trying to provide for our families, and we just can't make it. Our children are going home and staying in an empty house in the afternoon." They pray that they are not going to get themselves in trouble, that the worst thing that will happen to them is they will just watch television. It might cost those parents \$5 or \$10 a week, maybe \$20 a month to be able to have an after-school program. I expect that any single mom getting an increase in the minimum wage wouldn't think that much of a problem. That is happening in many communities in this country.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the 10 minutes allocated to the Senator have expired.

Mr. KENNEDY. I ask unanimous consent for 4 more minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, we will have a chance to debate this issue. It is not one that should take a great deal of time to review. We have been through this debate time and time again. It hasn't got the complexities of many of the proposals the President will be talking about tonight. It is basic and fundamental. Every Member of this body has addressed this issue and voted on it one way or the other. It is going to be really a reflection of our values.

Finally, Mr. President, by not increasing the minimum wage, we leave many workers so poor that they are eligible for government assistance programs, such as food stamps. These programs are being paid for by other workers' taxes. In effect, these employees are subsidizing the businesses that aren't paying a fair wage. I think that is wrong.

We will have a chance to review the latest economic information available.

We have to address that issue. We understand it. Some of us believe that Americans who work hard and play by the rules ought to be able to get a livable wage as a matter of principle. To achieve that goal, we have to address the impact on inflation and job loss. We will make that argument and we will make it with a great deal of enthusiasm. Two articles from the Wall Street Journal show that the increase in the minimum wage did not cause job loss or increase inflation. I will include those articles in the RECORD at the appropriate place following my remarks. Here was the newspaper that opposed it hammer and tong the last time we had the increase. I do not suggest that they are going to editorialize in favor of it this time. But, nonetheless, the various studies have shown that there is no evidence that modest increases in the minimum wage would harm the economy or cause job loss.

Mr. President, I don't know what will be in the President's State of the Union speech tonight. There are some reports that he will indicate support for an increase in the minimum wage. And if he does I hope that our Chambers will show support for that proposal because I know it will make all the difference in the world for millions of Americans and their families. Increasing the minimum wage will allow them to look to the future with a greater sense of hope.

Mr. WELLSTONE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that morning business be extended for 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I have a couple of questions that I may want to put to my colleague in just a moment.

Mr. President, the Senator from Massachusetts touched on two concerns that I want to speak about for a brief period of time. The Senator mentioned welfare. Earlier when I was speaking I didn't talk about the welfare bill. But I want the Senator to know that as we see the reports that this has been a huge success because there are 4 million fewer people receiving welfare assistance, I think there has been a lot of confusion. Welfare reform doesn't mean that there are fewer people on welfare. It doesn't mean you reduce the number of people receiving assistance. It means you reduce poverty. That is what it is about. It works if you are reducing the poverty for these families which are 90 percent women and children.

When I have been traveling around the country it is heartbreaking. The Senator talks about after school. There are 3- and 4-year olds home alone right now. That should not be the case be-

cause mothers are told to work. There are also preschoolers who are in very ad hoc arrangements with a relative for this week or that week, then somebody else the next week. We don't have affordable child care. In East LA in Los Angeles there is a waiting list of 30,000 for affordable child care. The President will be speaking about that tonight. Mr. President, there are first- and second-graders.

I met a woman in Los Angeles who broke down crying because she is so scared because her first-grader goes home alone—she is at work—to a very dangerous housing project, and is told to lock the door, and take no phone calls. There are children who don't play outside right now.

So when the Senator from Massachusetts talked about child care, I just want to emphasize the fact that welfare reform only means reduction of poverty. It means that children are in safe places receiving good child care. That is not happening.

Mr. President, I also want to point out that there are too many mothers who in our community colleges who are now told, "You cannot pursue your education. You have to work." The job is \$5.15, and if the minimum wage isn't higher one year later they will be worse off.

I am going to have an amendment for student deferment for those mothers because that is toward economic self-sufficiency, and another amendment that is going to require States to provide to Health and Human Services the data in 6 months as to how many families are moving toward economic self-sufficiency because you just can't eliminate people from assistance and cut off assistance if people do not have the jobs and decent wages.

Mr. President, I wanted to ask the Senator this question. The Senator from Massachusetts was speaking on an issue that I hear about everywhere I go, and it sounds like the President is going to be speaking to it, which is that I think people in our country believe that if you play by the rules of the game and you work 40 hours a week or thereabouts 52 weeks a year you ought not to be poor in America. That is what this is about. The last time we had a debate on the minimum wage the Senator from Massachusetts just insisted that the Senate would address this issue. Does the Senator intend to make this such a precise priority for his work that one way or another all Senators are going to be voting on this? Are we going to have it on the floor of the Senate? Are we going to have the debate? Are we going to have a vote on it so all Senators can be held accountable to working families, or not?

Mr. KENNEDY. Absolutely, Senator. We will vote on this issue, and the earlier the better as far as I am concerned, so that minimum wage earners can

continue the progress that they have made during the last 2 years. We will vote on this measure. I think that those who are opposed to it will give the Senate the opportunity to vote on it—at least I certainly hope they will. But the Senator is quite correct. We will vote on it one way or the other, and I think we take to heart that Congressman GEPHARDT, Congressman BONIOR and others have an identical bill. They are strongly committed. As Senators remember, there is a more complicated rule process over in the House of Representatives. But there is no reason in the world that we in the Senate cannot have an opportunity to vote on that measure and attach it to legislation and send it over to the House. We will do that and continue to do it until we are successful.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I am an original cosponsor. I am pleased to hear that because that is part of what I am here for as a Senator.

Let me ask the Senator from Massachusetts one final question. We don't just look at polls. But does the Senator have, in terms of what people in the country have been saying about raising the minimum wage 50 cents a year over the next 3 years—and we index it after that—is there broad public support that is a matter of simple elementary judgment?

Mr. KENNEDY. The Senator is correct. It is interesting that studies from this month show even greater support for the increase than we saw when we began this debate in the last Congress. Most Americans understand that we have had this extraordinary prosperity for millions of Americans over the period of the last 6 years. Most Americans understand that it has been working families who have made a difference. Those families include minimum wage earners—teachers' aides, who work in classrooms; health care aides, who work in nursing homes; and people who clean office buildings in communities across the country. Those men and women work hard, and they take pride in their work. Many of them have children, and we all know how hard it is to try to raise a family on \$5.15 an hour. All those workers ask is to be treated fairly.

One of the most startling developments in the last few years is the number of working families who are using soup kitchens, food pantries and homeless shelters in cities across the country. The U.S. Conference of Mayors released a study showing that in 1996, 38% of those seeking emergency food aid are working—not unemployed. This is up from 23% in 1994. And, officials in two-thirds of the cities cited low wages as a primary reason for hunger. I don't know whether the Senator has this problem in rural communities in his region of the Nation. But in urban areas, almost 40 percent of those seeking emergency food aid are working, and they still can't make it.

All we are saying is that if you are working you shouldn't have to go to a soup kitchen. When you are working, you shouldn't have to bring your children to a soup kitchen in order to be fed. The minimum wage is designed to prevent such problems. It has been a part of the fabric of our society since the late 1930's, and it has been something which has had bipartisan support in the past. We are hopeful that it will have bipartisan support this time. Ultimately we will have it. But it had bipartisan support under President Bush, and President Nixon supported the increase as well. And Republicans in this body have supported it, too.

Many of our colleagues are constantly talking about the importance of rewarding work in our society. But when you have people who are able-bodied, who want to work, and who have jobs—there is something wrong if they can't make it on their own. There is something wrong if we do not try to address that problem.

Mr. WELLSTONE. I have one final question.

The people who contribute don't have a lot. They are not the heavy hitters. They are not the ones always here in Washington to lobby us.

How does the Senator think we could win this fight?

Mr. KENNEDY. The Senator makes a good point because the organizations, the National Federation of Independent Businesses, the National Restaurant Association and others are out there already trying to discourage people from supporting this program. We will have a chance to deal with their arguments when we see what has actually happened in terms of the expansion of the restaurant industry and employment among restaurant workers. The Senator is no less interested in expanded employment or adequate income for restaurant workers than I am, and they still have done better with our modest increases in the past, and they will in the future.

I want to ask if the Senator will agree with me on one other proposition. We will hear during the debate that at least a quarter of these are teenagers who are making the minimum wage. In my State, tuition at the University of Massachusetts in Boston costs \$4297. These students are still 18 and 19 years old. They are teenagers, and many of them are working. These students need the money.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, it is my time. I ask unanimous consent to have 4 more minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. KENNEDY. Many of their parents never went to college. These are teenagers. These students are trying to earn enough to buy their books and maybe attend an athletic event once in a while or be able to pay in order to rent athletic equipment. These stu-

dents—and yes, they are teenagers—are working long and hard, and they deserve the increase, too.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, the Senator asked about Minnesota. Just two final points.

One, I was speaking on the floor earlier and I said that I think most families are focused on how you earn a decent living and how you give your children the care you know they need and deserve. I think the minimum wage bill is an important step in that direction along with whatever we can do on affordable child care and health care. That is the key to family income in this country.

I spoke earlier about the record of inequality. Secretary Reich had a very important piece in the New York Times about it. But now we see, Mr. President, a merger with education because, as a matter of fact, I say to my colleagues and my friend from Massachusetts what I find when I travel around Minnesota—and I was a college teacher for 20 years—is that many students are taking 6 years to graduate and not 4 years because now students are working on the average of 25 or 30 hours a week at two minimum-wage jobs.

So we now are talking about a piece of legislation that speaks to the issue of how families can have more income and also how students can afford their higher education. Many of these students are 18 and 19. But let's not trivialize the teen part. They are young women and young men who are working hard to be able to go to school. You had better believe that this minimum wage bill is really of critical importance to these young people as to whether or not they are going to be able to complete their education and do well financially.

So the Senator is absolutely correct. There is the strongest correlation to education and affordable education which I think all of us agree is an absolutely crucial issue.

Mr. President, today I am co-sponsoring a bill introduced by my colleague and friend Senator TED KENNEDY, cosponsored by a number of others, a measure which I consider to be one of the most important items we can pass and enact this year—the "American Family Fair Minimum Wage Act of 1998." Our bill would increase the minimum wage by 50 cents a year during each of the next three years. After that, it would index further increases in the minimum wage to increases in the cost of living.

This 3-year increase of \$1.50—raising the federal minimum wage to \$6.65/hour by September 1 of the year 2000, and pegging it to inflation in succeeding years—is the most immediate and practical step we can take to deliver to American working families a message of economic justice and principle. The message is this: if you work hard and

play by the rules in America, you should not live in poverty. Unfortunately, that is not necessarily the case today for many working Americans with families. We need to address that problem.

Full time work at minimum wage generates an income of approximately \$10,700 a year. That's \$2,600 below the poverty line for a family of three in this country. Minimum wage is not a living wage in America today. Even after the most recent increase, the federal minimum wage is worth far less in real dollars than it was in the 1960s and 1970s.

Remember, the minimum wage disproportionately affects women. Sixty percent of those earning the minimum wage are women. Teachers' aides, child care providers, service-sector employees—some of the hardest working people in America, performing crucial tasks. Many of these women are single heads of households with child. One of the quickest ways we as a Congress could take a step toward real gender equity with regard to pay would be to pass an increase in the minimum wage and send it to the President. I am sure he will sign it. That would immediately improve the economic situation of millions of working women, many with families.

Increasing the minimum wage will benefit those who need it most in America—adults, women, working families. Seventy-five percent of those currently receiving minimum wage workers are adults; 60 percent are women; 50 percent work more than 35 hours a week; 82 percent work at least 20 hours a week.

Look at a few numbers which tell a story.

The Center for Budget and Policy Priorities recently released a report showing that income inequality grew in 48 of 50 states since the late 1970s. The decline in real incomes of the poorest one-fifth of families with children in America averaged 21 percent, or \$2,500.

Since 1968, the stock market, adjusted for inflation, grew by 115 percent while the purchasing power of the minimum wage declined by 30 percent.

To reflect the purchasing power it maintained in 1968, today's minimum wage would have to be at \$7.33/hour, not \$5.15. So even a carefully charted increase to \$6.65/hour will not make up the entire difference, but it will put us back on a road to responsibly representing our constituents.

For nearly the last two decades, the bottom 20 percent of income earners in this country haven't experienced growth like most Americans. Instead, they have lost 9 percent in real family income growth, while the top 20 percent have gained more than 26 percent.

Our bill is about justice. In recent weeks and months, I have traveled around this country: East and South

Central Los Angeles, Baltimore, Chicago, the Mississippi Delta, Appalachia, as well as in my home state of Minnesota. I have repeatedly seen the struggles of hard working, dedicated people who want to improve their lives, but they can't find jobs that will pay them a livable wage.

Now increasing the minimum wage will not compromise the economy and it will not harm the falling unemployment rate. Consider that in September 1996, just one month prior to the minimum wage increase from \$4.25 to \$4.75, the national unemployment rate was at 5.2 percent. By December 1997, two months after the second annual increase to \$5.15, the U.S. unemployment rate fell to 4.2 percent. And retail trade jobs, where a disproportionate amount of low wage workers are employed, increased slightly. Job opportunities in this country are not compromised by this legislation. In fact, the very importance and value of job opportunities to all Americans is exactly what is enforced by this legislation.

Today's economy continues to perform well. Yet the minimum wage—part of that same economy—has progressively fallen back. In 1996, we started to pave the right path to justice by increasing the minimum wage, but more must be done.

So I stand in support as the first cosponsor of this bill and urge Democrats and Republicans alike to support Senator KENNEDY's initiative and to support the American workforce by passing the Family Fair Minimum Wage Act of 1998. Thank you.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask for 2 final minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is recognized.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, this chart here illustrates very clearly the purchasing power of the minimum wage since 1959. All of these figures are in 1997 dollars, adjusted for inflation. In 1968 the real value of the minimum wage was \$7.33. In 1995 it was down to \$4.32 an hour. In the 1996 legislation, we added two additional steps. On September 1, 1997, the second step took effect, raising the minimum wage's value to \$5.15 an hour. If we do nothing, by the year 2000, it will be \$4.66 an hour. Our legislation proposes that it go up to \$6.18, in three steps. Again, this is the what the minimum wage will buy in 1997 dollars, if our legislation becomes law. Even that increase will leave minimum wage earners below where they were in the 1960s and 1970s. The legislation is a very modest step forward, and I believe that working families have earned it.

I thank the Chair. I ask unanimous consent that the two articles that I mentioned be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

ECONOMISTS ALTER MINIMUM-WAGE VIEW—
NEW DATA SHOW SMALL INCREASE DOESN'T
COST JOBS

(By David Wessel)

WASHINGTON.—Revisiting their own controversial research, a pair of prominent economists concluded that better data support their original assertion: Raising the minimum wage moderately doesn't cost jobs.

In the new work, David Card of the University of California at Berkeley and Alan Krueger of Princeton University used reports filed by employers and collated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Their earlier work, an influential element in Democrats' successful campaign to lift the minimum wage, relied on a telephone survey of employers that their critics attacked.

With the new data, the economists looked at fast-food employment in New Jersey and Pennsylvania at two key points: first, after an 80-cent-an-hour increase in New Jersey's minimum wage in April 1992 that didn't affect workers in Pennsylvania and, second, after an October 1996 50-cent increase in the federal minimum wage to \$4.75. The federal increase only affected Pennsylvania because New Jersey's minimum wage was above the federal level.

LITTLE OR NO EFFECT

"The New Jersey (1992) minimum wage increase had either no effect, or a small positive effect, on fast-food industry employment in New Jersey vis-a-vis eastern Pennsylvania," the economists conclude. Between February and November 1992, fast-food employment grew by 3% in New Jersey but fell by between 1% and 3% in eastern Pennsylvania. What's more, after the October 1996 wage boost that affected only Pennsylvania, fast-food employment rose more sharply in that state than New Jersey. Between December 1995 and December 1996, fast-food employment grew by 11% in eastern Pennsylvania counties and by 2% in New Jersey.

The argument by Mr. Card and Mr. Krueger, a former chief economist in the Clinton Labor Department, challenged the conventional wisdom among mainstream economists that raising the price of workers' labor meant employers would buy less of it. The Clinton administration embraced it. House Speaker Newt Gingrich derided it as "spurious" and House Majority Leader Richard Armey, an economist, called it "counterintuitive." Several big-name economists dismissed it.

The details of the analysis and data drew fire first from an employers' group, the Employment Policy Institute, that gathered data of its own to refute it. Later, economists David Neumark of Michigan State University and William Wascher of the Federal Reserve Board supplemented EPI's data with data of their own and argued that fast-food payrolls did what economic textbooks predicted; grew more slowly in New Jersey than in Pennsylvania after the 1992 New Jersey wage increase.

REMAINS UNPERSUADED

Mr. Wascher isn't persuaded by the new data. "We never found very strong negative effects of the minimum wage on fast-food establishments," he said yesterday. "We speculated these franchise agreements are very restrictive and that the bigger effects might be at mom-and-pop establishments." He said BLS data for all eating and drinking establishments, not just fast-food outlets, show that payrolls in New Jersey generally rise more than those in Pennsylvania between February and November, but that the difference was smaller in 1992 when the New

Jersey minimum wage was raised than in 1991 or 1993.

The new Card-Krueger work, to be published shortly as a working paper by Princeton, hasn't been widely circulated yet among their critics. The authors acknowledge that their data don't tell whether employers facing higher minimum wages reduce the average hours per worker; the figures only count how many people were employed.

Despite assertions from employer groups and many mainstream economists that lifting the minimum wage would reduce the number of jobs available to young and unskilled workers and increase unemployment, the recent strength of the economy has pushed the jobless rate down. Retailers and other employers of low-wage workers are complaining more about labor shortages than wage increases.

The federal minimum wage was lifted to \$5.15 an hour on Sept. 1, 1997.

CHICKEN FEED: MINIMUM WAGE IS UP, BUT A FAST-FOOD CHAIN NOTICES LITTLE IMPACT—ECONOMIC BOOM LIFTS PROFIT; FIRM'S MAIN PROBLEM IS HIRING, RETAINING PEOPLE—PRESSURES ON JOB ARE RISING

(By Bernard Wysocki Jr.)

FALLS CHURCH, VA.—The minimum wage was a hot issue 18 months ago, pitting business against labor, Republicans against Democrats.

In April 1996, David Rosenstein, a fast-food entrepreneur, staunchly opposed a proposed two-step rise to \$5.15 an hour as "a bad idea." The middle managers at his 13 Popeyes Chicken & Biscuits restaurants didn't know how they would cope.

How times have changed.

Today, despite the now-higher minimum wage, Mr. Rosenstein's restaurants are prospering. Operating profits are up 11% from last year on a 10% rise in sales, which are running at a \$14 million annual clip. He recently raised prices. He has opened a new store. And in a sign of boom times, he knocked out a wall and doubled the size of his spacious office.

"The economy is good. Business is good," says the 49-year-old Mr. Rosenstein, whose restaurants are franchisees of Atlanta-based AFC Enterprises. What about that minimum-wage increase? "I think we saw it in more dire terms than it worked out," he says.

FEW PROTESTS

Indeed, the minimum-wage increase has turned into one of the nonevents of 1997, thanks mostly to the economy's continuing strength. Low-wage Americans—nearly 10 million workers, by some estimates—got a raise. But amid the current prosperity, hardly anybody noticed. So, when the second step, a 40-cent-an-hour raise, kicked in seven weeks ago, on Sept. 1, few cheered, but even fewer protested.

Critics had argued that higher wages would squeeze profits because employers, beset by competitors, couldn't raise prices. Nationwide, it is hard to generalize about that. But Mr. Rosenstein recently raised nearly every price on his menu—biscuits went up 20% and the average item 5%—with hardly a peep from customers. "I'm surprised, very surprised," says Kenneth Hahn, the chain's director of operations.

Others had warned that raising the minimum wage would create inflated pay demands by those making slightly above-minimum wages. Not here. Work crews at Mr. Rosenstein's Virginia stores were averaging \$5.54 an hour in 1996 and get only \$5.60 today—a raise of 1%.

And although some academics say higher wages draw better-skilled teenagers out of school and into the workplace, displacing lower-skilled people, the Popeyes managers see nothing of the kind. If anything, their talent pool is weakening, drained by the booming economy.

COLLATERAL DAMAGE

Even though Mr. Rosenstein's worst fears weren't realized, lots of other things have happened in the past 18 months.

A tour of these Popeyes stores and conversations with the fry cooks and biscuit makers, the store supervisors and managers indicate that while the minimum-wage issue has retreated to the back burner of American politics, the big issues now are, in a sense, the collateral damage of the economic boom; intensified competition, a scarcity of good workers, high staff turnover and job burnout.

The wage increase itself has had major impact at only one outlet, at the Popeyes store on Rhode Island Avenue in the District of Columbia. There, the local hourly minimum is set at \$1 over the federal minimum, and on Sept. 1, the district's minimum went to \$6.15. Managers have cut back hours and piled more work on employees. Mr. Rosenstein says the operating profits at this one outlet fell to \$34,000 for the 12 months ended Aug. 31 from \$46,000 a year earlier.

ESCAPING TO MARYLAND

And so, when his Metropolitan Restaurant Management Co. looked for expansion sites in and around Washington, he went across the line into Maryland and opened there, largely to escape the \$6.15 wage.

As several U.S. cities propose a so-called living wage, with minimums higher than the federal one, opponents such as the employer-backed Employment Policies Institute in Washington argue that low-wage employers will shun higher-wage locales. There may be something to that, as shown by Mr. Rosenstein's unwillingness to open another store in the high-wage district.

The really gut issue facing his company, however, is intensified competition. That may seem ironic: Its financial results are good, and the price increases have held. But on the darker side, the managers and the workers alike say that, on a day-to-day operating basis, the competitive environment has become tougher.

Back in the spring of 1996, Mohammed Isah, who manages the Popeyes store on City Line Avenue in West Philadelphia, fretted about the impending wage increase and wondered where the extra productivity he would need would come from. He vowed to scale back part-timers' hours and increase their workloads.

And he did. Sitting at one of his tables, Mr. Isah, once a bank manager in his native Nigeria, nods in the direction of a middle-age employee sweeping the floor. When the wage went up on Sept. 1 he halved her hours. Meantime, full-timers have taken up that slack. Nowadays, one person sets up the registers, then starts the biscuits, then does assorted odd tasks before business picks up at lunch time. Mr. Isah freely concedes that people are working twice as hard for their modest raise.

Yet the increased minimum wage isn't what is really driving Mr. Isah's hardball productivity drive. A few months ago, a Kentucky Fried Chicken outlet opened just a half-mile down City Line Avenue. Even the Popeyes managers agree that it's quite a site for a fast-food place: a renovated old home with fireplaces, walls sconces and a winding staircase.

When Kentucky Fried Chicken opened, Mr. Isah's sales declined. Although some business has now returned, his sales are running 2% below 1996 levels, and his operating profit is down 10%. His bosses say he is a good, hard-working manager, but the harsh business environment is putting pressure on him and his staff. "You have people doing two or three people's jobs. Eventually, it gets to them," he says, and they are burning out from overwork. Turnover is rising as good people search for jobs elsewhere. Looking ahead, he sees more problems. He even has a written list of his concerns: Morale will drop. Quality of work will fall. Dependability will wane. Absenteeism will rise.

RISK OF VICIOUS CIRCLE

The Popeyes managers know that trimming staff can be self-defeating, and they haven't eliminated any full-time positions in the past 18 months. If hours drop, service declines, and sales and profit can suffer. A vicious circle can develop.

Mr. Rosenstein's New Castle, Del., outlet along busy Route 13 is gripped by more competition—not only for business but also for talent. The store manager there left the company earlier this year to run a Boston Market outlet. The Popeyes chain, which pays its store managers \$30,000 to \$45,000 a year, couldn't match the Boston Market pay, Frank Williams, the district manager, says. Outer managers had to pitch in until a replacement was found.

As the store suffered from patchwork management, business faltered. In addition, crew hours were cut back, and cleanliness suffered. That's the sort of thing that really rankles Mr. Williams, and, on a recent day, he was sitting in the New Castle restaurant, drawing up a long list of tasks for his store manager.

Popeyes managers are in a bind. They can push their people only so far, especially in an economy with so many job opportunities. They need to keep their employees. In the more prosperous locations, such as the Popeyes in Rockville, Md., an acute labor shortage keeps pushing up the work crews' pay. In April 1996, it averaged \$6.01 an hour; today, it averages \$6.42. Managers there say the increase has nothing to do with federal law and everything to do with supply and demand.

"My senior fry cook, he makes \$8.75 an hour," says Mohsen Eghtesadi, district manager for Metropolitan's two Maryland restaurants. He waves his hand toward the Rockville Pike, a busy commercial strip. "Look at all these sit-down restaurants opening up. They can pay \$10 an hour, \$12 an hour. For us to keep good employees, we really have to increase their pay."

"It's a chicken war," Mr. Eghtesadi says. He adds, with a wry smile, "And we are chicken warriors."

MUCH COMPETITION FOR STAFF

His problems are just a tiny example of the sharper competition for talent. With much of the economy thriving, the national unemployment rate has dropped below 5%. In the fast-food business, expansion-minded chains need experienced supervisors and managers. Even good fry cooks, earning \$8 an hour or so, are constantly vulnerable to raids by other chains.

Mr. Hahn, the director of operations, spends far more time these days weeding out the losers among job candidates. The chain does extensive background checks on all supervisors and puts managerial candidates through a series of psychological pencil-and-paper tests. The Popeyes bosses try to find candidates whose profiles match those of

their successful store managers. Matchups have become rare.

At entry-level employment, more applicants are young women looking for jobs as part of the welfare-to-work movement. With fast-food employers inundated by welfare recipients, the minimum-wage issue takes a back seat to other concerns.

Seven weeks ago, Sharie Ross got a raise to \$5.15 an hour, serving up fast food at the New Castle outlet, up from the \$5-an-hour minimum in Delaware. She hardly noticed because, as a welfare-to-work employee, her main worry is the gradual loss of her welfare benefits.

"I still get food stamps; that's \$98 a month," says Ms. Ross, 20. But when she started work five months ago, the state of Delaware picked up the cost of day care for her two children. To her, keeping that \$200-a-month subsidy is more important than a few cents an hour in extra pay.

Yet a booming economy can mask all sorts of operating difficulties. That is true in many businesses, and it is true at Mr. Rosenstein's fried-chicken empire. One rule of thumb: If sales growth continues, all the other problems are manageable. In the past 18 months, sales at many of Mr. Rosenstein's stores have grown at double digits—and have surprised him. "You budget for a 2% or 3% rise. To budget for a 10% rise is, well, irresponsible," he says.

But in his Prince William County, Va., stores, sales are booming. He pulls out his sales projections—\$3,751,000 this year, up more than 10%. His hourly wage costs are up 7%, mostly because hours worked are up 6%. His projected 1997 profit at these stores is \$270,000, up from \$234,000 last year.

Mr. Rosenstein thinks his company will continue to be prosperous if the economy keeps booming. But, he adds, "If there's a downturn, it's going to be nasty."

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1573

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Fair Minimum Wage Act of 1998".

SEC. 2. MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE.

(a) WAGE.—Paragraph (1) of section 6(a) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206(a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

"(1) except as otherwise provided in this section, not less than—

"(A) \$5.65 an hour during the year beginning on September 1, 1998;

"(B) \$6.15 an hour during the year beginning on September 1, 1999;

"(C) \$6.65 an hour during the year beginning on September 1, 2000; and

"(D) beginning on September 1, 2001, \$6.65 an hour, as adjusted by the Secretary on each September 1 to reflect increases in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers during the most recent 12-month period for which data are available."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) takes effect on September 1, 1998.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. 1574. A bill to prohibit the cloning of humans; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

THE HUMAN CLONING PROHIBITION ACT

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, today I am introducing a bill to prohibit the cloning of humans. This act would further extend last year's efforts by last year's law which banned federal funding of human cloning. Under my bill, there would be an outright ban on human cloning, whether publicly or privately funded.

The scientific term for human cloning is "human somatic cell nuclear transfer." That is what my bill would ban. My bill would not undermine or stifle scientific research in the area of genetics that promises to combat and cure disease in humans. This research includes the cloning of animals and human cells other than embryo cells.

I am not a scientist and do not wish to insert myself in the process of scientific research and advances, from which we all benefit. However, when science crosses over the boundary of what is ethically and morally appropriate research, I have an obligation to respond on behalf of myself and my constituents. Congress—and its law-making authority—is the only mechanism available to address the issue of human cloning and assert the will of the American people that it not go forward.

We have a responsibility to protect the moral and ethical foundation upon which this country was built. In recognizing that responsibility, both the Senate and House committees with jurisdiction have carefully looked at the implications of moving forward with legislation to ban human cloning. They have tapped the experts in the science of genetics and have confirmed what we as laymen believe—the cloning of humans is morally unacceptable and scientifically dangerous.

During a March 12, 1997, House Committee on Science, Subcommittee on Technology hearing, the National Bioethics Advisory Commission testified that there is sufficient cause to warrant legislation because a developing child would be subject to undue harm as a result of current unscientifically plausible technology. In summarizing the Commission's report before the Subcommittee, its Chairman, Dr. Harold T. Shapiro, noted that this deficiency in the technology was coupled with far-reaching concern that human cloning is not deemed morally acceptable by society as a whole.

A final hearing was held July 22, 1997, during which Dr. Hessel Bouma, a professor of biology, said it best. The transcript states that "he stressed the uniqueness, freedom, and respect intrinsic to human life. Cloning, Dr. Bouma testified, is in direct violation of all three, and therefore should be prohibited by law."

Mr. President, I don't think any of us can argue with that.

I would like to urge my colleagues to take swift action and impose a ban on

human cloning. We are all aware of the activities in Chicago to move forward with a human cloning experiment, so time is of the essence. I would ask that we work together over the coming weeks to pass a bill to prevent this and future efforts to wrongly clone humans.

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

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

S. 1574

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Human Cloning Prohibition Act".

SEC. 2. FINDING.

Congress finds that the Federal Government has a moral obligation to the nation to prohibit the cloning of humans.

SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON HUMAN CLONING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—It shall be unlawful for any person to—

(1) clone a human being; or

(2) conduct research for the purpose of cloning a human being or otherwise creating a human embryo.

(b) FEDERAL FUNDS.—No Federal funds may be obligated or expended to knowingly conduct or support any project of research the purpose of which is to clone a human being or otherwise create a human embryo.

(c) DEFINITION.—As used in subsection (a), the terms "clone" and "cloning" mean the practice of creating or attempting to create a human being by transferring the nucleus from a human cell from whatever source into a human egg cell from which the nucleus has been removed for the purpose of, or to implant, the resulting product to initiate a pregnancy that could result in the birth of a human being.

SEC. 3. ENFORCEMENT.

(a) CIVIL PENALTIES.—Whoever is found to be in violation of section 2 shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$5,000 for each such violation.

(b) INELIGIBILITY FOR FEDERAL FUNDS.—A individual found to be in violation of section 2 shall not be eligible to receive any Federal funding for research regardless of the type of research being conducted for a period of 5-years after such violation.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 322

At the request of Mr. GRAMS, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 322. A bill to amend the Agricultural Market Transition Act to repeal the Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact provision.

S. 323

At the request of Mr. SHELBY, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 323. A bill to amend title 4, United States Code, to declare English as the official language of the Government of the United States.

S. 412

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BUMPERS), and the Senator

from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 412, A bill to provide for a national standard to prohibit the operation of motor vehicles by intoxicated individuals.

S. 497

At the request of Mr. COVERDELL, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 497, A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act and the Railway Labor Act to repeal the provisions of the Acts that require employees to pay union dues or fees as a condition of employment.

S. 570

At the request of Mr. NICKLES, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 570, A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt certain small businesses from the mandatory electronic fund transfer system.

S. 578

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 578, A bill to permit an individual to be treated by a health care practitioner with any method of medical treatment such individual requests, and for other purposes.

S. 659

At the request of Mr. GLENN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 659, A bill to amend the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1990 to provide for implementation of recommendations of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service contained in the Great Lakes Fishery Restoration Study Report.

S. 769

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 769, A bill to amend the provisions of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986 to expand the public's right to know about toxic chemical use and release, to promote pollution prevention, and for other purposes.

S. 836

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 836, A bill to offer small businesses certain protections from litigation excesses.

S. 887

At the request of Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ROBB), and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 887, A bill to establish in the National Service the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program, and for other purposes.

S. 943

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Maryland

(Mr. SARBANES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 943, A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to clarify the application of the Act popularly known as the "Death on the High Seas Act" to aviation accidents.

S. 1021

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT), and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. KERREY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1021, A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that consideration may not be denied to 5, United States Code, to provide that consideration may not be denied to preference eligibles applying for certain positions in the competitive service, and for other purposes.

S. 1081

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ROBB) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1081, A bill to enhance the rights and protections for victims of crime.

S. 1104

At the request of Mr. HOLLINGS, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. THURMOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1104, A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to make corrections in maps relating to the Coastal Barrier Resources System.

S. 1141

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1141, A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to take into account newly developed renewable energy-based fuels and to equalize alternative fuel vehicle acquisition incentives to increase the flexibility of controlled fleet owners and operators, and for other purposes.

S. 1215

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1215, A bill to prohibit spending Federal education funds on national testing.

S. 1222

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1222, A bill to catalyze restoration of estuary habitat through more efficient financing of projects and enhanced coordination of Federal and non-Federal restoration programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1237

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1237, A bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to further improve the safety and health of working environments, and for other purposes.

S. 1244

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Colorado

(Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1244, A bill to amend title 11, United States Code, to protect certain charitable contributions, and for other purposes.

S. 1260

At the request of Mr. GRAMM, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. MACK) were added as cosponsors of S. 1260, A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to limit the conduct of securities class actions under State law, and for other purposes.

S. 1293

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1293, A bill to improve the performance outcomes of the child support enforcement program in order to increase the financial stability and well-being of children and families.

S. 1307

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1307, A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 with respect to rules governing litigation contesting termination or reduction of retiree health benefits and to extend continuation coverage to retirees and their dependents.

S. 1311

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1311, A bill to impose certain sanctions on foreign persons who transfer items contributing to Iran's efforts to acquire, develop, or produce ballistic missiles.

S. 1320

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BUMPERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1320, A bill to provide a scientific basis for the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to assess the nature of the association between illnesses and exposure to toxic agents and environmental or other wartime hazards as a result of service in the Persian Gulf during the Persian Gulf War for purposes of determining a service connection relating to such illnesses, and for other purposes.

S. 1326

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1326, A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicaid coverage of all certified nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists services.

S. 1334

At the request of Mr. BOND, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE), the Senator from

Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. FRIST), and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1334, A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to establish a demonstration project to evaluate the feasibility of using the Federal Employees Health Benefits program to ensure the availability of adequate health care for Medicare-eligible beneficiaries under the military health care system.

At the request of Mr. FAIRCLOTH, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1334, supra.

S. 1360

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG), and the Senator from New York (Mr. MOYNIHAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1360, A bill to amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to clarify and improve the requirements for the development of an automated entry-exit control system, to enhance land border control and enforcement, and for other purposes.

S. 1379

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1379, A bill to amend section 552 of title 5, United States Code, and the National Security Act of 1947 to require disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act regarding certain persons, disclose Nazi war criminal records without impairing any investigation or prosecution conducted by the Department of Justice or certain intelligence matters, and for other purposes.

S. 1482

At the request of Mr. COATS, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. 1482, A bill to amend section 223 of the Communications Act of 1934 to establish a prohibition on commercial distribution on the World Wide Web of material that is harmful to minors, and for other purposes.

S. 1554

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1554, A bill to provide for relief from excessive punitive damage awards in cases involving primarily financial loss by establishing rules for proportionality between the amount of punitive damages and the amount of economic loss.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 30

At the request of Mr. HELMS, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), and the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) were added as cosponsors of Senate Concurrent Resolution 30, A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the Republic of China should be admitted to multilateral economic institutions, in-

cluding the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

SENATE RESOLUTION 164—INFORMING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES THAT A QUORUM OF EACH HOUSE IS ASSEMBLED

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

S. RES. 164

Resolved, That a committee consisting of two Senators be appointed to join such committee as may be appointed by the House of Representatives to wait upon the President of the United States and inform him that a quorum of each House is assembled and that the Congress is ready to receive any communication he may be pleased to make.

SENATE RESOLUTION 165—INFORMING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT A QUORUM OF SENATE IS ASSEMBLED

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

S. RES. 165

Resolved, That the Secretary inform the House of Representatives that a quorum of the Senate is assembled and that the Senate is ready to proceed to business.

SENATE RESOLUTION—166—RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE DENVER BRONCOS IN WINNING SUPER BOWL XXXII

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

S. RES. 166

Whereas on August 14, 1959, a passion was born in the heart of the Rocky Mountain Region that brought such memories as "Orange Crush," "The Drive," "The Fumble," "The Three Amigos," and 4 previous Super Bowl appearances;

Whereas the fans of the Denver Broncos are recognized throughout the National Football League (referred to in this resolution as the "NFL") for their unconditional allegiance to the team, contributing to 229 consecutive sold-out stadium home games;

Whereas the Denver Broncos' organization assembled a championship caliber coaching staff who created a championship caliber team;

Whereas the Denver Broncos played in 4 previous Super Bowls without winning, represented the American Football Conference in Super Bowl XXXII which had not won a Super Bowl in 13 years, and was considered the underdog in the game; and

Whereas after almost 40 years, the Denver Broncos became champions of the NFL with a victory in Super Bowl XXXII over the defending national champions and perennial contenders, the Packers from Green Bay, Wisconsin: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the outstanding achievement of the Denver Broncos in winning Super Bowl XXXII on January 25, 1998; and

(2) congratulates the players, staff, and fans of the Denver Broncos for a terrific football season and a thrilling victory in Super Bowl XXXII.

SENATE RESOLUTION 167—RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT OF JOHN ELWAY IN THE VICTORY OF THE DENVER BRONCOS IN SUPER BOWL XXXII

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

S. RES. 167

Whereas since becoming quarterback for the Denver Broncos in 1983, John Elway has been involved in some of the most striking comeback victories in the history of the National Football League (referred to in this resolution as the "NFL");

Whereas John Elway has been a Pro Bowl quarterback, was named NFL Most Valuable Player in 1987 and the American Football Conference's Most Valuable Player in 1993, holds numerous NFL passing records, and is the all-time winningest quarterback in the history of the NFL;

Whereas John Elway's leadership, dedication, and perseverance symbolizes excellence in these qualities for the entire Nation and represents these qualities for America to the world; and

Whereas John Elway, an exceptional athlete, has sustained a high level of personal competitiveness and has finally led his team to the honor of a Super Bowl championship: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the outstanding achievement of the Denver Broncos' quarterback, John Elway; and

(2) congratulates John Elway as the winning quarterback of Super Bowl XXXII.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, tonight the President of the United States will outline some important issues for our consideration during the second half of this Congress, and, as I have sat here for the last 40 minutes listening to some of my colleagues, they have spoken with great emphasis on the importance of the points on which they are going to agree and disagree with him. But today I rise, with my friend Senator ALLARD, to submit two resolutions that are on a happier note. These resolutions are to honor the outstanding achievement of the Denver Broncos in their winning of Super Bowl XXXII.

The first resolution recognizes the entire Broncos organization and the other honors John Elway, the team's veteran leader, who happens to be a personal friend of both Senator ALLARD and myself. For the first time in 13 years, an AFC team has won the Super Bowl, and it is only the second time a wild-card team has won since 1980. Indeed, they were the underdog in the betting from Las Vegas to Atlantic City and all points in between.

As those football fans among us might know, the Broncos have glimpsed victory on four prior occasions, but had victory elude them each time. All of that changed this past Sunday. With an inspiring team effort, they beat the odds and the legendary Green Bay Packers, a team as talented and formidable as any of the championship Packer teams before it.

So sure were some people that the Broncos would lose, one electric appliance merchant in Farmington, NM, and Durango, CO, offered unlimited free appliances to customers on the day before the game if the Broncos won. Under the agreement, the customers would have only had to pay if the Broncos lost. Lucky for him, he had the foresight to take out a \$300,000 insurance policy, which barely covered his losses to jubilant customers as the unexpected happened and they showed up yesterday at both of his stores to collect on their free appliances.

In a brilliant athletic and strategic contest, both the Denver Broncos and the Green Bay Packers reflected qualities that we all value and admire: hard work, teamwork, preparation, dedication, and sportsmanship above all things. For that, and a beautiful display of terrific physical talent, both teams must be commended and applauded.

I want to highlight the Denver team, of course, because I am from Colorado and because they displayed a resilience and perseverance in overcoming four previous Super Bowl losses, qualities which any one of us must cheer who, in any type of endeavor, has ever tried and failed.

The Denver team succeeded with the leadership of John Elway, the MVP performance of Terrell Davis, a skilled offensive line that proved confidence and heart can compete with size, and a defense that proved as strong as it was fearless against a formidable offense.

Our second resolution specifically honors John Elway for his outstanding accomplishment in leading the Broncos to its fourth Super Bowl appearance and its first Super Bowl victory. In bringing his team a national championship, Mr. Elway has given us lessons in the game of football for years to come, and Sunday he gave us a new lesson in perseverance, dedication and true sportsmanship. He is certainly a hero.

Mr. ALLARD. I thank the senior Senator from Colorado for yielding.

Mr. President, as a fifth generation Coloradan who has rooted for the Broncos since they were first organized in the early 1960's, I want to give my Mile High Salute! A Super Bowl victory has been a long time coming for Broncos fans. Broncos fans have searched for an identity theme from "Orange Crush" in honor of one of their best defensive teams to "the Mile High Salute." Many of the themes were lost in time through legal hassles or disappointing

seasons. But "the Mile High Salute" is here to stay, etched in history with a Super Bowl Victory!

Rules limiting the celebration of success on the football field have made it difficult for players and coaches to express their emotions. "The Mile High Salute" has become the Broncos symbol of success on the field. I do not believe there is a more honorable and appropriate way of celebrating in the game of football. The salute is honorable. Denver is the Mile High City. The Mile High Salute has come to mean more than success and honor with the Super Bowl Victory. It has come to mean dedication, hard work, exceeding peoples' expectations, team work and unity, and giving the spirit of competition its just reward. It is in this context that I give my Mile High Salute.

I want to salute the Green Bay Packers organization. They are a great organization and Wisconsin can be proud of them. They made this Super Bowl one of the best ever. They have a legacy in football that is honored throughout America. I know both my colleagues in the Senate from Wisconsin are avid supporters.

My good friend Congressman SCOTT KLUG, who I joined in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1991, got carried away with his enthusiasm for his Green Bay Packers and placed a wager with me. Instead of me providing him with Colorado beef he has the honor of bestowing on me some great Wisconsin cheese. SCOTT is retiring and I will miss him in the Congress because he has done such a great job in bringing about true reform. America is better because of his leadership in the U.S. House of Representatives.

I extend a Mile High Salute to the offensive and defensive Broncos linemen. They truly exemplify the team spirit and exceeded expectations with the smallest line in the National Football League. Known as the "Orange Hush," these are men that have an oath of silence, who routinely arrive an hour early for morning meetings so they can watch extra videotape together, who eat meals together, who dress together in the same locker room area, who study the Bible together, and who, most importantly, show up on game day together.

An obvious Mile High Salute goes to both quarterback John Elway and running back Terrell Davis. They recognized that they didn't do it alone even though they have become heroes of the game.

John Elway is topping off his marvelous career with a Super Bowl win! Many top NFL quarterbacks never have the opportunity to claim a Super Bowl victory. He will eventually be in the Football Hall of Fame. I know him personally and cannot think of anyone more deserving of such an honor. He is supported by a wonderful wife Janet and family.

Fifteen years ago few people in the Denver community could have guessed the impact this young quarterback from Stanford would have on the State of Colorado. Today, John Elway reigns as the king of the comeback and the winningest quarterback in NFL history. He is one of the most recognized figures in American sports. Aside from his considerable athletic accomplishments, Elway has proven himself time and again to be the heart and soul of his team. As important as Elway's role is in Colorado sports, he plays a greater role in the community. Over the years he has worked tirelessly for the charities of Colorado, and the Elway Foundation is responsible for hundreds of thousands of dollars in donations. I think that in the hearts and minds of all Broncos fans this one is indeed for John.

Terrell Davis returned to the San Diego area and his high school alma mater to demonstrate the can do attitude. I personally am amazed at his courage, work ethic, and commitment to winning for the Broncos team. His 157 yards rushing and record three touchdowns in a Super Bowl will be remembered. But this was only the culmination of his best season ever. Davis has grown from a 196th pick in 1995 draft to a Super Bowl MVP and 1,750 yard rusher in 15 regular season games. Davis will long be known by the nickname TD as he averaged one touchdown in every game he played in the 1997-1998 season.

I salute the entire Broncos staff, owners, and coaches. Mike Shanahan has done a great job and certainly is deserving of the honor as a winning Super Bowl coach. Coach Shanahan and his staff have done an incredible job of taking what was a 7-9 team in 1994 to a 12-4 team with the heart to persevere through one of the most difficult roads to the Super Bowl with victories in Kansas City and Pittsburgh. The team statistics speak for themselves, the Broncos offense was ranked number one in the League with 367 yards per game and the defense was the top rated unit in the AFC only allowing 292 yards per game. I congratulate Pat Bowlen because I know that good leadership starts at the top.

I want to recognize the general manager of the Broncos. John Beake is a good friend and has a great family. He does a great job of representing the Broncos organization. Both he and his wife Marcia need to be recognized for their fight to eliminate drug abuse. Just another example of how the Broncos organization has reached out into the community.

I give a Mile High Salute to the fans of the Broncos. They are the best. Many, like my wife Joan, were attending Bronco games when they were playing at the old University of Denver football stadium and wore vertically striped socks. Their enthusiasm has not waned over the years.

It is an honor for me to represent everyone in Colorado in the U.S. Senate. It is especially exciting to be here while winning Super Bowl XXXII. While I was interviewed last week about the President's scandals, I stated a number of times that people in Colorado have their priorities straight. They want their Broncos to win the Super Bowl and that's what they're talking about!

Joan and I only wish we could be in Colorado helping our friends and neighbors in giving the Broncos and their fans a Mile High Salute.

SENATE RESOLUTION 168—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, STATES, AND LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES SHOULD SPEND A GREATER PERCENTAGE OF FEDERAL EDUCATION TAX DOLLARS IN OUR CHILDREN'S CLASSROOMS

Mr. HUTCHINSON (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. COATS, Mr. GREGG, Mr. DEWINE, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. ENZI, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. INHOPE, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. HELMS, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. MACK) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

S. Res. 168

Whereas the people of the United States know that effective teaching takes place when the people of the United States begin (1) helping children master basic academics, (2) engaging and involving parents, (3) creating safe and orderly classrooms, and (4) getting dollars to the classroom;

Whereas our Nation's children deserve an educational system which will provide opportunities to excel;

Whereas States and localities must spend a significant amount of Federal education tax dollars applying for and administering Federal education dollars;

Whereas several States have reported that although the States receive less than 10 percent of their education funding from the Federal Government, more than 50 percent of their paperwork is associated with those Federal dollars;

Whereas while it is unknown exactly what percentage of Federal education dollars reaches the classroom, a recent audit of New York City public schools found that only 43 percent of their local education budget reaches the classroom; further, it is thought that only 85 percent of funds administered by the Department of Education for elementary and secondary education reach the school district level; and even if 65 percent of Federal education funds reach the classroom, it still means that billions of dollars are not directly spent on children in the classroom;

Whereas American students are not performing up to their full academic potential, despite the more than 760 Federal education programs, which span 39 Federal agencies at the price of nearly \$100,000,000,000 annually;

Whereas, according to the Digest of Education Statistics, in 1993 only \$141,598,786,000

out of \$265,285,370,000 spent on elementary and secondary education was spent on instruction;

Whereas, according to the National Center for Education Statistics, in 1994 only 52 percent of staff employed in public elementary and secondary school systems were teachers;

Whereas too much of our Federal education funding is spent on bureaucracy, and too little is spent on our Nation's youth;

Whereas getting 90 percent of Department of Education elementary and secondary education funds to the classroom could provide approximately \$1,800 in additional funding per classroom across the United States;

Whereas more education funding should be put in the hands of someone in a child's classroom who knows the child's name;

Whereas President Clinton has stated: "We cannot ask the American people to spend more on education until we do a better job with the money we've got now.";

Whereas President Clinton and Vice President Gore agree that the reinventing of public education will not begin in Washington but in communities across the United States and that the people of the United States must ask fundamental questions about how our Nation's public school systems' dollars are spent; and

Whereas President Clinton and Vice President Gore agree that in an age of tight budgets, our Nation should be spending public funds on teachers and children, not on unnecessary overhead and bloated bureaucracy; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate urges the Department of Education, States, and local educational agencies to work together to ensure that not less than 95 percent of all funds appropriated for the purpose of carrying out elementary and secondary education programs administered by the Department of Education is spent for our Nation's children in their classrooms.

SENATE RESOLUTION—169—TO DESIGNATE FEBRUARY 3, 1998 AS "FOUR CHAPLAINS DAY"

Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. BOND, Mr. MOYIHAN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to.

S. RES. 169

Whereas February 3, 1998, is the 55th anniversary of the sinking of the United States Army transport *Dorchester*, an event that resulted in the loss of nearly 700 lives in 1943 and for which witnesses have recounted in the Congressional Record the heroism of 4 chaplains of different faiths, Lieutenant George L. Fox, Methodist; Lieutenant Alexander D. Goode, Jewish; Lieutenant John P. Washington, Catholic; and Lieutenant Clark V. Poling, Dutch Reformed;

Whereas witnesses have verified that during the approximate 18 minutes the ship was sinking after being torpedoed off the coast of Greenland, the 4 chaplains went from soldier to soldier calming fears and handing out life jackets and guiding men to safety and when there were no more life jackets, they removed their own life jackets and gave them to others to save their lives and were last seen arm-in-arm in prayer on the hull of the ship;

Whereas many of the 230 men who survived owed their lives to these 4 chaplains, and

witnesses among them recounted the unique ecumenical spirit and love for their fellow man these 4 demonstrated that were later illustrated in a popular postage stamp issued by the United States in 1948 with the title "Interfaith in Action";

Whereas Congress passed House Concurrent Resolution 90 in 1957 to honor these 4 chaplains and the men who died with them, and President Truman and President Eisenhower issued similar proclamations calling for national recognition and participation in memorial services throughout the land that have been observed annually by the American Legion on the first Sunday in February;

Whereas Congress undertook to create a special medal for valor given to the memory of the 4 chaplains in 1960 and never to be repeated; and

Whereas memorials to the chaplains' heroic sacrifice abound in many places throughout the country including the Heroes Window in the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) requests the President of the United States to issue a proclamation designating February 3, 1998, as "Four Chaplains Day"; and

(2) invites the people of the United States, of all religions and creeds and in all communities, to observe this date with appropriate ceremonies, celebrations, and commemorations.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs, will hold a hearing entitled "Medicare Fraud Prevention: Improving The Medicare Enrollment Process."

This hearing will take place on Thursday, January 29, 1998, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. For further information, please contact Timothy Shea of the Subcommittee staff at 224-3721.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place Tuesday, February 3, 1998 at 2:30 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1253, the Public Land Management Improvement Act of 1997.

Those who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. For further information, please call Judy Brown or Mark Rey at (202) 224-6170.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the full Committee on Energy and Natural Resources to consider the nomination of Donald J. Barry to be Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior.

The hearing will take place Wednesday, February 4, 1998 at 9:30 a.m. in Room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C.

For further information, please call Allyson Kennett at (202) 224-5070.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EXTENSION ACT OF 1997

• Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, S. 1519, a bill to provide a 6-month extension of highway, highway safety, and transit programs pending enactment of a law reauthorizing the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, was introduced and passed the Senate on November 10, 1997. The bill was passed by the House on November 12, 1997, and sent to the President for approval.

Because the measure was considered and passed on the same day as its introduction, the Committee on Environment and Public Works was not referred S. 1519, and a report was not filed. Subsequent to the passage of the legislation, however, the Congressional Budget Office issued a cost estimate, as required under the Senate rules. There-

fore, I ask that a letter from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office, dated December 1, 1997, be printed in the RECORD.

The letter follows:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, December 1, 1997.

HON. FRANKLIN D. RAINES,
Director, Office of Management and Budget,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. RAINES: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed estimate of the pay-as-you go effects of S. 1519, the Surface Transportation Extension Act of 1997.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contacts are Clare Doherty and Kristen Layman, both of whom can be reached at 226-2860.

Sincerely,

JUNE E. O'NEILL,
Director.

Enclosure.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE: PAY-AS-YOU-GO-ESTIMATE, DECEMBER 1, 1997

S. 1519: SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EXTENSION ACT OF 1997, AS CLEARED BY THE CONGRESS ON NOVEMBER 12, 1997

S. 1519 would provide a temporary extension of highway and transit programs authorized under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA). The bill would provide contract authority of approximately \$8.7 billion for programs carried out by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Of that total, \$15 million would be for the FHWA minimum allocation program, which is exempt from the obligation limitation that applies to the bulk of FHWA's spending. In addition to providing contract authority, S. 1519 would authorize the appropriation of \$372 million for the Federal Transit Administration for the first half of fiscal year 1998.

The minimum allocation program is the only program reauthorized in S. 1519 that has outlays that are classified as direct spending. All other outlays from authorizations in S. 1519 would be discretionary because they either would result from discretionary appropriations for fiscal year 1998 or would be subject to obligation limitations included in the 1998 appropriation act for transportation (Public Law 105-66).

S. 1519 would provide \$15.46 million for the minimum allocation program for the six-day period from January 26, 1998, through January 31, 1998. For the purposes of estimating the pay-as-you-go impact of the act, this amount has to be extrapolated through 2002, based on the spending authority provided in the legislation. This approach is required under the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, which stipulates that an expiring mandatory program with current-year outlays in excess of \$50 million be assumed to continue at the program level in place when it is scheduled to expire.

The \$15.46 million in contract authority for six days translates into an annualized level of \$639 million for January 26 through the remainder of fiscal year 1998 and for each subsequent fiscal year. By comparison, the current CBO baseline for the minimum allocation program includes contract authority of \$639 million for 1998, but assumes annual increases to reflect projected inflation for subsequent years. Thus, CBO estimates that enacting S. 1519 would produce pay-as-you-go savings of \$62 million in outlays over the 1998-2002 period, relative to the current baseline.

CBO's estimate of S. 1519's impact on outlays from direct spending is summarized in the following table for fiscal years 1998-2007. For purposes of enforcing pay-as-you-go procedures, only the effects in the budget year and the succeeding four years are counted. Also, only direct spending outlays are subject to pay-as-you-go requirements; the discretionary outlays from contract authority subject to obligation limitations are not considered for pay-as-you-go purposes.

ESTIMATED EFFECTS OF S. 1519 ON DIRECT SPENDING AND RECEIPTS

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars									
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Changes in outlays	0	-2	-8	-19	-33	-47	-63	-80	-97	-115
Changes in receipts										Not applicable

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Clare Doherty and Kristen Layman, both of whom can be reached at 226-2860. The estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

TRIBUTE TO DR. WALTER GAMEWELL "CURLY" WATSON

• Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the exemplary career and extraordinary life of one of South Carolina's most beloved citizens: Dr. Walter Gamewell "Curly" Watson.

Dr. Watson, who will turn 88 in February, was born in Trenton, South Carolina, on the same farm he owns today. He graduated from The Citadel college during the height of the Great Depression. Although he earned the highest grade point average in his class, he was—like so many of us dur-

ing that time—unable to find work. So in order to earn money for medical school, he taught math and coached football at high schools in Edgefield, South Carolina, and Bainbridge, Georgia, for the following seven years.

Finally, in 1939, he was able to enter medical school; and in 1943, he graduated from the Medical College of Georgia. After interning and completing his residency at University Hospital in Augusta, Dr. Watson served two years as an Army physician in Korea and the Philippines.

Before shipping out, Dr. Watson married Audrey Bazemore, a University Hospital nurse whom he met during his residency. Today, the two remain devoted to one another.

In fact, it was only at Audrey's insistence that Walter agreed to allow University Hospital to bear his name.

He is notorious for avoiding attention and eschewing praise. Indeed, Dr. Watson's life and career are marked by his humility.

Dr. Watson began his private practice 50 years ago, joining the practice established by Senator STROM THURMOND's late brother J. W. While delivering over 50 babies a month for most of the past 50 years, Watson also found time to serve his hospital, church, and community. He led Grace Methodist Church's efforts to build two new sanctuaries, as well as its relief mission for the victims of Hurricane Hugo. And for over 40 years, Watson has served as the team physician for North Augusta High School.

Walter Watson also has received numerous accolades from his peers in the medical profession. Among other honors, he was named Professor Emeritus

of obstetrics and gynecology at the Medical College of Georgia. And the hundreds of letters he has received over the years from friends, colleagues, and patients are testament to his unsurpassed bedside manner and deft human touch.

Perhaps greatest among Watson's accomplishments is his success as a family man. He raised five children, all of whom have grown up to be well-respected members of their community. All four of his daughters became nurses; they received their first training from their father.

Today, Mr. President, the University of Georgia Hospital names its Women's Center in Dr. Watson's honor. I can think of no more fitting tribute to this man who has given much to his community while asking nothing in return. At a time when many speak of the need to foster volunteerism, Dr. Walter Watson's life serves as a lesson in humility, faith, commitment, professionalism, and service. Beloved teacher, healer, father, and husband: Walter Watson is an inspiration to us all.●

BUILDING DEDICATION AT BAY COLLEGE

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, today I rise in honor of Bay College in Escanaba, Michigan. This innovative educational institution is excited to celebrate the dedication of its new University Center. The completion of this new building will provide many exciting opportunities for students and the college.

In addition to expanding higher education access to bachelor and master degree programs for area citizens, the Joseph L. Heriman University Center houses eight new computer classrooms/labs in its student Computing Center; a net of nine new classrooms which include the computer classrooms, three business classrooms, an interactive television (ITV) classroom and one mobile ITV for distance education. The Center also provides accommodations for industrial training and technology transfer, customized training for technical skills upgrade and professional development seminars and workshops.

The opening of this building will bring many benefits to the college and the local community. Again, I would like to congratulate Bay College and commend its administration, faculty and students on their efforts. Also, I would like to wish the college the brightest of futures as they enter this exciting period in their history.●

RETIREMENT OF MR. JOHN L. SMITH

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, on February 27, 1998, the state of Illinois and our nation will lose a valuable public servant. After 23 years as the Director of the United States

Small Business Administration's (SBA) Chicago District Office, John L. Smith is retiring. It is my honor to commend him on a distinguished career of service to our nation.

Mr. Smith began a 47-year public service career in 1951 with a 4 year stint in the United States Navy. Following his discharge, Mr. Smith attended the Robert Morris School in his hometown of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where he received a degree in Business Administration.

In 1967, Mr. Smith began working in the civil service with the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration where he worked as a loan specialist in several assignments throughout the East Coast. Prior to that, Mr. Smith had been the Director of Financial Assistance for the Business and Job Development Corporation in Pittsburgh.

In 1973, Mr. Smith came to Chicago to serve as the Regional Administrator for the Commerce Department's Office of Minority Business Enterprise. In that position, Mr. Smith admirably directed activities in 10 states and managed over \$5 million in grant and contract funds.

In 1975, Mr. Smith began his long tenure as Director of the SBA's Chicago District Office. Over the past 23 years, he has managed the Chicago Office and a smaller branch office in Springfield. Additionally, he has been responsible for overseeing both offices' SBA loans, management assistance, government contracting, and advocacy programs for small businesses across Illinois. On his watch, small businesses in Illinois have received several billion dollars worth of loans and federal contracts.

In addition to his professional successes, Mr. Smith and his wife have raised four adult children. John L. Smith has also worked to better his community and our nation through volunteering his time and abilities to organizations such as the American Heart Association, the Boy Scouts of America, the Kiwanis Club and the United Fund.

Without a doubt, the citizens and the economy of the state of Illinois have benefitted greatly from John L. Smith's able and dedicated leadership. He leaves behind a strong and proud record of accomplishment at the Small Business Administration, as well as a remarkable career of government service. I wish him good luck and God's speed in all of his future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO DON TIBBETTS

● Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Don Tibbetts, "Dean of the New Hampshire State House Press Corps" who recently retired after 24 years of news reporting on national and state politics for the Union Leader and the New Hampshire Sunday News.

Don has witnessed many historical events over his career, from the thrill of the first in the nation presidential primary to the comings and goings of countless Governors. He has endured seemingly endless hearings and press conferences, yet has reported on each of them with style, substance, and integrity.

In a state where people take their politics very seriously, Don was able to give the people of New Hampshire their daily diet of important facts about the events, votes, meetings, and rulings that impact their lives. What is remarkable about Don in this time of editorial journalism is the way Don gave his loyal readers the facts in an unbiased way and let them make their own judgments.

In the State House, Don was constantly on the lookout for news, churning out several stories each day. His "Under the State House Dome" column was a must read for anyone who wanted to be informed about the latest yet to break news and information about politics in New Hampshire.

Although Don is a lifelong member of the Fourth Estate, which often has a skeptical or even adversarial stance toward government officials, he always went the extra mile to listen to both sides of the story and reflect these views in his stories.

The only time he did not play it down the middle was when he was on the golf course, where he has been known to hit an occasional errant shot.

As someone who Don has covered for many years, I will miss him, and I know that his colleagues at the Union Leader and in the press corps will miss him too. The real questions is if Don will miss any of us. I wish both Don and Jane the best of luck in their future endeavors.

Those of us in government will greatly miss his reputation as an honest broker of the facts, a perceptive historian and judge of people, and for helping to keep the job of governing enjoyable.●

IN HONOR OF THE PALMIERIS' FIFTIETH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I would like to call to your attention a most momentous and joyful occasion. Theresa and Joseph Palmieri of Brooklyn, New York will celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary on January 31, 1998.

Theresa and Joseph were wed at Saint Rosalie Catholic Church in Brooklyn, New York on January 31, 1948. The couple was introduced at a "Welcome Home" for Joseph after his return from service during World War II. Living and working on Long Island, New York for the past thirty-five years, the Palmieri family includes daughters Jo Ann and Theresa, sons Paul and Joseph, and seven grandchildren.

In an era when nearly half of all couples married today will see their union dissolve into divorce, I believe it is both instructive and important to honor those who have taken the commitment of "till death do us part . . ." seriously, demonstrating successfully the timeless principles of love, honor, and fidelity.

Mr. President, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, and the entire Palmieri family in recognizing the wonderful sense of achievement and happiness that marks the golden wedding anniversary of Joseph and Theresa Palmieri.●

THE TYRE LODGE MASONIC TEMPLE OF COLDWATER

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of Tyre Lodge Masonic Temple in Coldwater, Michigan. On January 17, the lodge celebrated its 150th anniversary. To put this in perspective, this lodge was issued its charter 15 years before President Abraham Lincoln delivered the historic Gettysburg Address.

The Tyre Lodge has been a pillar of its community for many years. Volunteering their time, efforts and talents into an organization, Masons have consistently provided invaluable services to their community. The members of the lodge have always searched for new ways to provide opportunities for their fellow members and citizens of their local community. This strong commitment to helping other individuals is outstanding, and I commend each member of the association for all their tireless efforts.

On February 7, the lodge will be hosting a dinner and program to celebrate this achievement, and I would like to express my warmest wishes for a successful evening. Again, I would like to thank the members of the lodge for their dutiful dedication to the Coldwater community, and wish them the brightest of futures.●

TRIBUTE TO MARSHALL FLOYD

● Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment and pay tribute to a teacher in New Mexico who is an excellent example of service and commitment to education and the students of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Marshall Floyd has been a teacher at Highland High School since 1953, a member of numerous educational related boards, and has received a wide variety of educational honors, including being the recipient of the Outstanding Biology Teacher of New Mexico by the National Association of Biology Teachers in 1974 and receiving the Science Teacher of the Year Citation from the New Mexico Science Teachers Association in 1981. In 1990, Albuquerque Public Schools named Highland High School's new science build-

ing after him in recognition of his service to the school and the educational community.

Mr. President, on January 12, the community of Albuquerque and Highland High School paid tribute to this remarkable teacher, and today I join with my fellow New Mexicans in expressing my admiration for Marshall Floyd's continued dedication to educating the students of New Mexico and his commitment to the community of Albuquerque.●

THE HOLOCAUST VICTIMS REDRESS ACT

● Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the House of Representatives on passage of S. 1564, "The Holocaust Victims Redress Act."

The bill was passed by the Senate on November 13, 1997, and was referred back to the House where it was originally introduced by my colleagues, the chairman of the House Banking Committee, Representative JIM LEACH, and chairman of the House International Relations Committee, Representative BEN GILMAN. I am very pleased that we have been able to work together to pass this important legislation enabling the correction of a horrible injustice after the war. Now, needy survivors can obtain some measure of justice and dignity.

Mr. President, this important bill contains two main provisions. First, the bill authorizes \$25 million for a U.S. donation to the fund established by the United States and the United Kingdom at the London Conference on Nazi Gold in December. Second, the bill authorizes \$5 million for research into the issue and translation of foreign language documents coming from this effort. The administration has been fully supportive of this effort. Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstat, particularly, has played a vital role in this effort and without him we would not be where we are today on the issue.

Regarding the \$5 million authorized in the bill for research, it is my strong belief that the management of these funds should be granted to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. This museum is the one organization uniquely capable of conducting research like this, research that is a core function of its mission. The Museum, I might add, has been an invaluable aid to the Banking Committee during our on-going inquiry into the disposition of Holocaust-era assets by Swiss banks from before, during, and after the Holocaust. Accordingly, I can think of no better group to manage the research funding from this bill than the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Mr. President, I again want to thank my colleagues for their help in obtaining passage for this important bill. If we are going to try to obtain justice for victims of the Holocaust. While

much more needs to be done on this issue, this is an important measure in this long overdue effort.●

CHILD SUPPORT PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT ACT

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) has been added as a cosponsor to S. 1293, the Child Support Performance Improvement Act. Senator SNOWE and I introduced this legislation last year to call for critical ways to strengthen child support enforcement, including an effort to address the critical need for medical support among children with absent parents.

It is an honor to have Senator KERRY, a long-time child advocate and leader, join Senator SNOWE and me in our effort to promote effective and efficient child support enforcement. Senator KERRY's commitment to this issue is well known, and he has been aggressive pushing for action through previous legislation.

Today, we are joining forces to promote our bill, S. 1293, and to work together on a new initiative to resolve the lingering barriers that prevent enforcement of medical child support, a crucial aspect of support and stability for children and families. Senator KERRY's special commitment to medical support is clear. Working with him and other colleagues, we want to eliminate the barriers which hinder State agencies from effectively implementing the 1984 Federal law that requires States to petition for medical child support, if it is available from non-custodial parents. Our law says children should not be discriminated against in health care coverage in cases of divorce, but we need to work together to ensure that this obvious principle works in practice. Public health coverage, through Medicaid or the new children's health initiative, should not be a substitute for private insurance from parents when such insurance is available. We hope to ensure that children get coverage they need and deserve.

To achieve our goals, we want to work with congressional colleagues, child advocates, State leaders, interested business groups and the administration to ensure that we forge consensus on ways to tear down existing barriers to health care coverage that is fair and streamlined.

The technical nature of this issue is complicated. But the reality for children and families is clear—medical coverage means that parents have the peace of mind that their children can obtain the health care that is so vital for a healthy, successful childhood. I welcome Senator KERRY's support and urge all of my colleagues to join in this effort.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I am pleased to join the distinguished Senator from West Virginia as a cosponsor

of this very important child support legislation. He has long been a leader on these issues and I am delighted to work with him to ensure that children get the support they need and deserve. I particularly look forward to working together to pass medical enforcement legislation. At least 700,000 children nationwide have a health insurance order through an ERISA-protected plan where the noncustodial parent fails to provide the required coverage. Providing an efficient, effective way for child support agencies to enforce the requirement for medical child support coverage through ERISA-protected plans would result in more children with private health insurance and reduced public costs for medical coverage.●

RECOGNITION OF ZION GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a tremendous accomplishment by the Zion Grove Missionary Baptist Church and Reverend Frank L. Selkirk III, Ph.D. As of December 31, 1997, the Church has raised enough money, from members and the Kansas City, MO, community to pay their mortgage.

The Zion Grove Missionary Baptist Church Family will commemorate this achievement with a "Mortgage Burning Ceremony" on January 18. The hard work and perseverance of all the members at Zion Grove Missionary Baptist Church will begin to show in 1998 when money becomes available for new programs and possible expansion.

I congratulate Zion Grove Missionary Baptist Church for their hard work and success. Additionally, I commend staff and members for their spirit and energy throughout their many years of existence and wish them continued success in enriching the Kansas City community for years to come.●

DANIEL J. KEARNEY

● Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and mourn a loss for the working men and women of this country.

On Friday, January 2, 1998, Mr. Daniel J. Kearney of Cohasset, MA, passed away. On that day the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the United States of America lost an individual who embodied and protected the most cherished principles of this Nation.

From his military service to his fervent support of the labor movement, Mr. Kearney led a quintessentially American life, one that contained family and sacrifice, struggle and victory. He married the late Mary A. MacGrath, and together they raised daughters Gail and Linda. His distinguished service in the U.S. Navy spanned the period from World War II through Korea, and he maintained this commitment to his

Nation through leadership and service in the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion.

Mr. Kearney began his long career in the labor community as an apprentice blacksmith at the Boston Naval Yard in 1946, where he graduated from the Boston Naval Shipyard Apprentice School. In 1952, he served as a program engineer for the Navy, and this resulted in his becoming a contract negotiator for shipbuilding in 1956. In this position, Mr. Kearney worked on the construction and conversion of nuclear attack and ballistic missile submarines, helping navigate our Nation's defense through a historic and complex transition.

His largest contribution to this country, however, was his relentless and passionate advocacy on behalf of working men and women, and his early posts in the Navy yards of Massachusetts were the origin of his life-long campaign for organized labor.

He went on to organize, and to serve as a union officer and local president of, various American Federation of Government Employees locals, lead the Philadelphia Council of the AFGE and serve as President of the Massachusetts State Council of Locals. He served as National Vice President of the AFGE, and later as Vice President Emeritus of AFGE's New England District.

Dan Kearney's faith in the electoral processes of this country, both local and national, was another passion. Beginning back when John F. Kennedy was first elected to Congress, and continuing through Senator Edward Kennedy's re-election in 1994 and my own re-election in 1996, Mr. Kearney was a welcome fixture in the Democratic campaigns of Massachusetts. For him, coordination of grass roots politics was another tool to help people improve their lives, and he gave it his all.

In later years, the issues facing senior Americans became his campaign, and his sincere advocacy of fairness and decency resulted in an appointment to the White House Council on Aging. As recently as several weeks ago, he dropped by my Boston office with thoughts on issues facing seniors, retired government employees, and the labor movement as a whole.

He leaves a loving family and many friends, and he leaves the world better for his efforts. As we celebrate his life, we offer our condolences and sympathy to all who knew and loved him.●

TRIBUTE TO VIRGINIA WHITE

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Virginia White, a public servant of outstanding integrity and honesty, who is retiring after 25 years of service to her community. On January 31, Virginia will end her tenure as Meridian Township Clerk.

In 1972, Virginia was first elected as Township Clerk on the promise to im-

prove her community. Not only did she fulfill her pledge, but she began a long, meritorious career serving the people of Meridian Township. During her time as clerk, she established a reputation for hard work and dedication to serving her community. While a clerk, Virginia's dedication to Meridian Township was unsurpassed and she maintained the greatest of commitments to public service. Mr. President, Virginia White is one of few individuals I can think of who truly embodies the ideals and principles that define the term "public servant."

Virginia's desire to better her community reached far beyond Meridian Township. When she co-founded the Michigan Association of Clerks, a network was formed which brought city and township clerks across the State of Michigan together. Additionally, in an effort to create better systems of local governance, she wrote a national manual on conducting elections. Together, these efforts reflect Virginia's longstanding pursuit to provide her municipality with the best possible clerk. I am proud to say she accomplished this goal with great distinction. Although Virginia will be greatly missed, I know she is looking forward to a well-deserved retirement. I join her family, friends, and colleagues in wishing her all the best with her new endeavors and a bright future.●

TRIBUTE TO RETIRED MAYOR BETTY JO RHEA

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to one of South Carolina's leading ladies, Betty Jo Rhea. Betty Jo retired as Mayor of Rock Hill, SC, on January 20. With her retirement, my State loses one of its most beloved politicians and progressive leaders.

Betty Jo Rhea began her career of public service over 25 years ago, when she was appointed to the Rock Hill Parks and Recreation Commission. She was elected to the Rock Hill City Council in 1977, and has spent the last 20 years in the thick of her city's political fray.

In 1986, Rhea became Rock Hill's first woman Mayor. When she retired in January after 12 years in the office, she also was one of the city's longest serving and most popular mayors. During her tenure, Betty Jo focused her prodigious energies on attracting jobs to the region and preventing economic collapse in the wake of the closing of the textile mills that had underpinned Rock Hill's economy.

She has been incredibly successful. Not only did she help prevent a severe recession, she led Rock Hill in an economic rejuvenation. Under her leadership, the city built three business parks to attract large industries, began

a downtown revitalization and preservation program, and started a successful recycling program in cooperation with Rock Hill Clean and Green.

But Betty Jo didn't stop there. She also went abroad to promote Rock Hill, serving as the region's most successful ambassador. She was President of the Municipal Association of South Carolina, on the board of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, and active in the National League of Cities.

In recognition of her achievements and dedication to her community, the Municipal Association of South Carolina awarded Rhea the Allison Farlow Award, its highest honor. And in appreciation of her support for recycling, conservation, and greenery programs, Rock Hill Clean and Green created the Rock Hill Environmental Action (RHEA) award, named in her honor. For Rhea's contributions to the community, Winthrop University bestowed on her an honorary doctorate.

As Betty Jo's friends and admirers know, her greatest attributes are her sunny disposition, charm, and complete devotion and loyalty to Rock Hill and its people. Of course, these qualities haven't hurt her in politics, either. They have won her many friends and allies; and no doubt her success as Mayor has been aided by her habit of baking homemade bread for City Council members at Christmas.

Fortunately for South Carolina, Betty Jo Rhea's retirement from her duties as Mayor is not a retirement from public life and community service. She is set to begin her new career as head of a fund-raising campaign for the arts, and she plans to volunteer with the Salvation Army. Rhea's days of ribbon-cutting are over, but the people of Rock Hill can look forward to many more years of her wise counsel and progressive leadership.

Mr. President, I salute Betty Jo Rhea. She exemplifies all the virtues of citizenship and political leadership. She has pursued politics not out of egotism, but rather from the sincere desire to help her neighbors and strengthen her community. Thanks to her leadership, Rock Hill has not only weathered economic hardship, it has ridden the storm to ever-rising economic heights.

As one of her many fans remarked upon her retirement, Betty Jo Rhea truly was "a people's mayor." ●

RECOGNITION OF REPRESENTATIVE BONNIE SUE COOPER

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Missouri State Representative Bonnie Sue Cooper for her outstanding contributions to the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). As last year's chairwoman, Bonnie Sue set a new leadership standard that will be a challenge for all future chairpersons.

ALEC is the largest bipartisan, individual membership association of State

legislators in the country. After serving as vice-chairwoman for 2 years, Bonnie Sue was voted chairwoman for the 1997 term. According to Arkansas Speaker of the House Bobby Hogue, "In the year Bonnie Sue has been chairman there has been progress on every front at ALEC. It has strengthened its policy making operations and raised its profile among both legislators and the private sector." Speaker Hogue replaced Bonnie Sue as chairman.

Bonnie Sue has been an incredible leader, not only in the State of Missouri, but also at a national level. I enjoy seeing leadership of Bonnie Sue's caliber and know that there are only bigger things to come for her. I congratulate Representative Cooper on another outstanding year and wish her success in the future. ●

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

● Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, we continue to see positive signs reflecting the strength of our national economy. Thirty-year mortgage rates remain low, consumer confidence is high and unemployment is down.

In the midst of these sustained positive trends, America faces new challenges as we approach a new century. Among them: meeting a critical need for skilled technology workers and the continuing effort to move more Americans from welfare to work.

We are an innovative people and I'm confident that we can meet new challenges, in part via public-private partnerships. One of the key people in America advancing the concept of public-private partnerships is Mr. Greg Farmer. As Florida's Secretary of Commerce, Mr. Farmer pioneered public-private partnerships at the state level, doing more with less tax dollars.

Now in the private sector, with Nortel, Mr. Farmer and his company are helping provide high-tech equipment to schools and technology training to help move people from welfare to work. On January 13, 1998, Mr. Farmer testified before the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources. I commend his testimony to my colleagues and all those interested in public-private partnerships as a means of reducing welfare dependency and advancing job training. I respectfully ask that his testimony be printed in the RECORD:

The testimony follows:

STATEMENT OF GREG FARMER, VICE PRESIDENT, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE, NORTEL

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee. My name is Greg Farmer, and I am Vice President for Government Affairs and International Trade for Nortel (Northern Telecom). It gives me pleasure to be with you this morning to discuss some of the things Nortel is doing in the Washington, D.C. area to help prepare inner city youth for a fruitful life beyond high school, whether it be college or acquiring a special skill.

Bell Atlantic is a household word and all of you are certainly familiar with it. You might not be as well acquainted with Nortel (even though—and I hesitate to say this in case you had a telephone problem this morning—the Senate does have our telephone switch). Nortel is the leading global supplier of fully digital network solutions and services. We design, build and integrate digital networks that communicate voice, data, image and video for customers in the information, communications, entertainment, education, government and commerce markets. Our customers are local and long distance telecommunications companies, businesses, universities, governments, cable television companies, competitive local access providers, Internet services providers and other network operators around the world. We operate in 150 countries around the globe. We have more employees in the U.S. than anywhere else. Here, we are based in Nashville, Tennessee and have major state-of-the-art centers—including research and development, manufacturing, semiconductor and software-engineering facilities—in nine other states. And we have sales and services offices in every state of the union. We count Bell Atlantic as a good customer, and I am pleased to be on the panel today with my friend Bill Freeman.

Yesterday the Administration announced a massive public-private effort aimed at high tech training. This was in response to concerns by economists and business leaders that U.S. companies have a critical shortage of skilled technology workers. The initiative, which will include millions of dollars in grants to fund educational programs, comes as a new survey shows that 1 in every 10 information technology jobs in the U.S. is unfulfilled.

This comes as no surprise to Nortel. As with other telecommunications companies, education and workforce development is an essential part of Nortel's overall business strategy. Our industry requires highly skilled workers at even the most basic entry level positions. We are constantly looking for opportunities to work with organizations that provide training and enhance our workforce.

The Administration ought to take a good look at Capital Commitment. It is a stellar example of a high tech training program that works. It is a shiny gem; a diamond in a rusty crown. And I hope some of those grants will go to Capital Commitment so it can continue the incredible success it has enjoyed in the past.

One only need hear the Ricky Mozee story to understand the cascading good this program has for individuals and for our community. Ricky Mozee is a walking, talking welfare-to-work success story. Before finding Capital Commitment in 1992, Ricky was a drug and alcohol abuser, living on welfare in the tough streets of Anacostia. In his own words, he had no future; his family had no future; he was afraid to dream. He was fighting his addictions and looking at an 84 percent unemployment rate in his community. Then he found Capital Commitment. Today, he has a high paying job as a telecommunications supervisor at National Airport. He owns a house in suburban Maryland. He supports a wife and three children. He is a poster boy for what the future could be, if we get it right.

When LaVerne and Ernest Boykin established Capital Commitment in 1991, their vision to train inner city youth in telecommunications and life skills and to facilitate job opportunities for them resonated

well with our corporate goals. Since that time, Nortel has been actively involved with Capital Commitment. We have observed a dramatic increase in employment opportunities for the unemployed, under-employed, at risk youth and single parents from the District of Columbia. As a result, we have also observed a significant shift of money from public assistance to taxable income.

In those early days, we worked with the Capital Commitment management team to identify factors critical for their success and discovered their needs went far beyond financial support.

Nortel's support of Capital Commitment since its inception includes:

Providing well over \$1 million in funding, equipment and personnel resources (switches, computers and state-of-the-art office equipment as well as technical expertise, training materials);

Providing management advice and coaching;

Taking the lead in turning Capital Commitment into an industry sponsored organization;

Establishing a fundraising golf tournament;

Working to replicate Capital Commitment in California & Texas;

Serving on Capital Commitment's Board (Stuart Mapes, Nortel's National Director of Minority and Women Business Program).

In addition, I am pleased to announce today that Nortel will donate and install a new Nortel Central Office Switch to be used for advanced training.

We have also worked with Bell Atlantic and other private companies to expand corporate funding of the program. I might add here that one of the most telling successes of this program is the fact that Nortel and other corporate sponsors of Capital Commitment have been diligent in working cooperatively. We work with our customers, such as Bell Atlantic, MCI and Sprint, but also with our competitors, such as Siemens and Lucent, in promoting this program. There is something in it for each of us. Not only does it make us sleep a little easier at night to know that we are being good corporate citizens and helping disadvantaged youth become a part of this dynamic industry; but also, in a cold business sense, we are receiving great benefits too.

Nortel and the telecommunications industry in general are in constant need of highly qualified technical employees. Capital Commitment graduates students who are highly trained in these skills. We have hired over 100 Capital Commitment graduates who have proven to be well trained, competent and reliable employees. As a matter of fact, Capital Commitment graduates have a 90+ percent placement rate and an impressive 80+ percent retention rate! This welfare-to-work program really works.

There is another aspect to this program which is missing from other traditional welfare-to-work programs. The Boykins teach their students critical lifeskills and stress to their students the importance of "paying back" their communities. Many of their graduates return to Capital Commitment to help instruct students, or pay back their communities by being role models for others. So the legacy of Capital Commitment lives on in their graduates and provides long term benefits to the community.

I am committed to spreading the word about Capital Commitment. I have personally taken numerous Administration officials through the program. I found that a tour of Capital Commitment makes believers

out of all who go there. My goal is to find sources of federal, state and local funding to help this incredible program expand. I would encourage each of you to take time from your very busy schedules to visit Capital Commitment, which is located a few short miles from here. There is nothing any of us can say to you today that will have the impact a personal visit will have. It will, I know, be time well spent.

We at Nortel believe very strongly that Capital Commitment is an important and solid example of how business can work within the community to provide increased opportunity for movement from welfare-to-work in highly paid, career oriented jobs in a high growth industry. The need for skilled technicians to enter this industry is growing rapidly so it is incumbent upon us to accelerate efforts to assure continued progress for this important program. Capital Commitment provides opportunities for our most disadvantaged citizens to become productive, well paid workers in this dynamic industry.

Having said all of this, there is trouble in paradise. Capital Commitment is a shiny gem but it sits in a rusty crown, badly in need of attention by our policy makers.

We at Nortel believe that corporate-community partnerships are the key to educating and gainfully employing a greater number of high skilled workers. However, there is a third critically important partner needed in these job training programs if they are to be successful: the government.

I worry that Capital Commitment might not be able to continue because it is lacking financial support of any kind by the government.

It is the government's role to encourage programs which take people who are on welfare and turn them into gainfully employed, responsible citizens who pay taxes and otherwise contribute to their community. This is what Capital Commitment does so well. And the corporate community by all accounts has been extremely generous with financial and other resources to help them achieve this goal. The corporate community benefits from the program; we strongly support the program. And while the Government also has much to gain from these efforts, there has been little effort by the government to encourage this activity.

Capital Commitment is a victim of its own success. Ernest and LaVerne Boykin triumphed in setting up a high quality welfare-to-work program that actually works. It takes people off of welfare and helps them get jobs in a growing industry.

Capital Commitment is a public-private partnership without the public. The government has simply not done its part in encouraging this most successful program.

In my previous two stints at public service, I learned first-hand the benefits of converting traditional governmental functions into public-private partnership.

As Florida's Commerce Secretary I converted several functions within the department to public-private partnerships, including film and motion picture promotion, sports promotion and tourism promotion. Finally the economic development function was converted to a public-private partnership (Enterprise Florida), completely eliminating the Department of Commerce, which might appeal to some of you.

As U.S. Under Secretary of Commerce for Travel and Tourism, I convened the first-ever White House Conference on Tourism charged with planning strategy for the industry for the next five years. The number one recommendation was that the agency be converted to a public-private partnership.

The reason is that a public-private partnership leverages maximum resources in the most positive way possible. It achieves the public purpose the government wants to achieve; it brings the discipline of business to the operation; it provides accountability; it is cost effective by nature because business simply will not be a part of something which is not effective. History shows public-private partnerships are almost always more effective in terms of achievement and cost than government working alone.

As an aside, you may all be aware that there is an effort underway in D.C. to revive a plan endorsed by the White House to create a National Capital Revitalization Corporation, a separate legal entity that would oversee development activities in struggling commercial areas across the city. The corporation, a public-private partnership, would be charged with drafting a strategic economic development plan for the city and would have the power to acquire property, issue bonds and conduct other activities which would ensure economic growth happens.

I endorse this plan because I believe there is no where else in this country that needs a public-private effort to revitalize the economy more than the District of Columbia.

Capital Commitment would fit well into this new economic plan. But what we have with Capitol Commitment now is a public-private partnership in which the public has not been present. The results have a tremendous public return. Over 500 former welfare recipients now are earning high wages, paying taxes and contributing to the economic development of their communities. A proven success record. Yet there has been precious little government investment and apparently no realization of the value this program has in achieving a critical government goal.

Before I conclude, let me briefly tell you about some of our other efforts to be helpful in D.C.

Nortel recognizes that computer-based learning is crucial in preparing our students for the 21st Century. So, 18 months ago, we began a program to assist the D.C. school system. We began by providing computers to Burrville Elementary and Hine Junior High School. Nortel also provided the expertise and training necessary to ensure the computers were operable and the teachers knew how to instruct the children. Access to the Internet was an essential ingredient. The computers were most successful at Burrville and Hine, well run schools with excellent teachers and children eager to learn. However, we soon learned that much more needed to be done.

To respond to this need, we assembled a coalition of federal and city government officials and private corporations aimed at providing inner city D.C. schools with computers, software and Internet access. We met to discuss how, working together, we could provide on an ongoing basis, computers, access to the Internet, software and technical support to inner city schools. It soon became apparent, however, that there was no accounting system for tracking what the D.C. schools presently have or what they need. So we had to start from scratch. Before we could be truly helpful, we first needed to get a handle on what the D.C. school system already had, what was working and what was not and exactly what was needed. A more structured organization was required.

This led to the creation of Partners in Technology (PIT), a non-profit foundation established to foster technology-based public-private partnerships in the D.C. school

system. I am pleased to serve as Chairman of the Board of PIT.

The goal of PIT is to improve the quality of education in our local educational institutions by increasing the level and maximizing the impact of community investments made by the private sector. We learned from experience that to be most effective takes more than just donating equipment.

PIT is funded by corporate charter members and is seeking matching funding for programs and operations from private, public and federal sources.

Although in its infancy, PIT—in partnership with the District Branch of Tech Corps—has already initiated:

Researching and developing plans for an "acceptable" standard work station/computer that will meet the overall education needs of the student. This includes working closely with the D.C. Public Schools in providing assistance and consultation on strategic planning and inventory management. For instance, PIT is in discussions with DC Tech Corps in looking at ways to develop effective technology training programs for the faculty. PIT understands it cannot be effective unless we have trained educators that can and want to teach students how to use the tools of technology in order to enhance their education.

Establishing a pilot project which is being tested to allow schools to turn over obsolete computer equipment for a credit by a computer remanufacturer. This credit may be used to purchase state-of-the-art equipment and comprehensive computer training for teachers. In addition, local non-profit remanufacturers have expressed an interest in working to provide repair training and intern opportunities for D.C. students in the schools and at their facilities.

Coordinating the establishment of a computer program within the D.C. public schools which will establish student clubs with faculty-adult supervision.

These are just a few of the activities already undertaken by PIT. High on our list is to assist the D.C. Public Schools in compiling an accurate inventory of all computer/phone equipment and systems. This will include an inventory of each school's human and corporate resources. This is a critical step in providing the necessary information for intelligent and effective planning.

We plan to be more active as we develop and believe we can become a highly effective link for the D.C. public schools. We want to ensure that D.C. has the computer equipment they need and the teachers have the resources they need to ensure proper operation of the equipment, access to the super highway and training so D.C. students are assured of having a good, solid education which will prepare them for a good future.

We have coupled our efforts with Capital Commitment and PIT. Capital Commitment has arranged office space for PIT in its facility, and we have provided computers for both organizations to enhance their effectiveness.

Again, thank you for allowing me to present to you this morning to discuss these two important programs, both of which could be easily transported to other parts of the country where there is also critical need.

We encourage other corporations to join us in ensuring that organizations like Capital Commitment and PIT are securely funded. And we would also encourage our policy makers to take a careful look at programs like these for government funding. These are programs where a little bit of funding can go a very long way in enhancing economic development to the betterment of all citizens.

We need to provide the shiny gem that is Capital Commitment with a gleaming crown so it can beacon far and wide to others who can copy this program and get into the business of turning lives around.

I would be happy to answer any questions.●

BRUCE AND KATHY CONTWAY

● Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise today to commend two Montana artists for their dedication and talent.

In the West, we are accustomed to western art whether in the form of a Charlie Russell painting or a Frederick Remington bronze. But today I would like to recognize the future of Western bronze sculpture art defining our nation's roots and the hardy souls who lived off the land and gave us the rich history that will always be a part of our nation's beginning.

Bruce and Kathy Contway of Whitehall, Montana, have helped to preserve that history as well as to find their own place in history as American artists. These two artists are becoming well-known internationally for their abilities and their works celebrating a colorful Native American and Old West past. Their art has helped to make accessible to all of us the distinctive culture and customs of this nation's first inhabitants.

The Contways, have certainly earned the honors they have received. Their dedication and hard work were recently rewarded when they each received the admiration of their peers and fans alike.

1997 was a year of recognition for the Contways. Bruce was named the Indian Arts and Crafts Association (IACA) Artist of the Year and was also awarded the steer wrestling and bareback riding bronze commissions during the 1997 Calgary Stampede Trophy Bronze Competition. Kathy was awarded the envy of all artists participating in the Stampede competition—the Chuckwagon Race Outriders bronze. Mr. President, bronze artists everywhere understand the significance of these honors.

The work of Bruce and Kathy indicates a strong pride in their Native American heritage. Their remarkable talent combined with modest self-recognition is an inspiration to young artists across our country. And their desire to pass on their legacy and pride is a tribute to all Montanans.

Among their peers, Bruce and Kathy are considered world-class artists. Among their neighbors, Bruce and Kathy are considered friends. The Contways are very involved in the local community. Accomplished high school and college rodeo stars, they enjoy working with local students in the high school's rodeo club.

Last December, the front page headline of the Whitehall Ledger read, 'Contway art "Stampedes" to great year'. The article was a fitting tribute to two of Montana's best. Artists with

this kind of talent are difficult to find, and you can bet that a Contway bronze will be a treasured work of art on any lucky owner's mantel.●

THE CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG EXCHANGE

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, since 1983, the United States Congress and the German Parliament have conducted an annual exchange program for senior staff members from both countries. The program gives professional staff the opportunity to observe and learn about each other's political institutions and convey Members' views on issues of mutual concern. The program is now in its 15th year and has strong support and participation from federal agencies as well as corresponding support from the German government.

A staff delegation from the United States Congress will be chosen to visit Germany March 22 to April 4 of this year. During the two week exchange, the delegation will attend meetings with Bundestag Members, Bundestag party staff members, and representatives of numerous political, business, academic, and media agencies. Cultural activities and a weekend visit in a Bundestag Member's district will complete the schedule.

A comparable delegation of German staff members will visit the United States for three weeks this summer. They will attend similar meetings here in Washington and visit the districts of Congressional Members.

The Congress-Bundestag Exchange is highly regarded in Germany, and is one of several exchange programs sponsored by public and private institutions in the United States and Germany to foster better understanding of the politics and policies of both countries. The ongoing situation in Bosnia, the future expansion of NATO and the proposed expansion of the European Union, as well as plans for a single currency will make this year's exchange particularly relevant.

The U.S. delegation should consist of experienced and accomplished Hill staff members who can contribute to the success of the exchange on both sides of the Atlantic. The Bundestag sends senior staff professionals to the United States.

Applicants should have a demonstrable interest in events in Europe. Applicants need not be working in the field of foreign affairs, although such a background can be helpful. The composite U.S. delegation should exhibit a range of expertise in issues of mutual concern in Germany and the United States such as, but not limited to, trade, security, the environment, immigration, economic development, health care, and other social policy issues.

In addition, U.S. participants are expected to help plan and implement the

program for the Bundestag staff members when they visit the United States. Participants are expected to assist in planning topical meetings in Washington, and are encouraged to host one or two Bundestag staffers in their Member's district over the July Fourth break, or to arrange for such a visit to another Member's district.

Participants will be selected by a committee composed of U.S. Information Agency personnel and past participants of the exchange.

Senators and Representatives who would like a member of their staff to apply for participation in this year's program should direct them to submit a resume and cover letter in which they state why they believe they are qualified and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated. Applications may be sent to Kathie Scarrah, in my office at 706 Hart Senate Building, by Thursday, February 12.●

TRIBUTE TO THE GALLATIN AMERICAN LEGION POST 17 SOFTBALL TEAM

● Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, as a physician I have long advocated maintaining a healthy lifestyle. I'm always amazed when individuals prove that exercise and eating right are simple requirements for remaining healthy and staying young at heart. The Gallatin American Legion Post 17 Softball team is just such a group that is having fun staying healthy and exercising regularly.

This is no ordinary softball team, these ladies are sixty-years of age and older. This special team is comprised of women from all over middle Tennessee. The team was formed in 1994. They practice each Monday in Gallatin and in the winter they keep up their stamina by using the Gallatin Sports Complex for their weekly softball practices. That same year they participated in the State tournament and won. Since then they are proud to be a force to reckon with on the Senior's Softball circuit.

This past spring the team traveled to Tucson, Arizona to participate in the International Senior Olympic Games. The competition drew more than 12,000 seniors over sixty-years-old from all over the world who competed in a variety of athletic events. The Gallatin American Legion Post 17 Softball team, with 13 players and two coaches, faced competition from nine teams across the United States and Canada. These ladies played hard and their dedication and determination paid off when they came home with the gold medal. They won each of the six games in which they played and outscored their Olympic competitors 122-10.

Since winning the International Olympics gold medal these women have not rested on their laurels. They're

back on the field practicing and playing the game. Because of the increase in interest in women's softball for seniors, leagues have cropped up across the country, and they gather for yearly tournaments. The ladies of Gallatin American Legion Post 17 maintain their busy schedule with practices and games to defend their international title.

This newly developed enthusiasm for senior athletic groups is truly inspiring. These women serve as role models for younger generations and encourage participation from other seniors. They are living examples of the happiness that seniors can find in exercising and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. I want to congratulate the Gallatin American Legion Post 17 Softball team not only for winning the gold medal at the International Senior Citizen's Olympics but for also winning in the game of life. These ladies are active and healthy, taking advantage of their older years rather than letting old age take care of them. I wish them the best of luck in the future.●

TRIBUTE AND THANKS TO AL ALM

● Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, in just a few days, the Department of Energy will lose one of its best, most able and selfless public servants. Al Alm, Assistant Secretary for the Department of Energy's Environmental Management program, is leaving federal service on January 31.

Al epitomizes the best in public service. Integrity and responsibility are his hallmarks. He has left those marks throughout the government, in academia, and in private industry. Al's government service has included positions in the Atomic Energy Commission, the Bureau of the Budget, the Council on Environmental Quality, the Environmental Protection Agency, and two stints in the Department of Energy. He has been a tireless advocate for the programs in which he has been involved, most notably for me, cleanup of our nation's most polluted former defense nuclear production sites.

I personally found Al to be the most accessible and helpful assistant secretary in the administration. He worked closely with me, other members of the Washington congressional delegation, our staffs, and our constituents to ensure Hanford's most important programs received adequate funding and support. Al's steadfast support for Hanford, in the face of so many competing needs, has been outstanding. Whether it is safety, funding, expediting work, or employee concerns, he has been out in front. I will sorely miss Al.

Al has accomplished a lot in the 20 months in which he has served as the leader of Environmental Management. He has led the charge in revitalizing management and focusing energy on

getting sites—and programs—closed, or well on their way to closure, by 2006. The billions of dollars and decades of time saved are extraordinary in themselves, but the public health and environmental protection are the real, tangible results of his efforts. He has helped us develop a goal and start moving toward that goal.

Mr. President, I want to say a big thank you to Al Alm on behalf of myself and my Senate colleagues. We will miss him and his leadership of a very difficult, complex and controversial program. We wish him all the best in whatever endeavors he undertakes and hope he leaves knowing how much we have appreciated his enthusiasm and hard work.●

RECOGNITION OF STEVEN MILLER

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Steven Miller whose dedication to Missouri athletics has earned him a place in the Missouri State Track and Cross Country Coaches Hall of Fame. For more than 20 years Coach Miller has strived to make his Francis Howell High School team in St. Charles, Missouri one of the best.

Under Coach Miller's guidance, The Francis Howell track team has won 22 out of 39 Conference titles and the Cross Country team has won 10 out of 18. Even more impressive are the individual accomplishments by his former athletes. Coach Miller has coached one pole vaulter who proceeded to the 1996 Summer Olympics, a woman distance runner who became a two-time NCAA Division I All-American, more than 50 athletes who have become coaches, 14 state champions and a girl's cross country team who won the state championship in 1987.

High school athletics is an area that I believe helps to teach very important values to young people and it is always encouraging to learn of a coach with the drive and commitment to excellence shown by coach Miller. Coaches, athletes and parents at Francis Howell High School are fortunate to have such an inspirational role model and educator.

I congratulate Coach Miller for his hard work and success. Additionally, I commend his undying energy throughout his many years of coaching and wish him continued success at Francis Howell High School.●

TRIBUTE TO WATO RADIO

● Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate WATO radio in Oak Ridge, Tennessee for 50 years of radio broadcasting excellence. WATO got its start in 1948 when it was commissioned by the Department of Energy (DOE), which in those days was known as the Atomic Energy Commission.

WATO was the first radio station established on a military reservation. It

was created as a service to the growing community that resulted with the establishment of the DOE Oak Ridge Reservation in the early 1940's. Over the years, WATO has kept Oak Ridgers in touch with the DOE and other government related entities. The station has also made the community an important part of their programing, through its coverage of local events. Whether it be educational activities, athletic events or providing the community with important service announcements, WATO is very much involved in the Oak Ridge community.

Mr. President, WATO has become a familiar voice to area residents. Their support of the Oak Ridge community and their close relationship with DOE, the areas most prominent employer, have made WATO a vital part of the community. I commend the time and commitment that WATO has invested over the past 50 years in their programing and their relationship with the people of Oak Ridge. I wish them another 50 years of success. ●

1997 YEAR END REPORT

The mailing and filing date of the 1997 Year End Report required by the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended, is Saturday, January 31, 1998. Principal campaign committees supporting Senate candidates file their reports with the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, DC 20510-7116.

The Public Records office will be open from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. on the filing date to accept these filings. For further information, please contact the Public Records office on (202) 224-0322.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—NOMINATIONS OF ANN AIKEN, BARRY SILVERMAN AND RICHARD STORY

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, on behalf of our distinguished majority leader, Senator LOTT, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 28, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider en bloc the following nominations on the executive calendar: No. 454, Ann Aiken; No. 486, Barry Silverman; No. 488, Richard Story.

I further ask unanimous consent that there be a total of 2 hours for debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking member.

I further ask consent that at 2:15 on Wednesday the Senate proceed to 3 consecutive votes on the confirmation of the nominations. I finally ask consent that following the votes, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 1575

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator LOTT, I understand that S. 1575, which was introduced earlier today by Senator COVERDELL, is at the desk. I now ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1575) to rename the Washington National Airport located in the District of Columbia and Virginia as the "Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport."

Mr. SPECTER. On behalf of Senator LOTT, I now ask for a second reading and object to my own request on behalf of the other side of the aisle.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be read on the next legislative day.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE DENVER BRONCOS AND THEIR QUARTERBACK JOHN ELWAY

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator LOTT, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed en bloc to the consideration of Senate resolution 166 and Senate resolution 167, which were submitted earlier today by Senators CAMPBELL and ALLARD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolutions, en bloc.

A resolution (S. Res. 166) recognizing the outstanding achievements of the Denver Broncos in winning Super Bowl XXXII.

A resolution (S. Res. 167) recognizing the outstanding achievement of the Denver Broncos' quarterback, John Elway, in the victory of the Denver Broncos in Super Bowl XXXII.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolutions?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements related to these resolutions appear at this point in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolutions (S. Res. 166 and S. Res. 167) were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

The resolutions, with their preambles, are as follows:

S. RES. 166

Whereas on August 14, 1959, a passion was born in the heart of the Rocky Mountain Region that brought such memories as "Orange Crush," "The Drive," "The Fumble," "The Three Amigos," and 4 previous Super Bowl appearances;

Whereas the fans of the Denver Broncos are recognized throughout the National Football League (referred to in this resolu-

tion as the "NFL") for their unconditional allegiance to the team, contributing to 229 consecutive sold-out stadium home games;

Whereas the Denver Broncos' organization assembled a championship caliber coaching staff who created a championship caliber team;

Whereas the Denver Broncos played in 4 previous Super Bowls without winning, represented the American Football Conference in Super Bowl XXXII which had not won a Super Bowl in 13 years, and was considered the underdog in the game; and

Whereas after almost 40 years, the Denver Broncos became champions of the NFL with a victory in Super Bowl XXXII over the defending national champions and perennial contenders, the Packers from Green Bay, Wisconsin: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the outstanding achievement of the Denver Broncos in winning Super Bowl XXXII on January 25, 1998; and

(2) congratulates the players, staff, and fans of the Denver Broncos for a terrific football season and a thrilling victory in Super Bowl XXXII.

S. RES. 167

Whereas since becoming quarterback for the Denver Broncos in 1983, John Elway has been involved in some of the most striking comeback victories in the history of the National Football League (referred to in this resolution as the "NFL");

Whereas John Elway has been a Pro Bowl quarterback, was named NFL Most Valuable Player in 1987 and the American Football Conference's Most Valuable Player in 1993, holds numerous NFL passing records, and is the all-time winningest quarterback in the history of the NFL;

Whereas John Elway's leadership, dedication, and perseverance symbolizes excellence in these qualities for the entire Nation and represents these qualities for America to the world; and

Whereas John Elway, an exceptional athlete, has sustained a high level of personal competitiveness and has finally led his team to the honor of a Super Bowl championship: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the outstanding achievement of the Denver Broncos' quarterback, John Elway; and

(2) congratulates John Elway as the winning quarterback of Super Bowl XXXII.

FOUR CHAPLAINS DAY

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Senate resolution No. 169, submitted earlier today by Senator HATCH and others.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

A resolution (S. Res 169) to designate February 3, 1998, as "Four Chaplains Day".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, S. Res. 169, commemorates the "Immortal Four Chaplains" whose brave sacrifice is an inspiring story of personal honor and patriotism. Their heroism of 55

years ago stands today as an eloquent and enduring example of service, fellowship, and love.

On February 3, 1943, a German U-boat torpedoed the American transport ship *Dorchester*, sinking it off the coast of Greenland. Among the nearly 1,000 American soldiers aboard the *Dorchester* were four chaplains whose selfless acts of courage have left a distinguished legacy, a legacy that we hope to honor and remember in this resolution.

Survivors' accounts describing the short 18 minutes that the ship was sinking report that Lieutenant George L. Fox, a Methodist minister; Lieutenant Alexander D. Goode, a Jewish rabbi; Lieutenant John P. Washington, a Catholic priest; and Lieutenant Clark V. Poling, a Dutch Reformed minister worked to alert the soldiers to the danger and direct them to safety. They distributed life jackets until no more were available. Then, these four Army chaplains removed their own life jackets and gave them to four soldiers.

One soldier witnessed a chaplain giving his gloves to a panicked GI shivering in the Arctic air to prevent the young man from returning to his cabin for his own. The chaplains helped 230 men to safety and then chose to remain to calm and comfort the nearly 700 who went down with the ship. True to their faiths and to their fellowmen until the end, they were last seen, arms linked in prayer, on the hull of the ship.

A postage stamp in 1948 entitled "Interfaith in Action" commemorated their bravery. Congress passed a concurrent resolution in 1957 to honor these chaplains and those who died with them. Presidents Truman and Eisenhower also issued proclamations calling for national participation in memorial services throughout the country. The American Legion holds an annual commemorative service on the first Sunday of February.

This coming Sunday, February 3, 1998 marks the 55th anniversary of an episode in our history that is tragic yet uplifting. Let us remember these acts of bravery which were not bound or limited by creed or rank. Their timeless sacrifice reminds us that we should not be divided by our differences, but that we should face the travails of our nation together, with faith and strength.

I urge the speedy passage of S. Res. 169.

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, there are acts of courage and personal sacrifice that are so great that they should never be forgotten. There are acts which decades—even centuries—later still reverberate, and touch our soul as a nation. Surely, the heroic deeds of the "Immortal Four Chaplains" count among such acts.

These four Chaplains sacrificed their lives to save the lives of others when the *Dorchester*, a transport ship, was

torpedoed by a German U-boat off the coast of Greenland on February 3, 1943. During the 18 minutes that the *Dorchester* was sinking, the four Army Chaplains—a Jewish rabbi, a Catholic priest, and two Protestant ministers—worked to comfort the frightened men and direct them to safety. They distributed life jackets, and when there were no more in the storage locker, the Chaplains removed their own life jackets and gave them to waiting soldiers.

Rabbi Alexander Goode did not ask whether the soldier that he was giving his life jacket to was Jewish; Father John Washington did not ask whether he was Catholic; Reverend George Fox did not ask whether he was Methodist; and Reverend Clark Poling did not ask whether he was Dutch Reformed. The Chaplains simply took off their own life jackets and gave them to the next in line.

The Chaplains were last seen on the hull, with their arms linked together in prayer, consoling the men who remained on the ship with a final service. The way that they died is so poignant because it reflects the way that they lived—full of devotion to God and serving the needs of their fellow men. As one survivor noted, the Chaplains "were always together . . . they carried their Faith together."

Of the 902 servicemen, merchant seamen and civilian workers aboard the *Dorchester*, only 230 survived. Many of them owed their lives to the actions of the four Chaplains. Their heroic actions served as an inspiration to the survivors of the *Dorchester*; they should be an inspiration to us now.

The courage of these four Chaplains, and their service to our country did not go unrecognized. Each was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for services beyond the call of duty; memorials to their sacrifice have been placed around the country, including in the Pentagon and the National Cathedral; a postage stamp entitled "Interfaith in Action" was issued in their memory; and in 1957, Congress declared the anniversary of the sinking of the *Dorchester* to be a day for the commemoration of the deaths and the heroic acts of the four Chaplains.

Tragically, however, the memory of their selfless acts has faded. Aside from the American Legion, which has annually observed the anniversary of their deaths, few continue to recognize this somber occasion.

I am proud to say, however, that some very special individuals in Minnesota are working to ensure that the legacy of the Four Chaplains lives on through The Four Chaplains Foundation, including: David Fox of Hopkins; Barbara Koch of Long Lake; Ardis Wexler of Edina; Kevin Applequist of St. Anthony; Phil Brain of Edina; Ambassador Robert Flaten of Northfield; Shiro Katagiri of Minneapolis; Rep-

resentative Jim Rhodes of St. Louis Park; Helen Fulford of Bloomington; John Swon of Edina; Bettine Clemen of Minnetonka; and Vice President Walter Mondale of Minneapolis. These Minnesotans, joined by equally dedicated people around this Nation, and the world, have established the Four Chaplains Humanity Prize to ensure that the spirit of these Chaplains is celebrated through a living memorial. This prize will be awarded to those who have been willing to put their lives in danger to grant assistance to persons of a different creed or color.

Mr. President, it is fitting that on the 55th anniversary of the sinking of the *Dorchester*, and the 50th anniversary of the issuance of the commemorative stamp, Congress once again honors the memory of these four Chaplains by designating February 3, 1998 as "Four Chaplains Day." We have a duty to make sure that a grateful nation never forgets their sacrifice, and continues to celebrate the ideals for which they stood.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble agreed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution appear at this point in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 169) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

S. RES. 169

Whereas February 3, 1998, is the 55th anniversary of the sinking of the United States Army transport *Dorchester*, an event that resulted in the loss of nearly 700 lives in 1943 and for which witnesses have recounted in the Congressional Record the heroism of 4 chaplains of different faiths, Lieutenant George L. Fox, Methodist; Lieutenant Alexander D. Goode, Jewish; Lieutenant John P. Washington, Catholic; and Lieutenant Clark V. Poling, Dutch Reformed;

Whereas witnesses have verified that during the approximate 18 minutes the ship was sinking after being torpedoed off the coast of Greenland, the 4 chaplains went from soldier to soldier calming fears and handing out life jackets and guiding men to safety and when there were no more life jackets, they removed their own life jackets and gave them to others to save their lives and were last seen arm-in-arm in prayer on the hull of the ship;

Whereas many of the 230 men who survived owed their lives to these 4 chaplains, and witnesses among them recounted the unique ecumenical spirit and love for their fellow man these 4 demonstrated that were later illustrated in a popular postage stamp issued by the United States in 1948 with the title "Interfaith in Action";

Whereas Congress passed House Concurrent Resolution 90 in 1957 to honor these 4 chaplains and the men who died with them, and President Truman and President Eisenhower issued similar proclamations calling for national recognition and participation in memorial services throughout the land that

have been observed annually by the American Legion on the first Sunday in February;

Whereas Congress undertook to create a special medal for valor given to the memory of the 4 chaplains in 1960 and never to be repeated; and

Whereas memorials to the chaplains' heroic sacrifice abound in many places throughout the country including the Heroes Window in the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) requests the President of the United States to issue a proclamation designating February 3, 1998, as "Four Chaplains Day"; and

(2) invites the people of the United States, of all religions and creeds and in all communities, to observe this date with appropriate ceremonies, celebrations, and commemorations.

ORDER FOR RECESS AND ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, on behalf of the leader, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in recess until the hour of 8:30 p.m. this evening for the joint session of Congress.

Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that immediately following the conclusion of the joint session, the Senate automatically stand in adjournment until 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, January 28.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1998

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that on Wednesday, January 28, immediately following the prayer, the routine requests through the morning hour be granted and the Senate proceed to executive session under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SPECTER. I also ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess from 12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. on Wednesday for the weekly policy luncheons to meet.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator LOTT, I ask unanimous consent that following the votes at 2:15 p.m., there be a period for the transaction of morning business with Senator COVERDELL, or his designee, being

recognized for the first 90 minutes and Senator DASCHLE, or his designee, being recognized for the next 90 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. SPECTER. As agreed to previously, tomorrow morning the Senate will debate, in executive session, the nominations of 3 judges. Also by consent, there will be 3 consecutive votes on the confirmation of those nominations following the weekly policy luncheons beginning 2:15 Wednesday afternoon. Following those votes, the Senate will be in a period for the transaction of morning business.

RECESS

Mr. SPECTER. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask that the Senate stand in recess under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 4:22 p.m., recessed until 8:30 p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. ALLARD).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

PROVIDING FOR AN ADJOURNMENT OF BOTH HOUSES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the adjournment resolution, H. Con. Res. 201, the resolution be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 201) was agreed to.

JOINT SESSION OF THE TWO HOUSES—MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I understand the Senate will proceed as a body to the Hall of the House of Representatives to hear the State of the Union address. I believe we will be leaving in about 4 or 5 minutes, so I will yield the floor so we can assemble and go to the other body. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will proceed to the Hall of the House of Representatives.

Thereupon, at 8:47 p.m., the Senate, preceded by the Secretary of the Senate, Gary Sisco, the Vice President, and the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND), proceeded to the Hall of the House of Representatives to hear the address by the President of the United States.

(The address by the President of the United States, this day delivered by him to the joint session of the two Houses of Congress, appears in the proceedings of the House of Representatives in today's RECORD.)

ADJOURNMENT

At the conclusion of the joint session of the two Houses, and in accordance with the order previously entered, at 10:30 p.m., the Senate adjourned until tomorrow, January 28, 1998, at 10:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate January 27, 1998:

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

TOGO DENNIS WEST, JR., OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, VICE JESSE BROWN, RESIGNED.

THE JUDICIARY

JOHN D. KELLY, OF NORTH DAKOTA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE EIGHTH CIRCUIT, VICE FRANK J. MAGILL, RETIRED.

MARSHA L. BERZON, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT, VICE JOHN T. NOONAN, JR., RETIRED.

KIM MCLEAN WARDLAW, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT, VICE J. CLIFORD WALLACE, RETIRED.

JUDITH M. BARZILAY, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE, VICE DOMINICK L. DICARLO, RETIRED.

DELISSA A. RIDGWAY, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE, VICE NICHOLAS TSOUCALAS, RETIRED.

WILLIAM P. DIMITROULEAS, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, VICE NORMAN C. ROETTGER, RETIRED.

ROBERT G. JAMES, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA, VICE JOHN M. SHAW, RETIRED.

JAMES W. KLEIN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, VICE STANLEY S. HARRIS, RETIRED.

STEPHAN P. MICKLE, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA, VICE MAURICE M. PAUL, RETIRED.

JOHNNIE B. RAWLINSO, OF NEVADA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA, VICE LLOYD D. GEORGE, RETIRED.

RICHARD W. ROBERTS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, VICE CHARLES R. RICHEY, RETIRED.

GREGORY MONETA SLEET, OF DELAWARE, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE, VICE JOSEPH J. LONGOBARDI, RETIRED.

EMILIO W. CIVIDANES, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE JOHN MAXWELL FERREN.