

ing all telecommunications markets to competition. It will markedly improve international competitiveness, spur economic growth, job creation and productivity gains, delivery better quality of life through more efficient delivery of educational, health care and other social services, and enhance individual empowerment. All without spending taxpayer money.

Mr. President, I thank the Chair and I yield the floor. I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT. 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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.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 CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I intend to introduce legislation very early in this Congress that will address some of the most serious deficiencies in our civil justice system. Litigation today is an extraordinarily expensive mechanism for compensating an injured party. The seriously injured victim in Utah and in all of our States is often not compensated fairly, and frequently there is an unconscionable delay in one's recovery.

In other instances, trial lawyers sue too easily, and often with no consequence for their unmeritorious position, knowing that the high cost of defending against even an unworthy claim will often induce at least a nuisance settlement.

The uncertainty of an excessive punitive damage award by a runaway jury cripples our business community and diverts resources that could be better used for research and employment. Moreover, the current joint liability laws make each defendant with any culpability liable for the entire amount of damages regardless of the degree of their culpability. Thus, for example, a defendant who is only 10 percent responsible for a wrong can wind up paying 100 percent of the damages.

Many defendants are unfairly held responsible for damages because those primarily responsible are uninsured or outside of the jurisdiction of the courts. Junk science has made a mockery out of our system of justice, leading juries to make unfair decisions in some cases.

In sum, we now have a civil justice system wherein true victims face unreasonable delay in receiving compensation for wrongs done to them, compensation which is often less than full, in any event. At the same time, the civil justice system imposes an enormous cost on society as a whole. The great expense of litigating against meritless claims, the unfair allocation of liability, the threat of unfair, excessive damage awards, collectively drive up the cost of doing business. This cost

is ultimately passed on to the consumer, and deters the development of new and worthwhile products and services.

I support a number of legal reforms that will improve our civil justice system, make the system fairer to all parties, allow for a quicker recovery for those injured, and make those most responsible for an injury liable for their fair share. I welcome the input of those concerned about these issues.

I am also committed to joining Senators GORTON and ROCKEFELLER in passing product liability reform legislation in the 104th Congress. I look forward to their continued leadership in the Commerce Committee in that important effort. I hope that my efforts to enact civil justice reform legislation will complement the products liability legislation.

TRIBUTE TO C.G. NUCKOLS

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to one of the original staff members of the Congressional Budget Office, C.G. Nuckols. Mr. Nuckols has served the Congress at CBO for almost 20 years, most recently as Assistant Director for Budget Analysis. He is retiring today to begin a new career in the private sector.

C.G. Nuckols began his Federal service in 1963 as an operations research analyst for the Department of the Navy. From there he moved to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, where he became Director of the Program Cost Analysis Division. In recognition of his efforts, he was awarded the Defense Meritorious Civilian Service Medal. Soon after CBO started operations in 1975, Alice Rivlin and James Blum persuaded Mr. Nuckols to leave the Defense Department to help establish CBO's Budget Analysis Division.

Every Member and every committee of the Congress relies on the work of the Budget Analysis Division. We on the Appropriations Committee expect our appropriation bills to be scored overnight—or sooner. The Budget Committee depends on the division for help in preparing the functional totals and committee spending allocations for the budget resolution. And the authorizing committees routinely receive timely CBO cost estimates for virtually all reported bills.

Although the Congress now takes all of these things for granted, it was not always so. In 1975, CBO was a blank slate. Together with James Blum, C.G. Nuckols established the rules, formats, and procedures for preparing budget projections and bill cost estimates. He made sure that work was completed on time, that analyses were carefully justified, and that precedents were scrupulously followed—whether the estimate was for a freshman or a powerful chairman.

Yet if there is one item above all for which we have C.G. Nuckols to thank, it is for the quality of the budget analysis staff at CBO. From 1975 to today,

Mr. Nuckols has personally interviewed almost everyone hired by the Budget Analysis Division. Only those who meet his high standards of integrity, intellect, and training pass muster. Then, having hired the best, he has worked to ensure that they had the resources and support necessary to perform at their best.

Mr. President, the appreciation we feel for the work of the Congressional Budget Office is due in no small part to the efforts of C.G. Nuckols. During his 20 years at CBO, Mr. Nuckols has served the Congress with quiet, tireless, nonpartisan professionalism. I wish him well in his new venture, knowing that he leaves behind at CBO a staff that will continue the tradition he did so much to establish.

BUDGET SCOREKEEPING REPORT

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I hereby submit to the Senate the budget scorekeeping report prepared by the Congressional Budget Office under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended. This report meets the requirements for Senate scorekeeping of section 5 of Senate Concurrent Resolution 32, the first concurrent resolution on the budget for 1996.

This report shows the effects of congressional action on the budget through December 1, 1994. The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues, which are consistent with the technical and economic assumptions of the concurrent resolution on the budget (H. Con. Res. 218), show that current level spending is below the budget resolution by \$2.3 billion in budget authority and \$0.4 billion in outlays. Current level is \$0.8 billion over the revenue floor in 1995 and below by \$8.2 billion over the 5 years 1995-99. The current estimate of the deficit for purposes of calculating the maximum deficit amount is \$238.7 billion, \$2.3 billion below the maximum deficit amount for 1995 of \$241 billion.

This is my first report for the first session of the 104th Congress.

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

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, January 4, 1995.

Hon. PETE DOMENICI,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The attached report for fiscal year 1995 shows the effects of Congressional action on the 1995 budget and is current through December 1, 1994. The estimates of budget authority, outlays and revenues are consistent with the technical economic assumptions of the 1995 Concurrent Resolution on the Budget (H. Con. Res. 218). This report is submitted under Section 308(b) and in aid of Section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended, and meets the requirements of Senate scorekeeping of Section 5 of S. Con. Res. 32, the 1986 First Concurrent Resolution on the Budget.