

Madam President, while it is too late in this legislative year to take up the issue in the Congress, I hope that before we go through this dance again next year that Members from both sides of the aisle, from all the relevant committees, can sit down and formulate an alternative. The upcoming period after our sine die adjournment would be a perfect time to do so.

HURRICANE FRAN

Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Madam President, a week ago today, hurricane Fran devastated my home State of North Carolina.

Last Thursday, after the last Senate vote, I drove down to North Carolina and was there for the storm. I have viewed first hand much of the damage to my State.

The damage has been far worse and more widespread than anyone would have imagined.

Madam President, first, I want to congratulate the people of North Carolina for their handling of this storm.

I have found that in times of crisis, the American people, like no other people in the world, rise to the occasion to tackle their own problems.

The people deserved to be congratulated first and foremost.

Second, Madam President, I want to thank the thousands of volunteers, national guardsmen and those from other States who are helping with our clean-up effort. And, I want to thank the public employees who are on the scene helping our State cope with this disaster.

The storm has been devastating in the fact that it has left hundreds of thousands of people without electricity. Today, over 100,000 people are still without power. Electricity is a modern convenience that we often take for granted, but the power outages have been the most difficult of all the problems.

I have urged the Federal Emergency Management Agency to allow two key power plants to resume operations as soon as possible. I am told that they have granted this authority. I think this will help the situation immensely.

Madam President, the storm has also left, maybe a billion dollars in property and agriculture damage. North Carolinians are proud of the fact that they can solve their own problems.

But, the damage may be insurmountable without the Federal Government's help.

Madam President, in recent years, we have had a number of natural disasters in the United States. This has led to a sharp increase in the amount of disaster costs to the Federal Government. Madam President, I think it is fair to say that the Government's money should be spent wisely, therefore, I would hope that the private sector, insurance companies, and our lending institutions, will do all that they can so that we can limit the cost of the clean-up burden that will be placed on the taxpayer.

Estimates are being drawn now of how much disaster assistance will be needed. I am hopeful that money we have already appropriated will cover the damage, however, the damages may be so great, particularly with respect to crop damage, that more could be needed.

I thank Majority Leader LOTT for his commitment to move any legislation that would provide for additional funding.

Also, I have spoken with James Lee Witt and with Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman, and both have assured me that they will be as helpful as possible.

Finally, Madam President, my office and I am sure all the North Carolina delegation offices stand ready to help our citizens. I have dispatched more staff to Raleigh to deal with the influx of citizens that will need our help. If they need help, my office stands ready to assist the clean-up effort.

Madam President, again, I want to praise the people of North Carolina for their determination in this crisis. And, I want to extend my personal sorrow, and I am sure the Senate's sorrow for the families of the 21 North Carolinians who died as a result of this storm.

NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF FINAL REGULATIONS

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, pursuant to section 304(d) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. sec. 1384(d)), a notice of issuance of final regulations was submitted by the Office of Compliance, U.S. Congress. The notice contains final regulations related to Federal service labor-management relations (Regulations under section 220(d) of the Congressional Accountability Act.)

The Congressional Accountability Act requires this notice be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, therefore I ask unanimous consent that the notice be printed in the RECORD.

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

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE—THE CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1995: EXTENSION OF RIGHTS, PROTECTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER CHAPTER 71 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, RELATING TO FEDERAL SERVICE LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS (REGULATIONS UNDER SECTION 220(D) OF THE CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT)

NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF FINAL REGULATIONS

On July 9, 1996, the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance adopted and submitted for publication in the Congressional Record final regulations implementing section 220(d) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (CAA), which extends to the Congress certain rights, protections, and responsibilities under chapter 71 of title 5, United States Code, relating to Federal service labor-management relations. On August 2, 1996, the House agreed both to H. Res. 504, to provide for the approval of final regulations that are applicable to the employing offices and covered employees of the House, and to H. Con. Res. 207, to provide for approval of final regulations that are applica-

ble to employing offices and employees other than those offices and employees of the House and the Senate. As of the date of this Notice, the Senate has yet to approve the 220(d) regulations for itself or to act on H. Con. Res. 207.

The Board understands passage of H. Res. 504 to constitute approval under section 304(c) of the CAA of the Board's section 220(d) regulations as applicable to employing offices and covered employees of the House (other than those House offices expressly listed in section 220(e)(2)). Accordingly, pursuant to section 304(d) of the CAA, the Board submits these regulations to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate for issuance by publication in the Congressional Record.

Pursuant to paragraph (3) of section 304(d) of the CAA, the Board finds good cause for advancing the effective date of the House regulations from 60 days after their issuance to October 1, 1996. That date corresponds with the effective date of application of CAA section 220 to the Congress. The Board finds that the effective implementation of the CAA is furthered by making these regulations effective for the House on that effective date rather than allowing the default provisions of the CAA contained in section 411 and the derivative regulations of the executive branch to control the administration of the statute during the sixty day period otherwise required by section 304(d)(3) of the CAA.

Signed at Washington, D.C. on this 10th day of September, 1996.

GLEN D. NAGER,

Chair of the Board, Office of Compliance.

Accordingly, the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance hereby issues the following final regulations:

[Final Regulations]

Subchapter C

- 2420 Purpose and scope
- 2421 Meaning of terms as used in this subchapter
- 2422 Representation proceedings
- 2423 Unfair labor practice proceedings
- 2424 Expedited review of negotiability issues
- 2425 Review of arbitration awards
- 2426 National consultation rights and consultation rights on Government-wide rules or regulations
- 2427 General statements of policy or guidance
- 2428 Enforcement of Assistant Secretary standards of conduct decisions and orders
- 2429 Miscellaneous and general requirements

Subchapter D

- 2470 General
- 2471 Procedures of the Board in impasse proceedings

Subchapter C

PART 2420—PURPOSE AND SCOPE

§ 2420.1 Purpose and scope

The regulations contained in this subchapter are designed to implement the provisions of chapter 71 of title 5 of the United States Code, as applied by section 220 of the Congressional Accountability Act (CAA). They prescribe the procedures, basic principles or criteria under which the Board and the General Counsel, as applicable, will:

(a) Determine the appropriateness of units for labor organization representation under 5 U.S.C. 7112, as applied by the CAA;

(b) Supervise or conduct elections to determine whether a labor organization has been selected as an exclusive representative by a majority of the employees in an appropriate unit and otherwise administer the provisions