United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 143 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 1997 *No. 27*

House of Representatives

The House met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. EWING].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 5, 1997.

I hereby designate the Honorable THOMAS W. EWING to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend Douglas Tanner, executive director, Faith and Politics Institute, Washington, DC, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, our creator, sustainer, and redeemer: We come before You mindful of what You require of us * * * to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with You. Yet we know that these are hardly the hallmarks of political life. We confuse justice with vengeance; we mistake kindness for weakness; we favor running proudly over walking humbly.

We know that we have been chosen as representatives, but we are often unsure about whether to seek to represent the best that is within our constituents and within ourselves, or to settle for the easier task of representing the baser instincts that reside within all of us.

Strengthen us. Give us the wisdom to recognize the qualities You require of Your servants, and grant us this day, we pray, the courage to risk embodying those qualities in an environment that often mitigates against it. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Chair's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. CHABOT] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CHABOT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. MILLER of California moves that the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to adjourn offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. MILLER].

The motion was rejected.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Sherman Williams, one of his secretaries.

MORNING 1-MINUTE SPEECHES SERVE IMPORTANT FUNCTION

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, a time-honored tradition in this body is now under attack. I am speaking of that period, this time right now, set aside each day for one-minute speeches.

It has been a long practice for Members to come to the well of the Chamber each morning to speak briefly about pending legislation, a tribute to a group or individual back in their district, or a soon-to-be introduced bill. Sadly, some would like to move those speeches to the end of the legislative day, I believe to stifle debate. I, like many of my colleagues, strenuously oppose that idea.

One-minute speeches often give Members, particularly junior Members, a chance to speak when they otherwise might not have the opportunity to do so. As my colleagues know, a freshman or a sophomore Member might sit at a committee meeting for 2 hours before being able to pose one question to a witness. He or she, if lucky, might get 30 seconds to debate a pending bill on the floor. One-minute speeches give these Members and the people they represent back home a chance to be heard.

Mr. Speaker, let us not silence Members of this body. Let us not stifle debate. Let us not kill the one-minute speeches.

THE TIME IS NOW FOR CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, in today's New York Times the Speaker attacked Democratic fund-raising and compares it to the Watergate scandal. Specifically, the Speaker is quoted in today's New York Times saying, ''The Democratic fund-raising machine was the most systematic, large-scale effort to get around the law that I have seen since Watergate.''

This comment is especially strange coming from someone who has admitted to abuses of the campaign finance system. The abuses were on such a scale that the Speaker has been fined $300,000.

There is an old saying about people in glass houses not throwing stones, and I think it especially applies to the Speaker of this House. If the Speaker really cares about campaign finance reform, he should bring legislation to the floor immediately to correct the system. So far all we have seen is inaction by the Republicans on campaign finance reform.

KID TAX MUST GO

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, on the subject of campaign finance reform, I think there is a difference between enacting the laws that are in place and passing new laws to make it appear that there is a problem. There may be changes that are needed in our campaign finance laws, but clearly there are laws on the books that address the very things that the Clinton administration has apparently engaged in. And if they are guilty on that, the laws will respond accordingly, and I think that the Speaker is speaking to that, and I certainly believe that the Speaker was right in speaking out on this.

The thing I want to mention, with the Democratic defeat of the Balanced Budget Amendment, the children of today are in a very bleak situation as respects the future. I am a father of 4 kids and I am sick and tired of the kid tax. The kid tax is when liberal politicians pass new entitlement programs so that they can get reelected today so that your children and my children can pay for it tomorrow. I believe that the kids in America are sick and tired of the kid tax and we need to balance the budget and quit spending their money.

TIME FOR CONGRESS TO GET TO WORK

(Mr. MCGOVERN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, as I awoke this morning I asked myself a question: Why are we all here? Why is the House of Representatives in session today and why should I be in Washington rather than in Massachusetts with my constituents?

Mr. Speaker, please indulge me while I review the House schedule for today: One, a resolution congratulating the people of Guatemala; two, a resolution congratulating the people of Nicaragua; and three, a resolution commending former Secretary Warren Christopher.

Now I salute the people of Guatemala and Nicaragua for their democratization, and I think Warren Christopher is a wonderful leader and a really great guy, but should this be the agenda for the week?

I was sent here to debate and legislate on issues of concern to Massachusetts, issues like expanding educational opportunity, guaranteeing that all of our children have health care, and comprehensively reforming our ugly system of campaign finance. I call upon Speaker GINGRICH to schedule votes on issues that affect the lives of working families, issues that really mean something. It is time for this Congress to get to work.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NICARAGUA

(Mr. GOSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, today the House considers legislation to applaud our neighbors in Nicaragua. Seven years ago, as an elections observer, I was sent there to see the Nicaraguan people draw the physical fight for freedom to a close successfully. That day they used the ballot box to officially cast off the Marxist government of Daniel Ortega, which once inexplicably found so many friends in Washington.

In 1990, instead of the chaos and violence of the Ortega regime, the Nicaraguans demanded peace, prosperity, justice and democracy. That historic year, the Chamorro government took the reins in difficult times, dealing admirably with the fallout of 5 years of Sandinista misrule.

With difficult issues like confiscated properties lingering, last month's peaceful transition to the Alemen administration is a significant achievement and a testament to the commitment and advancement of democracy in that country. It is only proper that today Congress pause for a minute to congratulate the Nicaraguans, to encourage them and to reiterate our support for democracy in that country.

BRING OUR JOBS HOME

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, jobs keep leaving America on the fast track. Wrangler Jeans is laying off 3,000 workers and moving 12 factories overseas. Apple Computer, they cut 1,500 jobs last year; they are cutting another 3,000 jobs this year. Shoemaker West is cutting 1,000 jobs, moving 3 factories overseas, and now, under WTO, Costa Rica is challenging Uncle Sam over underwear. Unbelievable.

American workers are not only losing their jobs, now they are about to lose their BVD's. It is getting so bad that in Longview, WA, a robber entered a grocery store wearing a pair of pink panties over his head. The police said they never saw anything like it.

What is the surprise, Mr. Speaker? Jobs are getting so scarce in America today robbers cannot even buy pantyhose. I yield back the balance of all the lingerie and all the other problems. Beam me up, Mr. Speaker.

CERTIFICATION OF MEXICO SENDS WRONG MESSAGE TO DRUG KINGPINS

(Mr. SHAW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, on a subject of seriousness, what I want to talk about today, I find it a little difficult following the gentleman from Ohio.

It is shocking, Mr. Speaker, indeed shocking, that with all of the evidence before the President regarding the complicity of the Mexican Government and the $30 billion a year drug trade, that he has decided to certify Mexico as a reliable partner in the war on drugs. The President's certification of Mexico makes a mockery out of the certification process.

Ironically, within mere hours after the President announced that Mexico was certified as cooperating, Mexican authorities admitted that a suspected top drug money launderer had inexplicably escaped from police custody and that they knew this days before the certification decision was made.

Is this what the President calls cooperation? Was it not enough that Mexico's own drug czar was caught accepting bribes from the drug kingpins just last week? The President was duped.

I realize that Mexico is a friend and the United States-Mexican economics are intertwined, but certifying Mexico as cooperating sent the wrong message to the Mexican Government and to the drug kingpins.

HIGHER EDUCATION ACCUMULATION PROGRAM

(Mr. ROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, during the past 15 years, tuition at 4-year public universities has increased more than 4 times the increase in median household income. If we fail to act

now, college will be affordable only for the rich in America.

I have cosponsored a bill with the gentlewoman from California [Ms. ESHOO] called the Higher Education Accumulation Program. The bill will help make college affordable for middle and working class families by allowing parents to set up IRA's for their children's higher education. Parents will be able to make tax deductible $5,000 contributions for each of their children for higher education. To deny a child an opportunity for an education is to deny that child a lifetime of opportunities.

The President and the Senate majority leader have endorsed this concept, and they have slightly different plans of their own. I ask that Members of the House, on a bipartisan basis, support the Higher Education Accumulation Program, H.R. 53, the HEAP Act, to help make college affordable for working and middle class families in America.

□ 1115

THE DRUG-FREE COMMUNITIES ACT OF 1997

(Mr. PORTMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

URGING ASSISTANCE FOR FLOOD VICTIMS IN 10TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT AND OTHER AREAS

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I just arrived back in Washington from my district, which was hit very hard by the recent flooding. I want to commend the Clinton administration for agreeing to provide disaster aid, and urge this body to help those of us in my district and around the country that have been so devastated by these high waters.

I am also here this morning, Mr. Speaker, to introduce new legislation, with the gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL], the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HASTERT], and the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN], called the Drug-Free Communities Act of 1997. This legislation recognizes that the very serious and growing drug problem in this country is not going to be solved here in Washington, but is going to be solved at the local level, in our communities and neighborhoods.

The Federal Government has a role to play, of course, but even that role needs to be more focused on our communities. In order to receive Federal support under this new approach in our bill, a community must first show its commitment to reducing drug abuse in a comprehensive and long-term fashion.

There has to be substantial volunteer participation from kids, parents, businesses, schools, law enforcement, the media, and so on. A community must also show that the local effort can be sustained without Federal support. We do not want them to be dependent on the Federal Government. There is accountability in this bill. A community must evaluate whether it is actually having an impact in reducing drug abuse.

Importantly, this is not a matter of new money, but rechanneling existing monies will be used. We are rechanneling the existing $16 billion we spend every year in fighting the drug war. This bill, Mr. Speaker, has grassroots support from around the country, from hundreds of communities.

I hope Members will join us in this bipartisan effort to create a drug-free America, neighborhood by neighborhood.

REPUBLICAN LACK OF A BUDGET PLAN WILL HURT EDUCATION

(Mr. GREEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, we are over 2 months into the 105th Congress, and yet the House has not taken any effort on a serious budget. We hear the complaints as a result of the President's plan on moving our country forward on education, and yet the Senate voted on a balanced budget amendment but we have not voted here in the House. We can hear the complaints about the President's budget, but where is the Republican plan; or where is our plan, as a House Member?

The expression is, people in glass houses should not throw stones. This comes to mind in response to complaints about the President. I may not agree with his budget, but we do not have one either. Republicans cannot criticize the President's plan when they do not even have an alternative suggestion.

The Democrats have set up some priorities in the new budget. One of them is education. That effort is shared by over 80 percent of Americans. The President's 10-point plan on education is adequate. His proposals would boost funding for elementary and secondary education, for school construction, and improved classroom techniques. His proposals would help boost post-secondary education with $1,500 HOPE scholarships for the first 2 years of college. We have illustrated what we want to do in the future for America. Let us get the budget to reflect those priorities, including education.

THE BLOOD OF THE PEOPLE WILL BE ON THE HANDS OF THE BUDGET CUTTERS

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, every day we hear more and more about what is wrong with the President's budget, yet his critics have not put on the table one plan, one proposal, one budget, or even one idea, except to talk about cutting and balancing, cutting the heart out of the neediest people in our country: children, senior citizens, the mentally ill, disabled, and the poor.

Balancing with the idea that we can get blood out of a turnip, that we can provide services and provide opportunities with very little or no money.

There are a lot of things that I do not know, but I do know one thing. I know that as Frederick Douglass taught, in this world we may not get all that we pay for, but we most certainly must pay for all that we get. We cannot have a great, civilized, and humane nation without paying the cost; if all we can do is cut, cut, cut, all that we will get is blood, blood, blood.

I tell you, the blood of the people will be on the hands of those who did the cutting.

URGING MAJORITY TO JOIN IN BUDGET PROCESS BY PRESENTING THEIR PLAN

(Mr. LAMPSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, as a freshman Member of this House, I have heard a lot of stories about the frenetic pace of the opening of the previous Congress. I heard of votes being taken late at night and working weekends. Now that I am here, elected by the people of the Ninth District of Texas, I cannot help but wonder what happened.

Is this what the majority means when they talk about wanting less Government?

Mr. Speaker, if this is the session when we are going to agree to do a balanced budget plan, we need to see activity from the other side of the aisle. They have criticized the President's plan. They have even called on the President to submit a second budget plan before submitting their own first budget on the most important issue this Congress will debate. I and many of my freshman colleagues are still waiting to see the evidence of the bipartisanship that we have heard so much about.

I join the Democratic leadership today in asking the majority party to join the budget process by presenting their plan. There are only 13 legislative days left until the April 15 budget deadline.

WE MUST MAKE CHILDREN'S HEALTH CARE OUR TOP PRIORITY IN THIS SESSION OF CONGRESS

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, we are voting today on a resolution regarding the display of the Ten Commandments. Whatever Members vote on this resolution, I think we can all agree: This is not the most pressing issue that is facing our Nation today.

Today the American people are much more concerned about the 10 million

children living without health insurance in this country than they are with the issue of whether or not we hang the Ten Commandments on the wall.

We all know actions speak louder than words, and the Ten Commandments are important words; important words to me. But what about our actions? What is this body doing to help the children in this Nation, over 70,000 in my home State of Connecticut alone, that will go to sleep tonight without health insurance?

We are only spending time on this issue of the Ten Commandments because the GOP operative, William Kristol, suggested that this be done in the March 10 edition of the conservative publication, the Weekly Standard. The American people should be driving the agenda of this House and not Republican conservative operatives. We must make children's health care our top priority in this session of the Congress.

INFLATION DOES EXIST

(Mr. DEFAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, the fix is in. The American people are not yet aware of it. If we look on the front page of the Washington Post we see it: ''Greenspan Backs Panel to Rule on Inflation Levels.''

The dirty little back room deal that is about to be cut here between the White House and the Republican leadership is to pay for tax cuts for the wealthy, capital gains, business as usual at the Pentagon, and still balance the budget.

How do we do that? We do that through the magic of the CPI. We define away inflation and tell those seniors whose cost of health care is doubling at twice the rate of inflation every year, oh, it is better. It might cost more, you might not be able to afford it, but we are going to reduce your cost of living because it is better health care; that does not count as inflation.

We are going to say to the middle class whose taxes are going to go up if they lose indexation, oh well, yes, your taxes went up, but you know, that is because inflation does not really exist.

If inflation does not really exist, why are Alan Greenspan and the other members of the Federal Reserve Board paying themselves and their staff healthy 5 and 6 percent salary increases every year? That must not have anything to do with inflation.

It is time to play straight with the American people. Let us not politicize the CPI and stick it to seniors, the middle class, and children once again.

TIME TO GET ON WITH THE BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

(Mr. WEYGAND asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Speaker, as a freshman, as a Democrat in the minority, and as a member of the Committee on the Budget, we have seen so many different things come before our committee, but we have seen no action. We have talked for many days and many months about campaign finance scandals, yet the main business of the people of America is being ignored.

This procrastination cannot go on. The President has submitted a budget, a budget that perhaps Members on both sides of the aisle may disagree on certain elements, but it is time to get on with that business; debate it, argue it, amend it, do whatever we must do, but let us forget about the political rhetoric. Let us move together in a bipartisan fashion. Let us work on the issues of Medicare, Medicaid, education, all of the real important issues to the people of my district in Rhode Island and in America.

Let us stop this bickering. Let us move forward with a budget and let the Republicans, if they truly believe in making sure that this is an effective Congress, come forward with effective changes. Let us debate it and vote on it.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EWING). Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 4 of rule XV.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 1 p.m. today.

CONGRATULATING PEOPLE OF GUATEMALA ON SUCCESS OF RECENT NEGOTIATIONS TO ESTABLISH PEACE PROCESS

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 17) congratulating the people of Guatemala on the success of the recent negotiations to establish a peace process for Guatemala.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 17

Whereas on December 29, 1996, the Government of Guatemala and the representatives of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemala signed an historic peace accord ending 36 years of armed confrontation;

Whereas the peace accord includes the creation of a commission to implement a wide range of reforms to the political, economic, social, and judicial systems of Guatemala, including an enhanced respect for human rights and the rule of law, improved health and education services, attention to the needs of refugees and displaced persons, and the role of the military in a democratic society;

Whereas the peace accord represents the completion of a long and important negotiation process with the goal of achieving lasting peace, national reconciliation, political stability, and renewed economic growth in Guatemala; and

Whereas lasting peace, political stability, and economic development in Guatemala is in the best interest of all nations of the Western Hemisphere, including the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) congratulates the Guatemalan Government of President Alvaro Arzu for its extraordinary accomplishments in negotiating an end to hostilities and beginning the process of national reconciliation and reconstruction;

(2) recognizes the commitment of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemala in Guatemala to agree to end the devastating warfare and to resolve their differences in a peaceful manner within a democratic political arena;

(3) commends all of the people of Guatemala for their determination to achieve a lasting peace and encourages their strong commitment to democratic principles and social justice for all; and

(4) affirms the commitment of the United States to help support a sustainable peace and development of strong democratic institutions in Guatemala.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON] will each control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN].

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California [Mr. GALLEGLY], the original sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 17, a resolution I sponsored which congratulates President Arzu, the URNG, and the people of Guatemala for their recent success in concluding a peace agreement which brings to an end a civil war which has raged more than 30 years and has cost the lives of over 100,000 Guatemalans.

This resolution is one of those good news stories involving the Western Hemisphere which, as chairman of the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, I am very happy to report to my colleagues. The signing of the peace accords on December 29 concluded 6 years of negotiations between the two sides and established a framework within which the country will now embark on a process of peace, reconciliation, and reconstruction.

The Guatemalan people now join nations such as El Salvador and Nicaragua in choosing peace over war, democracy over anarchy, economic development over poverty and chaos, and social justice over exploitation and abuse.

The accords pose numerous challenges, and their success will surely test the wills and commitment of all sides. But the goals established in the

accords were mutually arrived at, and the end results, when fully realized, will be very significant.

In fact, the effort put forth by both the government and the URNG through the long years of negotiations is already beginning to pay dividends.

□ 1130

Yesterday in what was clearly a signal of confidence in the peace process, some 30 guerrillas handed over their weapons to United Nations' observers. This act was the first of many similar events to take place throughout Guatemala in the coming months and serves notice that the commitment to peace is strong.

Mr. Speaker, with the problems we currently face in the hemisphere, especially with the issue of the war on drugs, this recent news from Guatemala and Nicaragua as reflected in our other resolutions under consideration is very welcome.

In conclusion, I want to thank the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], my chairman, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON], the ranking member, the gentleman from New York [Mr. ACKERMAN], the subcommittee ranking member, and my colleagues, the gentleman from New York [Mr. HOUGHTON], the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. BALLENGER], and the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA], for their sponsorship of this resolution and their support in bringing this bill to the floor today.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and to support the peace process in Guatemala.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California [Mr. GALLEGLY] for introducing this resolution and for his supporting remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York [Mr. ACKERMAN].

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that, despite the hectic and trend-setting legislative pace, we have found the time today to take up House Concurrent Resolution 17 to congratulate the people of Guatemala on the establishment of the peace process for that nation.

After 36 years of civil war, Guatemala has finally had a chance for a lasting peace. The URNG has agreed to demobilize and in fact the first URNG combatants are entering demobilization camps this week. The Guatemalan military has agreed to reduce its size by one-third, and the United States has pledged $265 million over 4 years for reconstruction.

Even before the signing of the peace accords, the human rights situation in Guatemala had improved dramatically as a result of the cessation of hostilities last March. The government of President Arzu has moved aggressively to restructure the military command by reducing the number of general officers from 23 to 8 and removing those officers alleged to be involved in corruption or other abuses. But there is still a long way to go.

Guatemala continues to suffer from a marked disparity in income distribution, and poverty is pervasive. According to AID, 75 percent of Guatemala's population live in poverty. Only 48 percent of its adults are literate, and its infant mortality rate is among the highest in Latin America.

Yet despite of all this, or perhaps because of it, Guatemalans have chosen peace and democracy. They are to be congratulated for that choice.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend my colleague and chairman [Mr. GALLEGLY] for his great leadership in this area and for introducing this resolution, to our chairman [Mr. GILMAN] for his stewardship, and for our ranking member [Mr. HAMILTON] for his hard work on this resolution. I urge all of our colleagues to vote in support of House Concurrent Resolution 17.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of the resolution.

Let me join in expressing appreciation to the chairman of the committee [Mr. GILMAN], the chairman of the subcommittee [Mr. GALLEGLY], and the ranking member of the subcommittee [Mr. ACKERMAN], for bringing forward this resolution. My understanding is this is the first resolution coming from that subcommittee, and I commend them for it.

I am very pleased to cosponsor this resolution. It congratulates the people of Guatemala on the tremendous gains they have made in establishing lasting peace in their country. We are all aware that the path toward peace, as the gentleman from New York has indicated, has been a long one for Guatemala. It has required great patience by the people of that country. They have suffered horribly for 36 years under a very brutal civil war. It has required significant risks for peace, taken both by the Arzu government and the URNG leadership.

Signing the peace accords on December 29, 1996, does not by any means complete the peace process in Guatemala. Guatemala faces very considerable obstacles in consolidating peace and a democracy that respects human rights. I am especially encouraged by the language in this resolution that pledges continued United States assistance to the peace process there.

We are clearly dedicated to this process. We have already provided $15 million in support for the Guatemalan economy, and five United States personnel will be in Guatemala with the U.N. peace observation force. I strongly support this resolution. I urge its adoption.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to commend the gentleman from Indiana, the ranking member of our committee, for his remarks. I also want to commend the gentleman from California [Mr. GALLEGLY] and the ranking minority member [Mr. ACKERMAN] for their work on this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of this measure. I think it is befitting for this House to recognize the extraordinary determination and sacrifice that has brought about the end of a war that has been raging for more than 35 years in Guatemala.

House Concurrent Resolution 17 acknowledges that Guatemala is building a new and a more democratic society under comprehensive peace accords signed on December 29, 1996.

From the earliest days of his term, President Alvaro Arzu has shown exceptional courage and strong leadership in purging corrupt officers and suspected human rights violators from Guatemala's security forces.

His willingness to confront these problems has won him the confidence of the people of Guatemala that was necessary to pursue a firm and lasting peace accord with the leftist insurgency. President Arzu built on the foundation laid by his predecessor, President Ramiro de Leon, with two central objectives: to end the war and make Guatemala a more just country for all of its people.

Today, President Arzu's government has moved swiftly to form commissions responsible for implementing specific agreements on economic, political, and cultural reforms.

Demobilization of the URNG guerrillas is one of the most important short-term tasks. Just this week, guerrillas have begun to voluntarily surrender their weapons to U.N. observers. International donors, including the United States, are coordinating efforts to retrain and to resettle roughly some 3,000 guerrillas and their supporters.

The international community has pledged $1.9 billion to help implement the broad peace accords by extending education, health care, and economic opportunity to all Guatemalans. Our own Nation has pledged $260 million over a 4-year period for these efforts.

Yes, much remains to be done to rebuild Guatemala's infrastructure and society. But we recognize today that the Guatemalan people have taken and are taking bold steps in the interest of peace, prosperity, and social justice.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to conclude by recognizing the contributions of our State Department and our Agency for International Development to the cause of peace in Guatemala over the years. Along with the United Nations, our diplomats and development specialists have made indispensable contributions to the peace process.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I once again commend Mr. GALLEGLY for his leadership on this subject. We look forward to working with him on these issues throughout the 105th Congress.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to add my voice to those of my

colleagues who have expressed congratulations to the people of Guatemala for ending decades of civil war and embarking on a courageous effort to rebuild their country together. The peace and national reunification that has resulted from this process represents the beginning of a bright new day for this country which has seen so much horror and loss in the past.

The civil war in Guatemala was one of the longest and bloodiest of this century. In the 36 years of fighting, the fabric of Guatemalan society was torn apart. As the peace process takes hold, the people of Guatemala will have to begin the arduous work of recreating their society and repairing the institutions that must serve them in the years to come. It is my hope that resolutions such as this, and the positive role that the United States played in the peace process, will become the symbols of a new era of United States involvement in Guatemala. I believe that we have much to offer the people of Guatemala in their efforts to build democratic institution and refashion a civil society, and I hope that they will turn to us for help.

I continue to be concerned that, although the war has ended, the culture of impunity that has long plagued Guatemala remains. The Law of National Reconciliation established a general amnesty for war crimes, as well as a truth commission to help heal the wounds of war. We must do all that we can to see that those actions which fall outside the scope of the amnesty and the truth commission are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Helen Mack, sister of Myrna Mack, who was brutally murdered by a Guatemalan death squad in 1990, is in town this week to discuss the application for amnesty made by her sister's killers. Such crimes do not fall within the parameters of the amnesty law, and we must press the Guatemalan Government to set firm limits on the amnesty provision in such cases.

We must also ensure that the truth commission is given the information that it requires to complete its healing process for the Guatemalan people. This means that the United States Government must fully declassify documents dealing with human rights abuses in Guatemala during the civil war. Given our own shameful role in this conflict, this is the least we can do to support Guatemala's peace process.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in urging the adoption of House Concurrent Resolution 17 congratulating the people of Guatemala on the success of the recent negotiations to establish a peace process for Guatemala. This is an important statement of congressional support and the people of Guatemala should know of our interest and concern and support for their efforts in the peace process there.

Mr. Speaker, I join in congratulating the people of Guatemala on reaching a peaceful solution to the brutal civil war in which more than 100,000 people were killed over the past 36 years. In the violence, thousands of individuals were tortured, raped, and ''disappeared.'' The frustrating and difficult U.N.-sponsored peace negotiations between the Guatemalan Government and the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Union [URNG] were not quick, but they have brought an end to the violence.

At the same time, however, I wish to express my serious concerns regarding the sweeping amnesty provisions which were, ironically, dubbed the Law of National Reconciliation. This legislation, which passed the Guatemalan Congress after only 2 days of consideration on December 18, 1996, raises some questions that I wish to call to the attention of my colleagues. If misapplied, the Law of National Reconciliation, which followed the signing of the Peace Accords in Madrid on December 12, 1996, will not reconcile the people of Guatemala with government forces, but will plant the seeds of future suspicion and mistrust between the Guatemalan people and members of government agencies. I am concerned that the amnesty provisions could be used to open up a legal back door for human rights perpetrators to escape just prosecution.

The broad amnesty provisions are also in direct conflict with the March 1994 Human Rights Accord, one of the proclaimed milestones in the Guatemalan peace process. This accord required both sides to agree that the government would not sponsor measures designed to prevent prosecution of human rights violations. I urge the Guatemalan authorities at least to apply the minimum safeguards in the Law of National Reconciliation when prosecuting human rights violations. While providing amnesty for political crimes related to the armed civil war, article 8 of this law excludes cases of genocide, torture, and forced disappearances from the amnesty, as well as crimes for which amnesty is prohibited by Guatemalan law or Guatemala's international treaty obligations.

I am also concerned, Mr. Speaker, with regard to civil cases in which U.S. citizens are involved, which are not connected with the armed conflict. The Law of National Reconciliation could potentially be used to terminate the landmark cases brought against Guatemalan Government forces by U.S. citizens Helen Mack, sister of the slain Myrna Mack; Jennifer Harbury, the wife of Mr. Bamaca; Carole Denn, wife of Michael DeVine; and Sister Diana Ortiz. In addition, those few members of the military who have already been convicted in the DeVine and Mack cases could be released from prison. I hope the Guatemalan legal authorities will insure that all human rights perpetrators in Guatemala are brought to justice, and none of these cases will be terminated or suspended under the amnesty provisions.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution today, but I also urge the Guatemalan Government to be certain that human rights violators are sought out and punished to the fullest extent of the law.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EWING). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 17).

The question was taken.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution just considered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

CONGRATULATING PEOPLE OF NICARAGUA ON DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS SUCCESS

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 18) congratulating the people of the Republic of Nicaragua on the success of their Democratic elections held on October 20, 1996.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 18

Whereas on October 20, 1996, the people of the Republic of Nicaragua held truly democratic, multiparty elections to choose their government;

Whereas these elections were deemed by international and domestic observers to be free and fair and a legitimate expression of the will of the people of the Republic of Nicaragua;

Whereas on January 10, 1997, Arnoldo Aleman was peacefully sworn in to the office of President of the Republic of Nicaragua and immediately promised to continue down the path to democracy, national reconciliation and reconstruction that are started by the previous administration of President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro; and

Whereas this historic event of democratic elections in the Republic of Nicaragua and the inauguration of President Arnoldo Aleman should be honored: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) congratulates the people of the Republic of Nicaragua for the successful completion of the historic democratic, multiparty elections held on October 20, 1996;

(2) congratulates former President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro for her personal courage and her commitment to democracy, which have helped her achieve a profound political and economic transition in the Republic of Nicaragua;

(3) encourages all Nicaraguans to work together after taking this critical step on the long road to lasting peace and democracy;

(4) recognizes that all Nicaraguans should continue to work together in order to ensure a stable democracy, respect for human rights, a free and market-oriented economy, and social justice for all people;

(5) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to help the Republic of Nicaragua move toward freedom and democracy; and

(6) further reaffirms that the United States is strongly committed to encouraging democracy and peaceful development throughout the Western Hemisphere.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule the gentleman from

New York [Mr. GILMAN] and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN].

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York [Mr. HOUGHTON] the original sponsor of this resolution on Nicaragua.

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

I would like to rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 18. Mr. Speaker, we wrestle with problems both real and self-imposed in this Chamber day after day. It is nice for a change to be able to celebrate and to thank and to support one of our neighbors, which we are doing here not only with Guatemala but also now with Nicaragua.

I would also like to associate myself with my chairman the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], the gentleman from California [Mr. GALLEGLY], the gentleman from New York [Mr. ACKERMAN], the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. BALLENGER], and also with the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA], who have been cosponsors of this particular legislation.

This resolution really does three things: First of all, it congratulates the Republic of Nicaragua on holding free and fair elections for the second time in its history. Second, it recognizes the contributions of an extraordinary woman, the former President of Nicaragua, Violeta Chamorro, a person I call the great healer, who has had an impact far beyond the borders of Nicaragua. It also celebrates the peaceful swearing in of the new President, President Arnoldo Aleman.

Mr. Speaker, I have been associated with Nicaragua for several years. In 1988, a group of us from my district went down and established an educational program, all privately funded for this great country. I think we added a bit to the whole relationship between our countries at that time. This is before Violeta Chamorro was elected President.

Then in 1990, we went down and were there for the election. It was an extraordinary time. As I mentioned yesterday at the Committee on International Relations meeting, I can remember, with Elliot Richardson, we were part of a United Nations team picking up a young woman and her baby who had walked 30 miles to vote and then was going to walk back, just because she felt this was such an important time.

Then in 1993, my wife and my grandchildren and others went down there to see, personally and on a personal visit, this extraordinary country and what has happened to it.

The Chamorro administration really did extraordinary things. I mean here is a lady who was not prepared for leadership. Her husband had been tragically assassinated there. All of a sudden she developed this tremendous rapport not only with the people but also with the critical issues there. The gross domestic product when she took over, after 20 years, was lower than it had been in 1970. Hyperinflation of about 40,000 percent, imagine, think of it, 40,000 percent a year. And the foreign debt amounted to more than six times the value of the total gross domestic product. Far-reaching privatization programs, preventive health care, primary education changes, and an extraordinary story in this tiny little country, all due to the leadership and this wonderful ambiance of an extraordinary lady, Violeta Chamorro.

The election took place. Over 80 percent of the people voted. It was not a perfect election, but the observers, both elected representatives and staff, felt it was a free and fair election.

Now, starting on January 10, there was a peaceful transition to President Aleman and the power of the presidency is now in good hands.

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And so, Mr. Speaker, I would like to join with my colleagues and hope others will join with us in congratulating the people of this extraordinary nation of Nicaragua on the success of their elections and wishing President Aleman the best in the years to come.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York [Mr. HOUGHTON] for his support of this resolution and for his poignant remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the resolution, and I want to commend the gentleman from New York [Mr. HOUGHTON] for introducing House Concurrent Resolution 18, it congratulates the Nicaraguans on their elections last October, and also extend my congratulations to the chairman of the subcommittee, the gentleman from California [Mr. GALLEGLY] and the ranking member, the gentleman from New York [Mr. ACKERMAN]. I commend also the chairman, the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], for moving it through the committee so that we could take it up here today.

The October 1996 election was an exciting one for the Nicaraguans. In a country with an underdeveloped infrastructure and almost no transportation system, between 85 and 90 percent of the eligible voters participated. Not one but six ballots were cast in these elections, and for the first time a domestic election observation group oversaw Nicaraguan elections.

The Nicaraguan people clearly stated they want to continue the democratic transition that was begun in 1990. They deserve to be congratulated for their relatively young democracy. I am pleased to support the resolution and I urge its adoption by the House.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York [Mr. ACKERMAN], the ranking member of the subcommittee.

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, last fall the people of Nicaragua again chose the path of democracy by electing Liberal Alliance candidate Arnoldo Aleman decisively.

In the wake of their second free and fair election of the 1990's, Nicaraguans must move just as decisively to consolidate democracy and strengthen their civil institutions.

Nicaragua is on its way to recovery. With 3 years of economic growth, peace, and stability, the people of Nicaragua chose a candidate who emphasized economic reform and private sector-led growth as key planks in his platform. Nevertheless, President Aleman has his work cut out for him.

Nicaragua continues to have a precarious balance-of-payment position and is heavily dependent upon foreign assistance. Although the economy has grown recently, the country remains very poor, with a per capita income of $470 per year.

Strengthening the rule of law was a campaign theme of the President, and he inherits a court system that has become a bottleneck as problems of crime and property disputes have proliferated. It is imperative for Nicaragua to address this question if foreign investors are to have any confidence in Nicaragua's future.

The United States and other donors have provided $4 billion to Nicaragua since 1990, and for the coming fiscal year USAID has requested an additional $22 million to deepen and expand the economic reforms and enhance the legitimacy of civil institutions.

The international community must continue to work with the Nicaraguans to help them along the path to prosperity. I believe, Mr. Speaker, that this resolution will provide a measure of moral support to Nicaraguans and encourage them to continue on the road that they have chosen.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate my colleague from New York [Mr. HOUGHTON] for sponsoring this resolution and his hard work and diligence in this area of the world; and also the gentleman from California [Mr. GALLEGLY], our chairman on the subcommittee, for putting this legislation through our body; as well as the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], the chairman of the full committee; and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON], who serves as our leader on this side.

I urge all my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA].

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, at the outset I would like to first express my appreciation to the gentleman from North Carolina, Mr.

BALLENGER] for the opportunity he extended me to join a congressional delegation visiting our neighboring countries in the Central American region. It certainly has been a real educational experience for me to see how beautiful democracy works in these countries that we visited, including Nicaragua.

As a cosponsor of House Concurrent Resolution 18, I certainly would like to commend our good friend the gentleman from New York [Mr. HOUGHTON] as the chief sponsor of this legislation; and also the chairman of our full committee, the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN]; and the gentleman from California [Mr. GALLEGLY] as chairman of the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere.

I am also grateful to our senior ranking Democratic member of the full committee, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON] for being a chief sponsor also of this legislation; and our good friend, the ranking member of our subcommittee, the gentleman from New York [Mr. ACKERMAN].

Mr. Speaker, I had the honor of visiting Nicaragua on January 10 for the inauguration of President Aleman. It was clear the people of Nicaragua are dedicated to the principles of democracy. The election was a success. Domestic and international observers declared them to be free and fair, and it was certainly a true expression of the desires of the voters and the people of Nicaragua.

It was a large voter turnout—the kind that we dream about having in the United States. The attempts by the opponents of the democratic process to sully the results of the process were unsuccessful.

I am also pleased, Mr. Speaker, by the development of institutions in Nicaragua that will help consolidate that country's democratic system. The Supreme Electoral Commission has successfully conducted a number of free and fair elections. For the first time there is a civilian Defense Ministry, run by a civilian Minister of Defense.

This is an exciting and critical time for the country of Nicaragua, and I am pleased that we are taking this opportunity to support this democratic country.

There are still many challenges for the Nicaraguans to overcome, however. It remains the second poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, and it faces an enormous challenge in resolving its property problems. The Nicaraguans have chosen to address these problems as a democracy, and that is a giant—and commendable—first step.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to show their support for this government by adopting this resolution commending the Government of Nicaragua for this milestone achievement.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Florida [Mr. DEUTSCH].

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate this opportunity to also rise in support of this resolution. I had the honor and distinction of being able to travel to Nicaragua as an observer for the elections, and it was an experience that will have an impact on me for the rest of my life, to see the level of commitment, in terms of democratic process, in a country which was just described as a poor country in economics but not in spirit or in hope.

In our country, our turnout for elections is arguably only about 30 percent, if we include unregistered voters. Nicaragua's turnout in the election was anywhere between 85 and 90 percent of eligible voters—85 to 90 percent. And in part of the country people literally had to walk a day to vote. Over 50 percent of the country really does not have electricity, does not have a road system, by any comparison to anything in the United States, where people literally had to walk a day to vote, a day in one direction or several, 8, 10, 12, 14 hours in one direction, 14 hours in another direction. And they did it.

As has been described, Mr. Speaker, we are living in really a golden age of democracy in the Western Hemisphere, an age that seemed unprecedented or impossible a decade or two ago. Nicaragua is a shining example of that success. And the involvement of the Nicaraguan-American community throughout America, but particularly in south Florida, as part of that process, I think, has been very positive.

Again, I think this Congress is looking forward to working hand-in-hand with the new administration in Nicaragua towards a redevelopment of the country, to strengthen it and to assure that its economic and democratic systems will continue for all times.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. TORRES].

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the promoters of this resolution, the gentleman from New York [Mr. HOUGHTON]; obviously thank the two chairmen, the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON], for moving this forward.

I remember in great anguish what this House went through many years ago as we were witnesses to that great civil war in Nicaragua. For so many years many of us had followed the impact that that had upon those people.

I was also an observer, Mr. Speaker, to the elections in 1990. For the first time the Government of Nicaragua, then led by Sandinistas, had an orderly transfer of power to the government of Mrs. Chamorro. I think we saw history taking place at that time.

So often we condemn nations for their prosecution, for their persecution, for the oppression that they have caused to their citizens, to their many people, because they have been led by dictatorships, by tyrants. I am happy today to acknowledge the new government of Mr. Aleman, the new democratic elections that have taken place there. I commend that government, and I want to say how important it has been for our country to have been a part of that.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we thank our friend, the gentleman from New York [Mr. HOUGHTON], for sponsoring House Concurrent Resolution 18, commending the Nicaraguan people for their democratic elections and peaceful transition of power, and I am pleased to have been included as an original cosponsor of this measure.

I also want to thank the ranking minority member, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON], and the ranking subcommittee member, the gentleman from New York [Mr. ACKERMAN], for their support of the measure.

Fifteen years ago, Central America, as we know it, was in turmoil, and at that time our Nation paid a great deal of attention to the region and invested extraordinary sums of money to try to bolster the democratic governments. Now we see a region living in peace and democracy. The American public can rightfully claim a great deal of credit for supporting our neighbors in their hour of need.

All of us will certainly acknowledge that the Central American people themselves deserve the utmost credit for an extraordinary democratic transition. In House Concurrent Resolution 18, the House recognizes the significant accomplishments achieved by the Nicaraguan people since the transition to the democratically elected government of President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro on April 20, 1990.

The climate of free expression has improved dramatically since the routine repression during the Sandinista regime. Nicaragua's national assembly is operating vigorously as a truly representative body. Political parties and civic groups are active there. Spirited public debate on political and economic policy has been unhindered.

In October 1996, as the gentleman from New York indicated, 80 percent of Nicaraguans participated in national elections. These citizens freely elected a new president and a vice president, national assembly members, mayors and city councils. On January 10 power was transferred peacefully from one democratically elected civilian government to another.

Like his remarkable predecessor, President Arnoldo Aleman is committed to democracy, to respect for human rights, and to a free market economy. In short, Nicaragua has made great strides toward overcoming a history of dictatorship and civil war, and we are encouraged by President Aleman's strong commitment to policies aimed at revitalizing the agricultural sector, attracting foreign investment, and addressing chronic unemployment and

poverty that still exists, particularly in the rural regions of past conflict.

We support his efforts to ensure that property rights are going to be fully respected in Nicaragua. We are also encouraged by his actions to ensure that a nonpartisan police force and a professional army will answer to civilian authority.

Mr. Speaker, by adopting this resolution, the House will recognize the historic contributions made by President Violeta Chamorro. Her tireless efforts to resist and overturn dictatorship make her a giant figure in our time. I am proud that the gentleman from New York [Mr. HOUGHTON] has chosen to commend President Chamorro in his resolution as well.

Once again, I thank the gentleman from New York for this resolution. We also thank our colleague from California [Mr. GALLEGLY] for his work as chairman of the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere.

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Mr. Speaker, I also wish to acknowledge the good work of the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. BALLENGER] for his work in Central America over several decades. The commitment of the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. BALLENGER] and his full partner, Mrs. Donna Ballenger, recognizes that peace and prosperity in Central America results in concrete benefits here at home.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EWING). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 18.

The question was taken.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the concurrent resolution just considered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

COMMENDING HON. WARREN CHRISTOPHER FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 4) commending and thanking the Honorable Warren Christopher for his exemplary service as Secretary of State.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. CON. RES. 4

Whereas Secretary Warren Christopher served as Secretary of State from 1993 until 1997, and maintained the tradition of that Office by representing the international interests of the United States with great dignity, grace, and ability;

Whereas Secretary Christopher, during his tenure as Secretary of State, engaged in more international travel than any other Secretary of State in United States history, reflecting his indefatigable commitment to advancing peace and justice, protecting and promoting United States interests, and preserving United States leadership in international affairs;

Whereas Secretary Christopher has played a key leadership role in United States foreign policy achievements, including ending the war in Bosnia, restoring an elected government in Haiti, and advancing peace in the Middle East;

Whereas Secretary Christopher served with distinction as Deputy Secretary of State from 1977 until 1981 and, among his accomplishments as Deputy Secretary, is credited with skillfully negotiating the release of American hostages in Iran;

Whereas Secretary Christopher has had a distinguished career in law and public service in California;

Whereas Secretary Christopher, born in Scranton, North Dakota, is one of North Dakota's most distinguished native sons and has always displayed the quiet strength and work ethic associated with the people of the Great Plains;

Whereas in 1997 Secretary Christopher leaves his position as the 63d Secretary of State; and

Whereas Secretary Christopher has earned the respect and admiration of Congress and the American people: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress commends and thanks the Honorable Warren Christopher for his exemplary diplomatic service, and for his skillful and indefatigable efforts to advance peace and justice around the world.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN].

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GILMAN. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, my remarks will be very brief, and they specifically hone in on an extraordinary citizen of this country, Warren Christopher. Warren Christopher has held one of the most important jobs that any administration can offer, the Secretary of State. There are two words which symbolize this great man: One is integrity; the other is judgment.

Mr. Speaker, Warren Christopher has done us proud.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of the resolution.

I want to thank the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], the chairman of the committee, for bringing forward this resolution.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 4 commends and thanks the honorable Warren Christopher for his exemplary diplomatic service. The Senate approved this resolution, as I understand it, by voice vote on January 22. It was reported by the Committee on International Relations on February 5.

I also want to express my appreciation to the gentleman from North Dakota [Mr. POMEROY], who has worked hard on a companion resolution in the House, praising one of North Dakota's finest sons, and on the persistent efforts of the gentleman from North Dakota [Mr. POMEROY] to see that this resolution was taken up by the House. I also want to thank Chairman GILMAN for moving the resolution through the committee several weeks ago and for his efforts to see that the House considers it.

This is, of course, an excellent resolution. It allows us to publicly recognize the extraordinary public service of Warren Christopher. Secretary Christopher has represented the international interests of the United States with great dignity, grace, and ability. During his tenure in office, Secretary Christopher had an indefatigable commitment to advancing peace and justice, protecting and promoting U.S. interests, and preserving the U.S. leadership in international affairs. There have been many tough foreign policy decisions to make over the past 4 years.

To my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I understand that each of us may have our differences with the administration and its foreign policy, but I think all of us have an interest in ensuring that individuals of the caliber, character, and integrity of Secretary Christopher continue to be attracted to the high calling of public service.

It is altogether fitting that we commend this remarkable man and his extraordinary service to this country. I urge adoption of the resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from North Dakota [Mr. POMEROY].

Mr. POMEROY. I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to join with my colleagues in paying tribute to the service of Warren Christopher as Secretary of State. I thank the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], the chairman of the committee, and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON], the ranking member, for bringing this resolution to the floor today.

Not all my colleagues may be aware that Secretary Christopher hails from my State, the great State of North Dakota. He was born in Scranton, ND, a town of less than 300 people in southwestern North Dakota. Although his

family moved to California when Secretary Christopher was still a young man, we in North Dakota like to think that we had a part in instilling in him the values he displayed so consistently throughout his public career: honesty, humility, loyalty, and hard work. He is without question one of our State's most distinguished sons, and it gives me great pride to join with my colleagues in recognizing Secretary Christopher's public service.

Secretary Christopher's service to our Nation began during World War II as an ensign in the Naval Reserve assigned to the Pacific theater. Following the war, Secretary Christopher attended law school at Stanford University, after which he served as law clerk to Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas. Warren Christopher later established a very successful private law career in Los Angeles from which he took leave to serve as Deputy Attorney General under President Johnson, then Deputy Secretary of State under President Carter.

In the role of Deputy Secretary, Warren Christopher negotiated the release of 52 hostages from Iran. For his work, President Carter awarded Secretary Christopher with the Medal of Freedom, the Nation's highest civilian award. As the 63d Secretary of State, Warren Christopher provided calm and capable leadership during one of the most significant transition periods in American foreign policy.

Among the Secretary's many accomplishments, I believe two deserve special recognition. First, Secretary Christopher helped bring an end to the brutal war in Bosnia. In the fall of 1995 when the parties to the Dayton talks were ready to call it quits and break off negotiations, Secretary Christopher's steely determination kept the sides together through an all-night session until an eventual agreement was reached. Only time will tell if lasting reconciliation and Democratic institutions will take hold in Bosnia, but the fact is that Bosnian children are not dying today under mortar fire and sniper fire, in large part due to Secretary Christopher's tireless efforts.

History may prove that the Secretary's most enduring legacy will be his efforts on behalf of peace in the Middle East. During his 4 years in office, Secretary Christopher made at least 24 trips to the Middle East. He was personally very well suited to the terribly difficult task of brokering a peace accord. He deliberately minimized his personal profile while persisting with a determined, intelligent, and evenhanded approach at facilitating the region's leaders' courageous path to peace.

While implementation of the peace process is not yet complete, Secretary Christopher deserves substantial credit for the extraordinary progress that was made during his years as our Secretary of State. Beneath Secretary Christopher's ever composed demeanor was an intense commitment to advancing peace and U.S. interests around the world. His tireless efforts are evidenced by the travel record he set in office: 758,152 miles. That is equivalent to more than 30 trips around the world. This selfless public servant has done his native State of North Dakota and his country proud.

I urge my colleagues to support the resolution commending the good work of Warren Christopher during his years as our Secretary of State.

Mr. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the superior service that my constituent, I am very proud to be able to say that, former Secretary of State Warren Christopher has provided this country. Mr. Christopher is well known to most of us as a former Secretary of State. It should also be pointed out that he served as the Deputy Attorney General from 1967 to 1969, and the Deputy Secretary of State from 1977 to 1981. He was sworn in as the 63d Secretary of State on January 20, 1993. Under his leadership the State Department has worked to promote the security and prosperity of all Americans.

During his tenure, U.S. diplomatic leadership moved us closer to forging a circle of peace in the Middle East, produced a reduction in the nuclear threat, worked to integrate environmental issues into the core of our foreign policy, made strides to adapt NATO, and strengthened the partnership between the United States and Japan.

More important than these singular accomplishments is that for 4 years Mr. Christopher worked untiringly and consistently to represent us with grace and skill, traveling more miles than any previous Secretary of State. His dedication and his professional expertise are unquestionable. Now he has successfully passed off the torch to a shining star, Secretary Madeleine Albright.

Mr. Christopher, I am addressing you directly: Thank you for your dedicated service, and I want to also say welcome home. I hope to see you soon on beautiful Padaro Lane, or on Santa Barbara Street in the community that both of us love.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded that they should address their remarks to the Chair and not to individuals directly.

Mr. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank the gentleman from California for his supportive remarks, and I am pleased to bring this resolution before the House today pursuant to the direction of our Committee on International Relations.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution was adopted by unanimous vote in the Senate on January 22 as Secretary Christopher's distinguished tenure was expiring. I have had the pleasure of working with Secretary Christopher as ranking Republican and later as chairman of our Committee on International Relations during the past 4 years, and first knew him earlier in both our careers when he served in the Carter administration.

There is no question in my mind that Warren Christopher deserves our commendation for his outstanding, long record of significant service to our Nation. As Deputy Secretary in the Carter administration and then later as Secretary in the Clinton administration, Warren Christopher served his Nation in two administrations ably and meritoriously.

He has enormous respect for his colleagues in the State Department, and they returned that respect fully. A distinguished attorney, Warren Christopher favored a quiet approach to solving problems, keeping his eye on the ball, and, as one editorialist put it, he approached his job with ''discretion approaching squareness.''

Over the years we had some policy differences, but this is not the time to dwell on any of them. Rather, we celebrate today Warren Christopher's many achievements and join with the Senate in applauding them in this formal manner.

I appreciate the efforts of the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON] and the gentleman from North Dakota [Mr. POMEROY] in helping to provide the impetus for consideration of this resolution today.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate concurrent resolution, Senate Concurrent Resolution 4.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the Senate concurrent resolution just concurred in.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

□ 1215

CONTINUATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO IRAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES—(H. Doc. No. 105–51)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EWING) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations, and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the Iran emergency declared on March 15, 1995, pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701–1706) is to continue in effect beyond March 15, 1997, to the *Federal Register* for publication. This emergency is separate from that declared on November 14, 1979, in connection with the Iranian hostage crisis and therefore requires separate renewal of emergency authorities.

The factors that led me to declare a national emergency with respect to Iran on March 15, 1995, have not been resolved. The actions and policies of the Government of Iran, including its support for international terrorism, efforts to undermine the Middle East peace process, and its acquisition of weapons of mass destruction and the means to deliver them, continue to threaten the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. Accordingly, I have determined that it is necessary to maintain in force the broad authorities that are in place by virtue of the March 15, 1995, declaration of emergency.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *March 5, 1997.*

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the House stands in recess until approximately 1 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 1 p.m.

□ 1302

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MCINNIS) at 1 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5, rule I, the Chair will now put the question de novo on the approval of the Journal and resume proceedings on each motion to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today in the order in which that motion was entertained, then on the motion to suspend the rules, postponed from Tuesday, March 4, 1997.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

The Journal, de novo; House Concurrent Resolution 17, by the yeas and nays; House Concurrent Resolution 18, by the yeas and nays; House Concurrent Resolution 31, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I, the pending business in the question de novo of the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

CONGRATULATING PEOPLE OF GUATEMALA ON NEGOTIATIONS TO ESTABLISH PEACE PROCESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 17.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 17, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 416, nays 0, answered ''present'' 2, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 29]

YEAS—416

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Allen
Andrews
Archer
Armey
Bachus
Baesler
Baker
Baldacci
Ballenger
Barcia
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bateman
Becerra
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berman
Berry
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Bliley
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Bryant
Bunning
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canady
Cannon
Capps
Cardin
Castle
Chambliss
Chenoweth
Christensen
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Coble
Coburn
Collins
Combest
Condit
Conyers
Cook
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crane
Crapo
Cubin
Cummings
Cunningham
Danner
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (VA)
Deal
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dellums
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Doyle
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
English
Ensign
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Farr
Fattah
Fawell
Fazio
Filner
Flake
Foglietta
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Fowler
Fox
Frank (MA)
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Furse
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Green
Greenwood
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hamilton
Hansen
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Hefley
Hefner
Herger
Hill
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoekstra
Holden
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inglis
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (WI)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kasich
Kelly
Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kennelly
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kim
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kleczka
Klink
Klug
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Lazio
Leach
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
Livingston
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manton
Manzullo
Markey
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCrery
McDade
McDermott
McGovern
McHale
McHugh
McInnis
McIntosh
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek
Menendez
Metcalf
Mica
Millender-McDonald
Miller (CA)
Miller (FL)
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Molinari
Mollohan
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Neal
Nethercutt
Neumann
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Oxley
Packard
Pallone
Pappas
Pascrell
Pastor
Paxon
Payne
Pease
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pickett
Pitts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Poshard
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Quinn
Radanovich
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Reyes
Riggs
Riley
Rivers
Roemer
Rogan
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Rothman
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryun
Sabo
Salmon
Sanchez
Sanders
Sandlin
Sanford
Sawyer
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaefer, Dan
Schaffer, Bob
Schumer
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Sisisky
Skaggs
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (OR)
Smith (TX)
Smith, Adam
Smith, Linda
Snowbarger

Snyder
Solomon
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stabenow
Stark
Stearns
Stenholm
Stokes
Stump
Stupak
Sununu
Talent
Tanner
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Thomas
Thompson
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman
Tiahrt
Tierney
Torres
Towns
Traficant
Turner
Upton
Velazquez
Vento
Visclosky
Walsh
Wamp
Waters
Watkins
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Waxman
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Wexler
Weygand
White
Whitfield
Wicker
Wolf
Woolsey
Wynn
Yates
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

ANSWERED ''PRESENT''—2

Barr
Paul

NOT VOTING—14

Brown (CA)
Carson
Chabot
Clyburn
Cooksey
DeLay
Dreier
Lantos
Nadler
Parker
Rahall
Schiff
Strickland
Wise

Mr. LIVINGSTON changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCINNIS). Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that he will reduce to a minimum of 5 minutes the period of time within which a vote by electronic device may be taken on each additional motion to suspend the rules on which the Chair has postponed further proceedings.

CONGRATULATING PEOPLE OF NICARAGUA ON DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS SUCCESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 18.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 18, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 417, nays 0, answered ''present'' 3, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 30]

YEAS—417

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Allen
Andrews
Archer
Armey
Bachus
Baesler
Baker
Baldacci
Ballenger
Barcia
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bateman
Becerra
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berman
Berry
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Bliley
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Bryant
Bunning
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canady
Cannon
Capps
Cardin
Castle
Chambliss
Christensen
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Coburn
Collins
Combest
Condit
Conyers
Cook
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crane
Crapo
Cubin
Cummings
Cunningham
Danner
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (VA)
Deal
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
Dellums
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Doyle
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
English
Ensign
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Farr
Fattah
Fawell
Fazio
Filner
Flake
Foglietta
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Fowler
Fox
Frank (MA)
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Furse
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Green
Greenwood
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hamilton
Hansen
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Hefley
Hefner
Herger
Hill
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoekstra
Holden
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inglis
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (WI)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kasich
Kelly
Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kennelly
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kim
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kleczka
Klink
Klug
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Lazio
Leach
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
Livingston
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manton
Manzullo
Markey
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCrery
McDade
McDermott
McGovern
McHale
McHugh
McInnis
McIntosh
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek
Menendez
Metcalf
Mica
Millender-McDonald
Miller (CA)
Miller (FL)
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Molinari
Mollohan
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Neal
Nethercutt
Neumann
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Oxley
Packard
Pallone
Pappas
Pascrell
Pastor
Paxon
Payne
Pease
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pickett
Pitts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Poshard
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Quinn
Radanovich
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Reyes
Riggs
Riley
Rivers
Roemer
Rogan
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Rothman
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryun
Sabo
Salmon
Sanchez
Sanders
Sandlin
Sanford
Sawyer
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaefer, Dan
Schaffer, Bob
Schumer
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Sisisky
Skaggs
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (OR)
Smith (TX)
Smith, Adam
Smith, Linda
Snowbarger
Snyder
Solomon
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stabenow
Stark
Stearns
Stenholm
Stokes
Stump
Stupak
Sununu
Talent
Tanner
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Thomas
Thompson
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman
Tiahrt
Tierney
Torres
Towns
Traficant
Turner
Upton
Velazquez
Vento
Visclosky
Walsh
Wamp
Waters
Watkins
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Waxman
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Wexler
Weygand
White
Whitfield
Wicker
Wolf
Woolsey
Wynn
Yates
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

ANSWERED ''PRESENT''—3

Barr
Chenoweth
Paul

NOT VOTING—12

Brown (CA)
Carson
Chabot
Cooksey
Dreier
Lantos
Nadler
Parker
Rahall
Schiff
Strickland
Wise

☐ 1338

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REGARDING THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 31.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida [Mr. CANADY] that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 31, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 295, nays 125, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 31]

YEAS—295

Aderholt
Allen
Archer
Armey
Bachus
Baesler
Baker
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bateman
Bereuter
Berry
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop

Blagojevich
Bliley
Blunt
Boehner
Bonilla
Bono
Borski
Boucher
Boyd
Brady
Brown (OH)
Bryant
Bunning
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canady
Cannon
Capps
Cardin
Castle
Chambliss
Chenoweth
Christensen
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Coburn
Collins
Combest
Condit
Cook
Costello
Cox
Cramer
Crane
Crapo
Cubin
Cunningham
Danner
Davis (FL)
Davis (VA)
Deal
DeLay
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Doolittle
Doyle
Duncan
Dunn
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
English
Ensign
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Ewing
Farr
Fawell
Filner
Flake
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Fowler
Fox
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Ganske
Gekas
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Green
Greenwood
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hamilton
Hansen
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Hefley
Hefner
Herger
Hill
Hilleary
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoekstra
Holden
Hooley
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inglis
Istook
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (WI)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Kanjorski
Kasich
Kelly
Kildee
Kim
King (NY)
Kingston
Klink
Klug
Knollenberg
Kolbe
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Lazio
Leach
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
Livingston
LoBiondo
Lucas
Maloney (CT)
Manton
Manzullo
Mascara
McCollum
McCrery
McDade
McHale
McHugh
McInnis
McIntosh
McIntyre
McKeon
Metcalf
Mica
Miller (FL)
Minge
Molinari
Mollohan
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murtha
Myrick
Nethercutt
Neumann
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Obey
Ortiz
Oxley
Packard
Pappas
Paul
Paxon
Pease
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Portman
Poshard
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Quinn
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Reyes
Riggs
Riley
Roemer
Rogan
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roukema
Royce
Rush
Ryun
Salmon
Sanchez
Sandlin
Sanford
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaefer, Dan
Schaffer, Bob
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Shimkus
Shuster
Sisisky
Skeen
Skelton
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (OR)
Smith (TX)
Smith, Linda
Snowbarger
Solomon
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stabenow
Stearns
Stenholm
Stump
Stupak
Sununu
Talent
Tanner
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Thomas
Thornberry
Thune
Tiahrt
Towns
Traficant
Turner
Upton
Visclosky
Walsh
Wamp
Watkins
Watts (OK)
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
White
Whitfield
Wicker
Wolf
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NAYS—125

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Andrews
Baldacci
Becerra
Bentsen
Berman
Blumenauer
Boehlert
Bonior
Boswell
Brown (CA)
Brown (FL)
Clay
Clayton
Conyers
Coyne
Cummings
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dellums
Deutsch
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Edwards
Engel
Evans
Fattah
Fazio
Foglietta
Frank (MA)
Frost
Furse
Gejdenson
Gephardt
Gilman
Gonzalez
Gutierrez
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hilliard
Hinchey
Horn
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kennelly
Kilpatrick
Kind (WI)
Kleczka
Kucinich
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lofgren
Lowey
Luther
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Martinez
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McDermott
McGovern
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek
Menendez
Millender-McDonald
Miller (CA)
Mink
Moakley
Morella
Neal
Oberstar
Olver
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pelosi
Pickett
Rangel
Rivers
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Sabo
Sanders
Sawyer
Schumer
Scott
Serrano
Sherman
Skaggs
Slaughter
Smith, Adam
Snyder
Stark
Stokes
Tauscher
Thompson
Thurman
Tierney
Torres
Velazquez
Vento
Waters
Watt (NC)
Waxman
Wexler
Weygand
Woolsey
Yates

NOT VOTING—12

Carson
Chabot
Cooksey
Dreier
Lantos
Nadler
Parker
Porter
Rahall
Schiff
Strickland
Wise

□ 1350

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island and Mr. FROST changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. RUSH changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. COOKSEY. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent from rollcall vote 31. Had I been present on that vote I would have voted ''aye.''

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, due to flooding in my District, I was with Vice President Gore and local officials to discuss the flood this morning in Kenova, WV. Due to weather, my flight to Washington was canceled and I unavoidably missed RECORD votes numbered 29, 30, and 31.

On Rollcall vote No. 29, House Concurrent Resolution 17, congratulating the people of Guatemala on negotiations for a peace process, I would have voted ''yes'' had I been present.

On Rollcall vote No. 30, House Concurrent Resolution 18, congratulating the people of Nicaragua on the success of their democratic elections, I would have voted ''yes'' had I been present.

On Rollcall vote No. 31, House Concurrent Resolution 31, a sense of Congress that Ten Commandments can be displayed in Government buildings, I would have voted ''yes'' had I been present.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution (H. Res. 82) and I ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and they are hereby, elected to the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

Committee on Science: Mr. English of Pennsylvania; Mr. Nethercutt; Mr. Coburn; and Mr. Sessions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. (Mr. MCINNIS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

VACATION OF SPECIAL ORDER

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to vacate the 5-minute special order granted today to the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Mrs. JOHNSON].

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

INFORMING MEMBERS OF THE PASSING OF H. EDWARD DREIER, JR.

(Ms. McCARTHY of Missouri asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks and include extraneous matter.)

Ms. McCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, it saddens me to inform the House of the passing of a dear friend and constituent, Ed Dreier, who is the father of our colleague, the gentleman from California [DAVID DREIER].

H. Edward Dreier, Junior, was a pioneer in the housing industry in Kansas City. Forty-five years ago this month he incorporated his real estate development, construction, and property management business and began service on the first commission on human relations to implement integration laws for housing in our community.

One and one-half weeks ago, DAVID accepted for his father the Crystal Merit Award, honoring excellent in the apartment industry. Mr. Dreier was very active in the civic community, including serving as president and chairman of the Lyric Opera Company of Kansas City, and was an original member of the Westport Allen Center board of trustees.

He had many friends here in the House, from the gentleman from New

York [CHARLIE RANGEL] and the gentleman from Massachusetts [JOE MOAKLEY] to his fellow marines, the gentleman from New York [AMO HOUGHTON] and [JERRY SOLOMON]. Our thoughts and prayers are with DAVID and his family during this most difficult time.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to pay tribute to this fine citizen whose contributions, through public service, will be remembered by those whose lives he touched.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD newspaper articles concerning Mr. Dreier's passing.

The material referred to follows:

AREA REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER DIES

(By Mark Davis)

H. Edward Dreier Jr. of Kansas City, an area builder and property manager, died Monday. He was 69.

Dreier founded his real estate development, construction and property management company 45 years ago in Kansas City. Dreier Management Co. built and continues to manage several area apartment buildings.

Dreier also was active in Kansas City's civic community, though he hadn't received much public notice for this work.

''He'll be badly missed by the Midtown community,'' said the Rev. Roger Coleman, executive director of the Westport Allen Center.

Coleman said Dreier was an original member of the center's board of trustees, formed in 1983. He also had supported its earlier efforts to buy and renovate an abandoned school.

The former school at 706 W. 42nd St. now provides an activity center and offices for many nonprofit groups, including the State Ballet of Missouri and Narcotics Anonymous.

''He loved the tenants here like he loved the tenants in his apartments down the street,'' Coleman said. ''It sounds selfish, but we had such plans for him.''

Coleman said Dreier stood out even among the other board members. Dreier not only raised money but also participated in the center's activities and made himself available when Coleman called for help.

Dreier also was president of the board of directors of the Lyric Opera of Kansas City in its 1981–82 season and served on the board since 1976.

Last month, Dreier received the Crystal Merit Award from the Apartment Association of Kansas City. The award honored Dreier as the area's best property supervisor for 1996.

Dreier's health kept him from the Feb. 21 award ceremony and his son, U.S. Rep. David Dreier of California, accepted the award. David Dreier said he plans to become more involved in the company and believed his mother also would take a greater role.

''Public service was always a priority for him,'' said David Dreier, noting that his father had served on Kansas City's first commission on human relations in the 1950s.

Survivors include his wife, Joyce Yeomans Dreier, of the home; his son, David Dreier, San Dimas, Calif.; daughters, Denise Dreier Despars, Hermosa Beach, Calif., and Dana Dreier Lamont, Aurora, Ill.; a sister, Carolee Atha, Mission Hills; and two grandchildren.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Stine & McClure Funeral Home at 3235 Gillham Plaza. No burial services are planned.

H. EDWARD DREIER, JR.

H. Edward Dreier, Jr., Kansas City, MO, passed away Monday, March 3, 1997. Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, March 6, at D.W. Newcomer's Sons Stine & McClure Chapel, 3235 Gillham Plaza, Kansas City, MO. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

Mr. Dreier attended Pembroke Hill School, Kemper Military Academy, and graduated from Southwest High School in 1946. He was a drill instructor with the U.S. Marine Corps, and graduated in 1952 from Claremont McKenna College, Claremont, CA. He was President of H.E. Dreier, Jr., Inc., a real estate development and property management firm. In 1953, he was appointed by H. Roe Bartle to the Commission on Human Relations. He served as President of the Great Oaks Nursing Home. He also served on the Planning Commission of Fairway, KS, and the Executive Committee of the Sixth Church of Christ, Scientist. He was an officer of the Homebuilders of Greater Kansas City, and was a 45-year member of the Real Estate Board; President of the Lyric Opera Board; Honorary Coach for the NAIA Tennis Tournament; and a member of the Society of Fellows of the Nelson Atkins Museum. Mr. Dreier was a Director of United Missouri Bank, North Region; President of the Dreier Family Foundation; and served on the Executive Committee of the Westport Allen Center. He was a Paul Harris Fellow and Secretary/Treasurer of Rotary Club 13, and a member of the Vanguard Club and Carriage Club. On February 21, 1997, he received the Crystal Merit Award, honoring excellence in the apartment industry for the midwest. In Rancho Mirage, CA, he was a member of the Thunderbird Country Club. The Club at Morningside, and a Patrol of the Friends of the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Desert Museum. He is survived by his wife, Joyce Yeomans Dreier; a son, Congressman David Dreier, Los Angeles; two daughters, Denise Dreier Despars, Hermosa Beach, CA, and Dana Dreier Lamont, Aurora, IL; and two granddaughters, Leslie LaRue Lamont and Lisa Lee Lamont. (Arrangements: D.W. Newcomer's Sons Stine & McClure Chapel)

□ 1400

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCINNIS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

MISES REDISCOVERED IN UNLIKELY SETTING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. PAUL] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to proudly announce the recovery of a momentous treasure formerly believed to be lost to humankind in the noble cause of individual liberty. When German tanks rolled through Vienna in 1938, Hitler's national police force made a stop at the apartment of one of history's greatest intellectual defenders of liberty, an intellectual hero who had recently vacated his apartment to escape the fascist tirade of the corporate statists. Upon ransacking the vacant apartment, the national police removed 38 boxes of intellectual manuscripts containing a detailed analysis of why fascism, democratic-socialism, communism, and various other forms of collectivism necessarily contains the seeds of its own respective destruction.

It is a pinnacle of irony that for nearly 60 years these treasures, believed to have been confiscated and destroyed by a system totally devoid of individual liberty and due process, were located in the Soviet Union. The genuine irony is that these manuscripts were rediscovered only as a consequence of the Soviet experiment's ultimate failure, a failure deduced within those same manuscripts as the logically necessary outcome of collectivism.

The great hero of liberty and author of these manuscripts is the Austrian economist Ludwig Von Mises. I proudly and respectfully request entry in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of this compelling story as told by Llewellyn Rockwell, President of the institute that currently bears Dr. Mises' name.

[From the Washington Times, Mar. 2, 1997]

MISES REDISCOVERED IN UNLIKLEY SETTING

(By Llewellyn H. Rockwell, Jr.)

The American conservative tradition was once rooted in serious thought and great scholarship—as hard as that may be to believe today. In constitutional law, it stood for strict construction; in philosophy, it stood with the scholastics; and in economics, it stood with the Austrian School and Ludwig von Mises.

Now comes remarkable news. A massive collection of Mises's personal papers have been recovered in an archive in, of all places, Moscow, where they rested for the duration of the Cold War. They were discovered by two Austrian scholars—a Soveitologist from the University of Graz and a historian from the University of Vienna—and what they've found may change the way we look at modern times.

Mises came to New York in 1940, one of a generation of Austrian intellectuals forced to flee the Nazi onslaught. He had not come here to retire. This man of 60 would work for more than three decades to revivify the passion for liberty in this country, through passionate teaching and writing for scholarly and popular audiences.

His central message was contrary to all the fashions of the day. Mises taught that the free market is the key to civilization, and that socialism of all sorts, including the democratic and Keynesian varieties, must be fiercely resisted.

In those days, immigrants saw acculturation as their first responsibility, so it didn't take long for Americans to think of Mises as their own. In 1949, his great work, Human Action, appeared—a thousand-page treatise that surpasses any previous work in free-market theory. Though German was his first language, Mises wrote his book, still in print, in beautiful English.

It's easy to forget Mises' extraordinary life before he emigrated here. In 1912, he wrote a book on money and banking that set the European academic world on fire. At the dawn of the central banking age, he claimed money management actually destabilizes the economy by fueling inflation and business cycles.

In 1919, he forecast a European political explosion. He said it would stem from two sources: the failure of Versailles to settle the nationalities issue, and the rise of statism all over the Continent. In 1923, he tore the

hide off socialist doctrine with a treatise—still unsurpassed—exposing the social, political and economic consequences of collectivism.

He followed up in 1927 with a full-blown defense of the classical liberal society, in which the economy is free of government involvement, private property is sacrosanct, the only role of the military is defending the country's borders, and citizens enjoy full freedom of speech and association.

All the while, he led a famous seminar attended by the best minds in Europe. He taught at the University of Vienna. He was chief economist for the Austrian Chamber of Commerce, where he defended capitalism against socialists national and international. He founded and administered a think tank devoted to solving the supposed mystery of the business cycle.

Yet a few years later, the entire Continent would be darkened by the specter of totalitarianism. Even in America, the 19th-century ideal of free trade and decentralized government was widely seen as outmoded and unworkable. Mises began to see himself as the last of classical liberals.

More devastating for him was the loss of all his files in Vienna, both personal and academic. He had been keeping them from his early schooling until just before he left to teach in Geneva, a safe harbor for dissident and Jewish intellectuals of the day.

When German tanks rolled into Vienna in 1938, the police made a stop of Mises' apartment, and looted 38 boxes filled with his precious papers, notes and manuscripts, and carted them away. Until recently, everyone assumed they were destroyed, and with them a good part of Austrian intellectual history.

Fast forward 53 years, as the Soviet Union unraveled and the veil of secrecy began to rise. Moscow's massive archival holdings were opened for the first time, partly because of a desperate search for something to sell in exchange for hard currency.

Stefan Karner and Gerhard Jagschitz found in them what they had long sought, and the irony is bracing. The voluminous papers of Mises, the century's leading opponent of statism, reappear only after the world sees that he had been absolutely right. In this man's life is the story of modern times; in his work are the keys to understanding its bloody errors. Now, his papers rediscovered, it's time to rediscover his wisdom.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. SKAGGS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. SKAGGS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

TEN COMMANDMENTS ARE THE BASIS OF OUR LAWS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. MANZULLO] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, the House has just voted on a very interesting bill expressing the sense of Congress regarding the display of the Ten Commandments by Judge Roy S. Moore, who is a circuit court judge in the State of Alabama. The judge had posted the Ten Commandments on the wall of his courtroom as a remembrance and sign that all the laws in this Nation and, in fact all of the laws in the world as we know it, really come from the Ten Commandments, the Decalogue, which is the laws that were given to Moses.

Another judge in the same circuit in Alabama, in response to a lawsuit that was brought against Judge Moore, ordered Judge Moore to remove a copy of the Ten Commandments that hangs on the wall in his courtroom. The Alabama Supreme Court has decided to review the matter and has issued a stay allowing the Ten Commandments to remain on the wall of the courtroom during the pendency of the appeal.

How interesting it is that the U.S. Congress, that the House of Representatives should have to take a vote on whether or not it is lawful that a copy of the Ten Commandments be posted in a public building.

James Madison, who was the author of our Constitution, said: ''We have staked the entire future of the American civilization not upon the power of government, but upon the capacity of the individual to govern himself, control himself, and sustain himself according to the Ten Commandments of God.''

As one looks at this great Chamber, the House of Representatives, the people's House, the Chamber where Members of Congress from every State in the Union and from the territories come in order to do the people's business, one only has to look at the sculpture directly in front of the Speaker's dais and the sculpture is of Moses.

The reason for the picture of Moses in the Chamber of the House of Representatives is to give credence to the people speaking here that all of the laws that we enact have as their moral basis the Ten Commandments. In the Supreme Court itself, there are two versions of the Ten Commandments up on the walls.

Here we are in America today at this point in history where we have to defend the posting of the Ten Commandments on the wall of the chambers of a judge who looks upon those Ten Commandments in the historical aspect that this is the basis of all of our laws. After all, the reason it is against the law to steal is that this was listed in the Ten Commandments, Thou shall not steal.

As a person goes over to the Jefferson Memorial and stands inside that beautiful building, if he stands right in front of Mr. Jefferson, turns his back and looks in the same direction as Mr. Jefferson, immediately to Jefferson's right, the first tablet says very simply: ''Can the liberties of a Nation be thought secure if it has removed so firm a conviction that our liberties are the gift of God?''

As Jefferson and Madison and all of the authors of the Constitution, and Blackstone, and the people who gave rise to the great common and statutory law in this country have observed for years and years and years, it is based upon the law of Moses, it is based upon the Judeo-Christian doctrines that gave rise to our very freedom in this country.

So it is with sadness that we have to reach that point in America where one judge orders another judge to remove a copy of the Ten Commandments from the walls of that judge's chamber. But I am proud today that the people have spoken through the Members of the House of Representatives who have voted today in a majority to commend Judge Moore for having the courage and having the faith to show that he believes, as most Americans do, that the Ten Commandments are the basis of American law.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Missouri [Ms. MCCARTHY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

IN HONOR OF THREE TEXAS LEGENDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas [Ms. GRANGER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and even greater pride that I rise today to honor three Texas legends who are well on their way to becoming American legends.

Last week millions of Americans turned out in Madison Square Garden to witness the 1997 Grammy Awards. Those awards are given annually to those in the music industry who set the pace. The artists who win these awards are the very best. So as a lifelong resident, a former mayor and now a Congresswoman from Fort Worth, I am enormously proud to honor 3 hometown heroes who stole the show last week in New York.

By now, most of America has fallen in love with 14-year-old singing sensation LeAnn Rimes. Born on August 28, 1982, LeAnn Rimes began singing before she was 2 years old. At age 5, she won her first singing competition. At age 6, her family moved to Texas, where country music is an obsession. Needless to say, LeAnn fit right in.

Before long, she was making herself very well-known in the country music capital of Texas, Fort Worth. By the time she was 8, she was a regular on Fort Worth's favorite show, ''Johnnie High's Country Music Review.'' This is a wonderful country music extravaganza which my good friend Johnnie High has run for years. Suffice it to say, the folks over at Johnnie High's were very impressed with the young singer, so impressed that word spread throughout the Fort Worth community and beyond.

Pretty soon LeAnn was a regular at the Dallas Cowboy football games, where she sang the Star Spangled Banner in front of Troy, Emmitt and 60,000 fans. When LeAnn turned 11, she recorded her first album entitled ''All

That.'' The album included a song called ''Blue,'' which was written by another long time Fort Worth great, discjockey Bill Mack.

Bill had originally intended the song for Patsy Cline, but she died tragically before she could record it some 30 years ago. How proud Patsy Cline would be today to know that young LeAnn Rimes sang this special song for her.

So, Mr. Speaker, it was altogether fitting and appropriate that Mack was honored for Best Song for ''Blue'' and LeAnn was honored as Best Female Country Artist, as well as best new artist in any category.

Shortly after the awards program ended, LeAnn was asked at a press conference how she planned to celebrate her awards. ''I guess I will go out to dinner,'' she said. ''I am too young to do anything else.'' Well, LeAnn, you are certainly not too young to be on a one-way ticket to success. Congratulations to you, LeAnn, and to Bill. We are very proud of you.

But Fort Worth's country stars were not the only ones to shine last week. Fort Worth is also the home of some of the most inspirational gospel music in the world. It was in the pews of these churches that Kirk Franklin honed his talents for singing gospel music.

Kirk was born and raised in Fort Worth. Abandoned by his teenage mother and father at the age of 3, the orphaned Franklin was adopted by an aunt. At age 4, Kirk began to play the piano, and by the time he was in kindergarten, he was a regular on the local gospel music circuit. At age 19, he was recording in the studio.

In the early 1990's, gospel fans all over America got the chance to hear what those of us in Fort Worth had been enjoying for years, the amazing, soulful voice of Kirk Franklin. A month after the release of his 1993 album, ''Kirk Franklin and the Family,'' the album was No. 1. In fact, Kirk's initial album marked the first time in the history of gospel music that a debut album sold over 1 million copies. In just 4 short years, Kirk Franklin has become a musical superstar carrying his message of grace, hope, and love to the whole world.

Last fall, a tragic accident on stage almost ended Kirk's career. After falling off the stage and into the orchestra pit, Kirk was unconscious for several hours. Doctors feared he might be paralyzed or even die. Instead, less than 2 months after the accident, Kirk was back on the road again. For his incredible moral courage as well as his indispensable music contributions, Kirk Franklin last week was awarded with a Grammy for Best Contemporary Soul-Gospel Album for 1997.

So on behalf of music lovers everywhere, but particularly on behalf of a proud hometown, I want to say congratulations to LeAnn Rimes, Bill Mack and Kirk Franklin. You have made your friends, your family and your Nation very proud.

Mr. Speaker, I commend to the American people the examples of Bill, LeAnn, and Kirk. While all three of these talents come from different backgrounds and different environments, they are uniquely American. They have showed us all that achievement is based more on desire and determination than on situation and circumstance. They have taught us all that hard work is still the surest road to success.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from West Virginia [Mr. WISE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. WISE addressed the House. His remarks will appear in the Extensions of Remarks.]

AMERICA'S TECHNOLOGICAL SECRETS SHOULD BE SAFEGUARDED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. ROHRABACHER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, today H.R. 400 passed through the Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property of the Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 400, what I call the Steal American Technologies Act, is disguised as a patent reform bill.

This bill was first entitled, when it was first introduced last year, the Patent Publication Act. Well, people might ask themselves, how does the Patent Publication Act all of a sudden become a patent reform bill? Well, that is because the patent reform bill is a title that does not describe exactly what is going on in the bill, but the Patent Publication Act does.

This bill has not changed a bit. The purpose of the bill is exactly the same. Now, hold on to your hats, make sure you understand the magnitude of what is about to be said.

This bill, H.R. 400, which I call the Steal American Technologies Act, mandates that after 18 months, if an inventor in the United States applies for a patent, even if his patent has not been issued, after 18 months it is mandated that all the details of his patent will be published for everybody in the world to see and to steal. That is it. Every one of America's technological secrets will be mandated to be published so that those adversaries in Japan or in China or anywhere else in the world will have all the details and probably be able to go into production and use our intellectual property, all of our new ideas and technological discoveries against the United States of America.

That is why I call this the Steal American Technologies Act. It is beyond belief that this is going through the House of Representatives, but it will be on this floor unless the American people call their Congressman or Congresswoman to let them know how heinous it is to permit our adversaries to steal our technology and use it against us.

This is exactly what is going to happen, because the huge multinational corporations who would benefit from stealing our technology and not having to pay royalties are in an unholy alliance with our own big companies who do not want to pay royalties to American inventors.

The idea of course is, oh, it is going to happen anyway. These things would have been invented. You put an infinite number of inventors in a room with an infinite number of typewriters and eventually everything will be invented. No. We have had a strong and prosperous country because we have had the strongest patent protection of any country of the world. Now they are trying to change that, because they are taking away the confidentiality of American inventors, they are taking away our rights to a guaranteed patent term, and this H.R. 400 also obliterates the Patent Office.

□ 1415

That is right, Mr. Speaker. What this does, H.R. 400, the Steal American Technologies Act also would take the Patent Office, which is written into the Constitution, and resurrect it. As what? A corporatized entity.

Our patent examiners are strong and faithful people, they work hard, and the reason they have been able to do a good job is because they have been government employees protected from outside influences. Now we are changing the entire rules of the game, just as America is entering into this new technological age.

Mr. Speaker, this is a Pearl Harbor in slow motion. This is a catastrophe that will hit our country and destroy our standard of living that is based on America being the technological leader of the world, and the American people in the future will never know what hit them. They will just say, wait a minute; did we not used to be the leader in technology? Could we not outcompete all these countries? That is because we had strong patent protection, and our Founding Fathers knew that as long as Americans had this patent protection, we would have the ideas and creativity to save our country.

I have a bill in opposition to the Steal American Technologies Act. My bill is H.R. 811, and there is a companion bill, H.R. 812. That is 811 and 812, which would restore to the American people their guaranteed right that has been part of our rights as Americans since our Constitution was written, for a guaranteed patent term, that is being attacked today, will be taken away from them.

My bill guarantees confidentiality, so when our inventors come up with new ideas, they are not going to go to our adversaries and be used against us. There is not going to be a line at the Patent Office for a copying machine, and a line over to the fax machine, and get it overseas as soon as possible.

H.R. 812, the companion bill introduced by the gentleman from California, DUNCAN HUNTER, will maintain in

the U.S. Government a strong Patent Office and an efficient Patent Office to protect us and to make sure that our people are serviced well, which is a function, a proper function of Government.

This is an attempt to harmonize our law, and those who support H.R. 400 will tell us that we need to harmonize our law with the rest of the world. No, we need to strengthen the protections of the American people.

I ask for the support of my colleagues for H.R. 811 and 812 in opposition to H.R. 400.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York [Mr. ENGEL] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce the introduction of legislation by Representatives NITA LOWEY, CAROLYN MCCARTHY, and myself which would prevent the purchase or possession of a firearm by a nonpermanent resident alien. Unfortunately, this legislation comes too late to prevent the tragedy which occurred at the Empire State Building last month, when a man who had been in the United States for just 3 weeks shot seven tourists, killing one, and then killed himself. Such a violent crime under any circumstances is shocking but the fact that the gunman had been in this country for such a short time and had established residence at a Florida hotel was unbelievable. My colleagues and I have introduced this legislation in the hopes that we can prevent future crimes committed by individuals who are, essentially, tourists.

Current Federal law requires that legal aliens live in a State for a least 90 days before purchasing a firearm. I applaud the President's recent directive which strengthens the law by mandating that legal aliens must produce a photo ID and documentation to prove they have been in country for at least 3 months before purchasing a weapon. However, I fail to understand why a nonpermanent resident alien should be allowed to own a gun under any circumstances.

The Lowey-Engel-McCarthy legislation is very simple. If you are not a permanent resident of our Nation you quite simply should not be allowed to buy a gun. We must have strong comprehensive Federal legislation which prevents tourists from visiting our country to hunt down our citizens. The Empire State Building gunman was able to slip through the cracks of a system which does not adequately address the problem of violent criminal aliens. It now falls to us to ensure that our citizens are protected from violent predators who seek to abuse the laws of our Nation in order to harm law-abiding citizens.

DEFINING DEVIANCY, UP AND DOWN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. SCARBOROUGH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, we just took a vote on the Ten Commandments and a controversy that is occurring in Alabama. I heard ridicule from a lot of Members saying, gee, is this the only thing that the House of Representatives can do? This is a trivial little matter. It is something that just does not really make a big difference.

But I am here to tell the Members that I think it is an extremely important thing we just voted on. If nothing else, it shows there are a group of us that are ready to say enough is enough to the radicalism of the past 30 years. It has created a valueless void that I believe has torn down our civilization.

To reject the radicalism of the past 30 years, the first thing we have to do is recognize what has happened. We have had what has been called by many, defining deviancy down and defining deviancy up. To define deviancy up, what you do is try to make conventional behavior seem radical and radical behavior seem conventional, so just putting the Ten Commandments of God up on the wall in a courtroom in the United States of America is suddenly a radical, dangerous concept.

But, Mr. Speaker, I would say to these ACLU members and to other Americans that would call that a radical notion, I would say to them, read the writings of James Madison. He, after all, is the father of the Constitution that these radicals claim to be protecting.

As he was drafting the Constitution, James Madison, the father of the Constitution, wrote:

> We have staked the entire future of the American civilization not upon the power of government, but upon the capacity of Americans to govern themselves, control themselves, and sustain themselves according to the Ten Commandments of God.

How can they claim that the Ten Commandments are a radical part of our heritage, and how can they claim that they must strip the Ten Commandments from public life to protect the Constitution, when the father of the Constitution and the fourth President of the United States of America said that American civilization's future is based upon this, as we are drafting the Constitution?

How could they say that when the father of our country, George Washington, in his farewell address, speaking to a young America, said: It is impossible to govern this country or any country in the world rightly without a belief in God and the Ten Commandments. How could they say it?

How could they say that a judge in the State of Alabama or in California or in Massachusetts has absolutely no right to decide whether the Ten Commandments goes on the wall, when our Framers said it was an issue that States could address?

We had Justice Joseph Story, who wrote one of the first commentaries on the Constitution for a sitting justice of the Supreme Court. He wrote that:

> The whole power over the subject of religion is left exclusively to the State governments, to be acted upon according to their own sense of justice and the State Constitutions.

Thomas Jefferson wrote the same, saying that the 1st amendment and the 10th amendment combined left matters regarding religion to the States. Jefferson wrote, ''Certainly no power to prescribe any religious exercise or to assume the authority in any religious discipline has been delegated to the general government.'' It must, then, rest with the States.

I am sure many people, including some on the school board in my hometown, would consider radical the words of Abraham Lincoln if he said these words in our school system, where in my hometown a political set of guidelines has driven any mention of faith from the schools.

What would these radicals say to Abraham Lincoln's 1863 proclamation, while President:

> We have grown in numbers, wealth, and power as no other Nation has ever grown, but we have forgotten God. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.

Is that radical? Were the words of Madison, the father of our Constitution, radical? Were the words of Washington radical? If so, Mr. Speaker, I admit, maybe some of us today are considered radical. We have to reverse what happened in 1947 with Everson, and rewrite what has happened.

ECONOMIC EQUITY FOR WOMEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Mrs. JOHNSON] is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to introduce a special order that my colleague, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia, ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON and I are cohosting for the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues. We are the cochairs of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, a bipartisan organization of the women Members of Congress, and in recognition of Women's History Month, we are holding a series of four special orders on four different subjects of great concern for women.

Today we turn to the issue of economic equity. I am going to start by talking about the contributions of women during Women's History Month in the area of our economy in today's world.

Women today are making an extraordinarily valuable contribution to all sectors of our economy, and in particular, to the dynamic growth of small businesses. Women are opening new businesses at twice the rate of men.

Over one-third of all U.S. firms are women-owned businesses. These firms employ one of every four U.S. workers, and between 1987 and 1996, the growth of women-owned firms outpaced overall growth of U.S. firms by nearly two to one.

Women at all economic levels benefit from this dynamic growth. Women-owned entrepreneurial companies are providing women with more leadership and management experience than they have had access to in larger corporations. These companies are leading the way in providing new benefits to employees, like more flexible work arrangements, tuition reimbursement, and profit-sharing. The likelihood of enjoying those benefits is far greater if you work for a woman-owned business.

What is driving this explosion of entrepreneurial enterprise by women? Not the need to integrate work and child care, but the desire and determination to control their destiny. Most do not work out of their homes to care for their children. In fact, it will surprise the Members to know that women with home-based businesses are no more likely to have children at home than are other women entrepreneurs. Most establish their business because they want to control their lives and control that balance between work and family responsibilities that is at the heart of satisfaction.

Current estimates put the number of woman-owned firms at 8 million businesses, contributing more than $2.38 trillion in annual revenues to our economy. In Connecticut, over 80,000 women-owned business firms account for 30 percent of all firms in the State. Employment growth in women-owned businesses exceeds the national average in nearly every region of the country and nearly every major industry. Employment in women-owned firms rose by more than 100 percent from 1987 to 1992, compared to 38 percent for all firms. Women-owned firms employ a total of 18.5 million workers. The number of women-owned businesses is increasing in every State.

The top growth industries for women-owned businesses are diverse: construction, wholesale trade, transportation, communications, agri-business, and manufacturing.

In addition to their dynamic growth, women have proven to be good business managers and are more likely to remain in business than the average U.S. firm. Nearly three-fourths of women-owned businesses operating in 1991 were still in business 3 years later, compared to two-thirds of all U.S. firms in the same period.

Women-owned businesses are also contributing to our global economy. As of 1992, and these are rather old figures, they are far better now, but these are the most recent we can count on, 13 percent of U.S. women-owned firms were involved in international trade. Globally, women-owned firms typically comprise one-fourth to one-third of the business population.

To what do we attribute this success? Of course, to women's creativity, determination, and willingness to work hard, but we as the Nation's leaders are also a reason for these phenomenal statistics. Government-developed programs, along with a growing base of successful women business leaders to serve as mentors and role models are making a difference. As an example, the Small Business Administration Loans Program made loans to women in fiscal 1995 that accounted for 24 percent of the total loans made and 18 percent of the loan dollars loaned.

In particular, the SBA Microloan Demonstration Program awarded 43 percent of their loans to women. These loans averaged $10,000 and are critical to budding businesses. One program in the SBA's Office of Women Business Ownership provides business skills training, counseling, mentoring, education, and outreach to America's women entrepreneurs. Since its inception in 1988, more than 60,000 women have benefited from this program through 54 nonprofit business centers in 28 States Nationwide.

Using Federal funds as seed money, business centers, after a 3-year period, must become self-sufficient. More than 35 centers are now entirely self-sufficient, and they are examples of true economic development, job-producing organizations that increase earning potential and are developing a large pool of skilled entrepreneurs.

Last year I introduced the Women's Business Training Centers Act of 1996 that would authorize this SBA Program to become permanent and increase its funding. I will be introducing that same legislation this year.

Other contributors to the growth of women-owned businesses include the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act of 1994 which establishes a 5-percent government-wide procurement goal for women-owned businesses, and the Women's Requalification Loan Program which enables the SBA to prequalify a loan guarantee for a woman business owner before she goes to the bank.

□ 1430

Through these programs we have nurtured a dynamic resource for national economic growth. We need to continue that effort. There is more work to be done. Because despite their positive achievement, there are still areas of concern for women in business. These include the need for expanded access to capital, increased participation in Federal and private procurement markets, better access to training and technical support, greater access to affordable health care plans, a broader knowledge base about women-owned businesses. Women-owned businesses have become a key component of our national economic growth. And I know this body is going to be interested in and willing to support growth initiatives that the caucus will bring to our attention in the months ahead.

It is now my great privilege and pleasure to yield to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia [Ms. NORTON], a woman of great leadership, enormous determination, passion, and intelligence.

Ms. NORTON. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding to me, for her kind words, for her very hard work on behalf of women, for her bipartisanship and for her great intelligence and energy in this body. It is a great pleasure to commemorate Women's History Month, as a partner with my co-chair of the Congressional Women's Caucus.

This is the 20th year of the Congressional Women's Caucus, so Women's History Month this year means something very special to the 53 Members, who are women in the House of Representatives. It is a special enough occasion so that tomorrow the women Members will be going to the White House at 5:00 p.m. in order to commemorate its 20th anniversary with the President of the United States.

I want to indicate before I begin, Mr. Speaker, that my co-chair and I are only beginning this series. The second week of this series for Women's History Month will concern women in the military. That is an issue of great importance to the Women's Caucus this year, particularly considering the sexual harassment and sexual assault charges that have arisen at Aberdeen and other places.

The third week of March, the subject will be women's health. That is a very special matter for this caucus, since, I believe it is fair to say, the caucus can take much of the credit for advances that have come from this body on the issue of women's health. The gentlewoman from Maryland [Mrs. MORELLA] and the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. SLAUGHTER] will lead us the third week of March on women's health. But where the gentlewoman from Connecticut and I begin is perhaps the place to begin this year discussing women and economic equity. The emergence of women in the workplace puts a burden on this body and on the American people to absorb this very large group with fairness and equity and equality.

The new woman is a woman who works. She is often a woman with children working part time. She is often a woman who works only after her children are in school. But it will be a rare woman of the coming generation that has not spent some time in the work force.

Last year, April 11, the President declared National Pay Inequality Awareness Day. That was the day on which a number of bills to encourage greater fairness toward women in the workplace were introduced. The reason April 11 was chosen last year is that was the day on which American women's wages for 1996, when added to their entire 1995 earnings, finally equaled what men earned in 1995 alone. This year I will be introducing the Fair Pay Act on that day. That is a bill I have introduced before and will introduce

until there is more substantial progress for women in the workplace.

I also support a bill that has been introduced in the Senate entitled the Paycheck Fairness Act. The Paycheck Fairness Act will be introduced here in the House, and I intend to be a cosponsor. It is a far milder bill than the bill that I have written, the Fair Pay Act, and, therefore, it is a bill that I would hope most Members could embrace.

It will require greater penalties for violators of the Equal Pay Act. It will require the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to maintain payroll records by race, sex, and national origin even as it now maintains these records with respect to other terms and conditions of employment. And it will require the EEOC to train its employees in wage discrimination.

This bill is necessary because the notion of equal pay for equal work, embraced by virtually everyone in this body, is not getting the attention by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission it should get today, and there has been a decline in the number of cases. We think that the Paycheck Fairness Act and what it would encourage will increase vigilance under the Equal Pay Act.

Mr. Speaker, I was the Chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission during the Carter administration. As such, I enforced the Equal Pay Act and the other discrimination laws, including those that relate to pay. Out of that experience, it has become clear to me that we need the Equal Pay Act to be amended to do for women in the 1990's what the Equal Pay Act did for women in the 1960's.

The Equal Pay Act has been one of the most successful bills or one of the most successful pieces of legislation designed to offer equal opportunity ever passed by the Congress. It has in fact helped to narrow the gap between men and women in pay. But no one would stand in the well of the House and say, it has done its work or that it is as effective as this statute, the Equal Pay Act, could in fact be. Progress has been made but a great deal of that progress is sadly illusory.

Women's wages have now gone from 62 cents on a man's dollar, as was the case in 1982, to 71 cents on a man's dollar today. The problem with that progress is that it does not reflect straightaway progress for the average woman in the work force. The new presence of highly educated women in entry level positions accounts for part of that progress. But sadly, part of that progress simply shows up because men's wages have fallen so precipitously.

Why then is there a wage gap today? The wage gap persists largely because most women are still segregated in a few low paying women's occupations, pure and simple. If you got the opportunity to go to law school or business school or medical school, you are not among those women. But the fact is that the average woman makes about $14,000 a year, and that is because she works below her skill level in a women's occupation.

These occupations have stereotyped wages. They do not in fact pay in equivalency what a man would get in a job of equal skill effort, responsibility and working conditions.

The jobs may be dissimilar, but why should the pay be different if the skill, effort, responsibility and working conditions are the same?

For example, would anyone like to indicate to me why an emergency services operator, a female, dominated-occupation, should be paid less than a fire dispatcher, a male, dominated-occupation? There is no defensible reason for the disparity in their wages, but there is an easily ascertainable reason. And that is clearly that the wage scales have built in the fact of gender in the occupation. That is a problem that pervades the work force and pay levels.

My bill, the Fair Pay Act, would simply require that in the same workplace an employer pay men and women who are doing jobs of equivalent skill, effort, responsibility and working conditions the same, even if the jobs are not exactly the same.

This bill poses no threat to the way in which employers do business or the way in which our economy operates. The burden would be on the woman to show that her wage, the difference in her wage, for example, between the fire dispatcher and the emergency services operator, is not because of market conditions and supply and demand, but the burden would be on her to show that the reason for the disparity is discrimination based on sex. I am the first to indicate that not all women will be able to show that they earn less money than men in a comparable occupation because of gender discrimination. All my bill does is to allow those women who do the opportunity to show that they in fact are paid less than men because of their gender.

By now it is a truism that the decline in men's wages and the decline in the standard of living over a couple of decades as well have made work a necessity for the average husband-wife family. The growth in female heads of household, the return now or the entry now of welfare clients into the work force means that we must redouble our effort to make sure that women are paid what they are worth in the workplace.

The Fair Pay Act takes up where the Equal Pay Act leaves off. We have already seen in at least a half dozen States, from the State of Washington to the State of Connecticut, that one can enforce comparable pay discrimination without upsetting the economy of a State, for the State employment systems in those States have done exactly that.

To illustrate the currency of the issue of equal pay and comparable pay, let me finally cite the case of Marianne Stanley. Marianne Stanley is now coaching at Stanford. The sports aficionados will, of course, recognize who Marianne Stanley is. She was known especially for her work as head coach at Old Dominion, where she had a winning percentage of 351 to 146 during her stay there. The school won the AIAW titles in 1979 and 1990 and added an NCAA title in 1985 to her credits.

Until this season, by the way, when Tennessee's Pat Summit won her fourth national title, Stanley and Summit were tied for the most national women's basketball titles. Marianne Stanley has now brought an Equal Pay Act suit.

□ 1445

She brought that suit when she left Old Dominion, and she became head coach at USC, and she was there from 1990 to 1993. She was considered a national treasure, and led USC to the final eight of the NCAA tournament in 1992. Her teams, her Trojan teams, reached the NCAA tournament in each of her final 3 years there. This woman is a winner.

But she was fired following the 1992 season, reportedly because of a dispute with her athletic director over not receiving a salary equal to the salary that men's coaches were paid. She brought a lawsuit. That lawsuit is now on appeal.

Here is a woman who has broken through as coach in a sport where women got scant attention until recently, but as everyone knows, women's basketball is the coming sport, and here we have a champion in her own right who goes on to be a champion coach.

All I can say, without knowing the outcome of the suit that is on appeal, is that she was not paid the same as men's coaches. I do not think that one who won games the way she did should be subject to less pay than men's coaches who, by the way, had not, so far as I understand, won or had the championships as she had.

Equal pay and comparable pay issues abound in the workplace. This is the month to remind Americans of that. Too often we use commemorations like Women's History Month to congratulate ourselves for commemorating the fact of such a month. We must use these occasions to remind ourselves that there is work to do, and to then put that work forward.

My cochair has indicated that she will be using this month to introduce her bills. I will be using this month to introduce bills designed to help women. I hope that women in the caucus and our many colleagues throughout the Congress will use Women's History Month to focus on doing something for women that will have an effect on increasing their opportunities in the work force.

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia, and we have next the gentlewoman from Texas, KAY GRANGER. This is Congresswoman GRANGER's first term as a Member of the House of Representatives.

She was the distinguished and successful mayor of Fort Worth, TX.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues today in discussing the need for this Congress to help America's working women. It is particularly appropriate that the Women's Caucus is launching our weekly special orders by focusing on jobs and the workplace.

Today more than ever working women are no longer the exception, they are the rule. America's working women are redefining the workplace as we know it. Today women own nearly 6.5 million companies. That is one-third of all the businesses in America. By the year 2000 women will own 40 percent of America's businesses.

So it is vitally important that this Congress address the issues and the interests of this very growing segment of our economy. It is becoming increasingly clear that women's issues are economic issues. Jobs, taxes, and economic growth are the concerns of today's women.

Female entrepreneurs are here to stay. And while Washington cannot create wealth, we must at least ask our government to follow the first principle of the Hippocratic oath: Do no harm.

Government taxation and regulation and litigation hold back our working women. Government taxes prevent female employers and employees from keeping more of their hard-earned money, money needed for furthering their education, expanding their businesses and caring for their families. Today's taxes consume more family income than they spend on food, education, or shelter.

We need to make our tax system flatter and fairer so that our women do not have to work almost half the year to foot Government cost. Likewise, Government rules on litigation subject our small businesswomen to needless time and expense. Let us let our working women spend more time in the boardroom and less time in the courtroom through legal reform.

Mr. Speaker, today's working women are the pioneers of tomorrow. As they struggle to create new jobs, growth, and opportunity, let us make our Government work for our working women.

I would like to point out that many women work full time not only at the office but also in the home. In our efforts to enhance and encourage the careers of our women, I am afraid we have sometimes lost sight of the fact that many of our working women are also working mothers. These working mothers need the opportunity to balance their schedules between work and home. After all, meetings with our children are just as important as meetings with our staff.

As a working mother of three, I understand there is no price tag on time with our loved ones. As a former mayor, I learned that comp time works in the public sector. Let us help our working women by giving workers in the private sector the same choice.

Mr. Speaker, the working women of America are essential to ensuring that our Nation continues on a path of economic growth and personal responsibility. I urge my colleagues to support measures which promote and protect the dual role of America's women as leaders at the office and leaders in the home.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the right to have written statements included in this special order from the gentlewoman from Indiana, JULIA CARSON, the gentlewoman from New York, SUE KELLY, and the gentlewoman from Maryland, CONSTANCE MORELLA, who have asked to submit such statements, as well as all Members.

I would also like to recognize the intention of a number of other women to participate in this special order; and while they have been detained, the gentlewoman from Florida, CORRINE BROWN, the gentlewoman from Texas, EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, the gentlewoman from California, ZOE LOFGREN, and the gentlewoman from New York, CAROLYN MALONEY, had intended to participate, thinking that this would be earlier.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Connecticut?

There was no objection.

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I yield once again to my colleague, Congresswoman NORTON.

Ms. NORTON. Well, Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for reading off names of Members who may want to now place matters into the RECORD. I believe she also read JULIA CARSON and KAY GRANGER. If not, I want to be sure their names were included. I am certain that there are perhaps even more Members who will want to add statements to the RECORD.

I thank the gentlewoman for acquiring this time and for sharing it with me.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Women's History Month and would like to call special attention to the progress U.S. women have made in the workforce.

Women have made inroads into spheres formerly dominated by men. For example, the number of female managers jumped from 19 percent in the 1970's to 43 percent by the middle of the 1990's. By 1993, women earned a majority of all college degrees. Black women far exceeded their male counterparts, earning 63 percent of bachelor's degrees.

Unfortunately, these significant gains in the public arenas of school and workplace are matched by some sobering trends. Women and children are more likely to be living in poverty than men. Among the elderly, women's likelihood of being poor is twice that of men of the same age.

Under the new welfare reform law, poor and minority women will disproportionately suffer the impact of this legislation. For example, under the new law, unmarried women who have children while on welfare can be denied additional benefits for those children. With out-of-wedlock birth rates highest among blacks and Hispanics, this restriction will disproportionately affect poor minority children. In addition, the new law will exclude many immigrant mothers and their children from receiving food stamps.

In spite of these grim facts, I believe that women will achieve greater economic equity in the future. The movement toward greater equality in work and family roles can only be achieved over the long run by the succession of generations. Each generation must become more committed to equality than the last.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in celebration of Women's History Month and in tribute to the many women who, through the ages, dared to challenge injustice and discrimination in the workplace. It is the tireless work of those leaders who came before us that allow women to enjoy the benefits of the nineties. However, as we all know, those long distance runners for equality and social justice have not completed their course. During Women's History Month, we pause to reflect what we have accomplished in the past, and the work we must do for the future.

Women have made great strides in education and in the workforce. The majority of undergraduate and master's degrees are awarded to women, and 40 percent of all doctorates are earned by women. More than 7.7 million businesses in the United States are owned and operated by women. These businesses employ 15.5 million people, about 35 percent more than the Fortune 500 companies worldwide. And women are running for elected offices in record numbers. When I first came to the House in 1987, there were 26 women in the House and 2 in the Senate. In 1997, there are 53 women serving in the House, and 9 in the Senate.

While many doors to employment and educational opportunity have opened for women, they still get paid less than men for the same work. Full-time, year-round working women earned only 72 cents for each dollar a man earned in 1994. College-educated women earned $11,000 less per year than college-educated men. College-educated women earned only $2,000 more per year than white men who hold a high school diploma.

Although women are and continue to be the majority of new entrants into the workplace, they continue to be clustered in low-skilled, low-paying jobs. Part-time and temporary workers, the majority of whom are women, are among the most vulnerable of all workers. They receive lower pay, fewer or no benefits, and little if any job security.

Last year's Economic Equity Act, which I introduced along with my colleagues on the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, placed new emphasis on the economic impact of domestic violence. We are only beginning to understand the impact of domestic violence on American businesses. Domestic violence follows many women to work—13,000 attacks each year—threatening their lives and the lives of coworkers and resulting in lost productivity for their companies.

The economic problems of the elderly affect women in disproportionate numbers because women tend to have lower pensions and Social Security benefits than men. Pension policies have not accommodated women in their traditional role as family caregivers. Women move in and out of the workforce more frequently when family needs arise making it

more difficult for them to accrue pension credit. Many must rely on inadequate Social Security earnings during their retirement years.

Last Congress, however, we passed the Homemaker IRA, which is a milestone in the struggle to achieve pension equity for women. Before the Homemaker IRA, women, and men, who worked at home as family caregivers could only contribute $250 to an Individual Retirement Account [IRA]. This legislation ended the discrimination that many women face when they choose to stay at home and take care of their children. Allowing nonworking spouses to make full IRA contributions of $2,000, just as their working spouses do, will help homemakers save for their retirement years.

Mr. Speaker, celebrating Women's History Month highlights the accomplishments of women and the need to open new doors in the future. But this special month would be meaningless if women's needs are forgotten during the rest of the year. We must continue to increase the workplace opportunities for women, which will benefit all Americans as we face the economic challenges of the 21st century.

CHILDREN'S ONLY HEALTH CARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE] is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to once again talk about the need for Congress to pass a children's only health care bill and the Republicans' continued refusal to let this Democratic plan move forward.

Again we are here in the middle of another week, in the third month of the 105th Congress, and the Republicans basically have nothing to do. Ten million American children have no health insurance, yet day after day after day the Republican leadership schedules no real business for the House of Representatives to consider.

Yesterday was a perfect example of just how little the Republicans have to do. Even though Democrats have legislative plans to provide health care to the Nation's 10 million uninsured children ready for consideration, the Republican leadership decided it was more important to debate a symbolic measure about the Ten Commandments.

Let me repeat that, Mr. Speaker, because it is really kind of unbelievable when one thinks about it. Instead of allowing legislative plans to ensure that all American children have health insurance to be considered, the House Republican leadership felt it was more important to consider a symbolic measure on how Congress feels about the display of the Ten Commandments in Government offices and courthouses.

The point is that children's health care, pure and simple, is something that needs to be addressed. The problem of uninsured children continues to grow as Congress watches from the sidelines. Indeed, last week I was joined by colleagues, some from New York, to discuss a report released by the New York City public advocate, Mark Green, that found a disturbing rise in the number of uninsured children in New York City.

As congressional Republicans continue to prevent the Federal Government from taking action to confront this problem, what is happening, essentially, is that various States around the country are trying to make some progress on the issue. An excellent example of such action was just published in an article about the action the State of Massachusetts has taken to implement a children's only health plan. This was in the New York Times on Friday.

I am pleased today to talk a little bit about that, because I think that the Massachusetts children's medical security plan, which is the name that is given to this proposal, is basically a good plan, designed to insure children whose parents earn too much money to qualify for Medicaid coverage but still cannot afford to purchase health care for their kids.

We have been through this before. If the family is eligible for Medicaid, then they have health insurance coverage. But we have a lot of people, working people, people that are on the job, in many cases both parents working at separate jobs, who do not get health insurance through their employer. They are not eligible for Medicaid because their income is not low enough, and so they simply go without health insurance for their children because they cannot afford to pay a premium that they would have to obtain privately or through some other means.

So basically what Massachusetts did was to try to come up with a plan to deal with those individuals who were above the income level for the Medicaid threshold but still do not get health insurance on the job for their children or who cannot afford to pay for health insurance privately.

The article in the New York Times details some individuals. For example, Mark Leary, of Lawrence, MA, was able to take his 3-year-old daughter to doctors to receive treatment for an ear infection even though the supermarket he works for does not offer health insurance.

It also talks about another individual, Paula Lincoln of Rockland, MA, who was able to still bring her children in to the doctor for checkups after she lost her teaching job.

It mentions another self-employed person, Elaine Choquette of Blackstone, MA, who uses the program to pay to bring her two sons to the doctors as well. Miss Choquette was quoted as saying, ''I pay my taxes, and I never thought of it being anything compared to welfare.''

This is not a welfare program. This is a program in the State of Massachusetts for working people. The program in Massachusetts is very much like many of the proposals that Democrats here in Congress have developed. Most of the programs awaiting consideration are like the Massachusetts program. They are designed to help hard working parents who make too much money to qualify for Medicaid yet still cannot afford health insurance for their kids.

The really big difference between the Massachusetts program and the various Federal programs awaiting consideration is that theirs has been enacted. In other words, the Massachusetts Legislature actually considers and passes legislation in response to societal challenges, and the Republican-controlled 105th Congress clearly does not.

The New York Times article on the Massachusetts plan reports that Representative BILL THOMAS, the California Republican who heads the Subcommittee on Health of the Committee on Ways and Means, said in early February that he would soon hold hearings to get a sense of the scope of the problem of kids not having health insurance. But it is now March, and although we have debated the merits of hanging the Ten Commandments on the wall of Government buildings, I have yet to see a hearing on the issue held or a legislative plan examined.

□ 1500

Again, every day the Republicans waste is another day that parents have to endure the reality of being unable to take their children to the doctor. This is no small price to pay.

I have to say that the Massachusetts State Health notes that while uninsured children had always had access to emergency treatment, the State's health plan now allows parents to bring their children in for routine medical visits, check on immunizations, and tests for lead poisoning.

One of the points that we have been trying to make during this debate on kids' health insurance is that it may very well be that in some cases, perhaps even in most cases when an uninsured child gets really sick, that they end up going to the emergency room and they get some type of care. But that is not the way the health system should operate. They need preventative care. They need vaccinations. They need to go to the doctor for routine checkups. We do not want a situation where the only time children get any kind of medical treatment is if they really get ill and they have to go to the emergency room.

It is my hope that the Republicans will recognize that while we seek to enable children to receive treatment, the matter itself is not routine. This is an urgent matter. Any kind of obstructionism on the issue of kids' health insurance I believe is really callous, and the Democrats, of course, continue to articulate and move forward with various plans that both the President and other of my Democratic colleagues have put forward.

I just wanted to talk a little about some of the things that Massachusetts

does to give an idea of how this would actually work.

Again in Massachusetts, very similar to what happened here at the Federal level, there was an effort a few years ago to try to come up with a universal health care system where the State would basically provide health care or health insurance, I should say, for everyone. But in the same way that we were not able to accomplish that on a Federal level, the effort instead began to focus sort of in a piecemeal fashion on what elements of the uninsured could be insured effectively and at a reasonably affordable price.

One of the points that we keep making, those of us who would like to see kids' health insurance enacted, is that it is very affordable. It does not cost a lot of money to provide health insurance for kids. And we are talking about 10 million children right now that do not have health insurance. If you look at it in the spectrum of things, it is relatively cheap to provide insurance for them.

Basically, Massachusetts recognized this. They figured that if they could not move for health insurance for everyone, at least they could move for health insurance for children. Just to give some idea of how they did it, they expanded both their Medicaid program and the Children's Medical Security Plan, which was a State plan they had in effect beginning in 1993. Medicaid paid for a significant part with Federal dollars but now covers everyone up to 133 percent of the poverty level or all families of four with incomes up to $20,748 a year.

So what they did is they expanded Medicaid so that it covered a little higher income level, 133 percent of the poverty level, for families of four with incomes up to $20,748 a year. But then they have this supplemental plan, the Children's Medical Security Plan, which provides a somewhat less generous package, if you will, than Medicaid, more limited mental health and prescription drugs; but for families with incomes of less than $31,200 a year, 200 percent of poverty, the coverage is free, and they have a copayment of $1 per doctor's visit.

So now we are getting up to people, families at the 200 percent of poverty level. For families with incomes of $31,200 to $62,400, the charge is $10.50 per child per month, and the copayment is $3. And above that level, the charges are $52.50 a month and $5 a visit.

So essentially what they are doing here is, on a sliding scale, making it possible for people at these higher income levels, they are not terribly high income levels, but at higher income levels would still be able to opt into this program. It is a way to guarantee that every child who does not have health insurance now would be able to take advantage of this program.

Ultimately, no child would be ineligible for this type of program unless the parents, on their own, voluntarily decided that they did not want to participate in it. Everyone would be eligible on a sliding scale up to any income level.

The program is administered for the State by the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company at a charge of $10.50 a month for each child, and it allows parents to take their children to any doctor in the State. So again you have complete choice in terms of where you go to the doctor or the hospital.

Again the reason why this is so successful is essentially because of what it means for preventative care. In the article in the New York Times there is a Dr. Robert Sorrenti, a pediatrician who is a vice president of John Hancock, and he said that the sort of routine treatment, regular doctor visits, vaccinations, the preventative type care, was often avoided by parents who were short of money, but 90 percent of the registered children in this program are now seeing a doctor on a regular basis for preventative purposes.

In Massachusetts, approximately 150,000 uninsured children, about 60,000, will be covered through the expanded Medicaid program that Massachusetts now offers, and they expect that the expanded Children's Medical Security Plan program would reach 40,000 to 60,000 more children. It has enrolled about 7,000 more children since the expansion took effect in November.

So if you are taking that full range of 150,000 uninsured children, between the 60,000 covered by Medicaid and possibly another 60,000 that would be covered under this supplemental insurance program, you can see how you are getting very close, really, to almost 100 percent of the uninsured children that would be covered by the plan.

Of course, the real key is what we are going to do on the Federal level. Obviously, it is very good for States like New York and Massachusetts and others to experiment and to come up with different ways of trying to provide health insurance for children, but the problem will not be addressed on a universal basis on the Federal level unless this Congress takes up the issue.

I myself and many of my colleagues are determined that we will continue to raise the issue, we will continue to point out the problem of the uninsured and how many children there are out there until the Republican leadership and our colleagues on the other side decide to finally bring this up, give it a hearing, bring the legislation to the floor, and move toward making sure that every child in this Nation has the opportunity to have health insurance. In the long run if we do not do this, the negative impact not only on our children but on our Nation as a whole, I think, could be catastrophic because the numbers of the uninsured continue to increase on a regular basis.

THE FEDERAL BUDGET AND THE BUDGET PROCESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCINNIS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. KINGSTON] is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, what I wanted to talk about a little bit is the budget and the budget process, the situation that we are in, because recently the Senate Democrats voted down the balanced budget amendment. All the balanced budget amendment really said is that the Congress of the United States and the President would each year pass a budget that was balanced. No mystery to it, Mr. Speaker. All it meant was whatever we bring in, that is what we spend. I would love to see us spend less than what we bring in. I would certainly settle right now to say just, ''You don't spend more than you bring in.'' But I guess the President and the Senate thought that was too controversial of a concept for us to pass a balanced budget so they voted it down and great for them.

What is the situation that we are in right now? Well, for the children of America, I have got four kids and I know the Speaker has a large family, also. We are concerned about our children and their future. What will this leave for the kids? Today our national debt is $5.1 trillion. We have not had a balanced budget since 1969. If we look at that in terms of what it will mean to kids, kids who are graduating from school and going to work today will have a higher tax burden than any other graduating class in the history of the United States of America. They will have higher interest rates as a result of a budget that is not balanced, and they will have less job opportunities.

Now, if we would balance the budget and pass a balanced budget, they are two different things. Passing the balanced budget amendment would ensure to the children in the future that we would not get in this huge deficit situation year after year again, and it would also say that we would have no more deficits and we would start paying down the national debt.

Currently, Mr. Speaker, the interest on the national debt, I think, is at $231 billion each year. That is around $20 billion a month, give or take, because the interest rates change. I do not know what the annual budget is for the State of Colorado but I know that Colorado is a little bit smaller than the State of Georgia. The State of Georgia has a budget of about $11 billion a year. So for Georgia, we have a budget of $11 billion a year and we are paying $20 billion each month in interest on the national debt.

We have obviously got to get this under control. Our children, Mr. Speaker, are paying higher interest rates and higher taxes as a result of this massive debt.

I have with me the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. HAYWORTH] who has been a leader on the Committee on Ways and Means trying to put some sanity in our tax policies and we want to talk about the IRS and taxes in a minute,

but right now let me yield to the gentleman on the balanced budget and the need for it.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Georgia for yielding.

I have listened with great interest to so many points of view, but one thing, Mr. Speaker, that comes through loudly and clearly from the American people is the notion that we must move to put our fiscal house in order. Regrettably administrations of both parties, and indeed this institution in previous years have failed to live up to the responsibility that every American family must follow, and, that is, to live within our means. It is an exercise every family practices sitting around the kitchen table. When families are outspending their rate of income, they have to make changes.

What we talk about here is not shrouded by mysteries of micro or macro economics. There are no hidden agendas or anything that should stunt or scare us as a people. No, simply what we must do is live within our means. As my colleague from Georgia pointed out, many of the respective State constitutions in this union of 50 sovereign States mandate that those States operate within the parameters of a balanced budget. Indeed, it is unconstitutional according to those State constitutions for those States to do otherwise.

What we are saying is that that measure of fiscal sanity, simply living within our means, be done here at the Federal level. It has been 28 years since Congress, working with the President, has balanced the budget.

Mr. KINGSTON. Let us talk about 1969 for a minute. In 1969, Jimi Hendrix was probably coming out with ''Are You Experienced?'' That was his album. The Beatles, I think, were coming out with the White Album. They had just probably found Paul. There was the ''Is Paul Dead/I Am the Walrus'' debate with the Beatles. The Beatles had not broken up yet. Elvis was making his comeback. Elvis was still alive and doing fine in Graceland and all over America. Neil Armstrong was about to walk on the Moon in July 1969. Richard Nixon was in the White House and serving his first term in the White House. Nineteen sixty-nine. That is when we are talking about we had the last balanced budget.

This is absurd. This is the United States of America. This is not the value system that you and I were raised with that says Congress could go on spending money, more than it brings in year after year and do what I call the kids' tax.

Now, the way the kids' tax works is a real popular tax in Washington. That is when we in Congress spend more money than we are bringing in on new programs to get us reelected and we send the bill to the kids. It is the equivalent of going out to eat and having a big time on the town and on the way out the door the man says, ''Your bill comes to $78.''

You say, ''Don't worry about it. Send it to my 4-year-old 20 years from now. He'll pick up the tab.'' It is the kids' tax and that is what we have gotten comfortable with since 1969 passing on the debt to the children of America.

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Mr. HAYWORTH. In addition, as my colleague from Georgia points out, Mr. Speaker, in the process what we have done is something that is remarkably reckless and fundamentally unhelpful and unhealthful to generations yet to come, to generations who have yet to exercise their franchise as voters, to young people who have no voice at the ballot box, and it is this:

What I hold here in my hand, Mr. Speaker, is the voting card given to me as a Member of Congress, and, Mr. Speaker, some folks around this institution, in an effort I suppose to laugh to keep from crying, have taken to calling this card the world's most expensive credit card, and there is a reason for that nickname for this card. It is because when I received this copy, it came with a debt of $5 trillion, and to put that on our children is one of the greatest tragedies and one of the greatest derelictions of duty that this, the world's greatest deliberative body, could fail to act on.

And of course we are indebted to our President, to his own budgeteers who a couple of years ago in laying out the administration's budget offered a page in their preamble to those numbers called generational accounting, where the President asked his budgeteers to try to calculate for the next generation of taxpayers, Mr. Speaker, for kids like John Michael Hayworth who is now 3 years old, 25 years from now when he enters the working world, by that time at age 28 moving toward what we hope is a steadily increasing paycheck, heading toward his prime as a working adult. The President's own budgeteers, forecasting what those average taxpayers would have to surrender a quarter of a century hence, found these disturbing numbers. The President's own budgeteers tell us that if we do nothing to change the rate of spending in Washington, DC, if we fail to balance it—

Mr. KINGSTON. If the gentleman would yield.

Mr. HAYWORTH. If we fail to balance the budget, that generation of taxpayers would have to surrender in excess of 80 percent of their incomes.

I would gladly yield.

Mr. KINGSTON. I want to make sure that you understand. You are talking about your child and my child, and any parent out here in America hearing this should pay attention. Children will be having to pay an 80 to 83-percent tax rate just to sustain the current level of goods and services.

Now here is a summary of the Clinton budget. I hope that we can get this on camera for the folks back home, but one thing that is interesting is after the administration torpedoed the balanced budget amendment in the Senate, then they said we do not need the amendment to balance the budget. They introduced a bill that they call the balanced budget, and in a year, if the gentleman can read this, I am not sure that he can, but in the year 2002 we would have a deficit of $69 billion. So there is nothing balanced about the Clinton budget.

Mr. HAYWORTH. And the other disturbing fact about this, and first of all let us thank the President for putting a budget on the table as a starting point, but there is a long way to go, the other disturbing fact about this, Mr. Speaker, is that 98 percent of the cost savings, 98 percent of the hard work would have to come in the final 2 years of that cycle.

Now, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, I can put this into everyday language in terms of going on a diet. I think it is safe to say that people can take a look at me and, as the attorneys would say, there is a preponderance of physical evidence to indicate that I need to change my eating habits, I have to slim down; I would be the first to admit that. But you do not slim down by losing maybe a gram a week, or saying you are going to lose 50 pounds and saying you are going to lose a gram a week for 4 years time, and then in the final 2 weeks of the diet lose 48 pounds or 49 pounds to get to that level of loss.

It does not work that way, and I insist even as we try to tighten our belts, so to speak, and act in a fiscally responsible way to help future generations to help this Nation, we have to get on a process that is very simple: Where we do not spend any more this year than we did the preceding year, where we move with fiscal sanity and responsibility to address these problems.

Mr. KINGSTON. If the gentleman from Arizona will yield again, getting back to this chart a minute, as you say, here is where it is: 98 percent of the deficit reduction allegedly comes in the last 2 years. Well, that would be well beyond the current administration's service in the White House.

So there is absolute hypocrisy in such a budget to call it a balanced budget.

The other thing is that it actually increases the budget next year by an additional $24 billion in terms of deficit spending—another $24 billion in debt. So you have raised some good points.

We have been joined by the gentleman from California [Mr. CUNNINGHAM] who has been a very active Member of the Education Committee, moved over to the Committee on Appropriations this year so he can get a little better angle at tightening the belt some, and, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, we would certainly like to yield to you and are delighted to have you with us.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. I thank the gentleman and my colleague from Arizona as well.

I saw the special orders, and I think it is important to bring up just a couple of other points.

I listened to a Republican Governor the other day, and what does this mean to the future, not only to our senior citizens, but to our children as well, as far as a balanced budget? He said that his father took home 82 percent of his paycheck, his brother and his sister only take home 45 percent of their paycheck, and that under the current spending of Congress, an increase in taxes, he can expect his children to take between 16 and 18 percent of their paycheck home.

That is a pretty sad commentary, that if we do not turn this around, what is the impact it is going to have on every American in this country to the negative?

When we talk about a billion dollars a day going just to pay for the interest on the national debt, and not one cent of that goes to pay for Medicare, not one cent goes to education, not one cent of it goes for law enforcement or the rest; what could we not do with $365 billion in a year for the American people in the same areas that many of us—that I believe the liberals want better education, I believe they want better national security. But they want to do it from a government level which has spent money.

I would also like to cover the history, when you talk about 28 years, some of the initiatives, Mr. Speaker, that they have gone through to try and balance the budget. Remember there was a commission put together to balance the budget prior to the Grace Commission that said we are going to balance the budget; they were not able to do it. Then Congress came forth, and this is when the Democrats were in the majority. They said, ''We are going to give you Gramm-Rudman,'' and the deal was that for every tax dollar you take in, we are going to cut spending by three, and we are going to balance the budget. Of course it did not work.

Then when George Bush famously moved his lips and increased taxes, the Democrats were still in power, and the deal that they proposed to the President, President Bush, was again, ''For every tax dollar that we increase, we are going to cut spending by three to balance the budget.''

Mr. Speaker, there were only 13 Republicans that voted for that bill to increase taxes that year before I got here, and if you look when George Bush, what they also told him, they were going to put, of the 13 appropriations committees, they were going to put fire walls between each one of those committees so you could not take from one committee and take to another, and to even secure it more, they were going to put a cap on that so there is no way that you could increase spending.

Well, what we found, and I was here in this body at the time, is that the way that the majority of the Democratic majority got around it is they put everything on emergency spending, which was exempt. They also had continuing resolutions which meant they carried over the spending to the next year and then the next year and the next year so that they could get around the caps and that spending keeps increasing.

It is very, very important to note that the President says he wanted a balanced budget when he ran for Congress within 5 years, but at the same time the President in the 104th Congress, to tell you the smoke and mirrors, the President gave us three balanced budgets that increased the deficit by over $150 billion, and when it finally— the pressure came on the President to give us a balanced budget scored by CBO, that 70 percent of the cuts came in the last year. This budget that the President is recommending that we look at makes 98 percent of all the cuts in the sixth and seventh year when he would not even be here.

So when we look at about an honest balanced budget with numbers, there is no realistic chance of that particular budget ever balancing, and I would like to make one last point on it.

The President said that he is going to increase modernization of our national security assets that we keep pushing out into the outyears, and guess what? That takes place in the years 6 and 7 of his balanced budget.

Now do you think that Members on the other side of the aisle are going to decrease with 98 percent of the cuts in social spending and increase defense spending at that time? It is not a legitimate budget, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. KINGSTON. Well, let me yield to the gentleman from Arizona and—but can I jump in for 1 second? I have got some things just for the fun of it here.

On a trillion dollars, just our budget right now, is $1.6 trillion, thereabouts. Now the Office of Management and Budget director had calculated a couple of years ago. Since the gentleman here is an old top gun, I want a young top gun, but it has been awhile.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Long in the tooth.

Mr. KINGSTON. That if Mr. CUNNINGHAM's jet was flying overhead at the speed of sound and spewing out a roll of dollar bills behind it, the plane would have to fly for more than 15 years before it wheeled out $1.6 trillion, and I do not think you have that much fuel in any plane.

And here is another way to look at it, and this is from the Wall Street Journal 2 years ago. Newspaper tabloids say that O.J. Simpson paid about $55,000 a day in legal bills, $55,000, and actually this is for the criminal trial and not for the civil trial. The trial would last 26 million days or about 100,000 years before O.J. had spent $1.6 trillion.

Let me yield to the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. HAYWORTH. I thank my colleague from Georgia for illuminating the sheer volume of $1 trillion—$1.6 trillion because the danger, Mr. Speaker, is that we become numb, or we are numbed, to these totals and these figures as they are bandied about, but we are talking real money, and we are talking real people, and we are talking about a real debt that will hang over the heads of our children, a debt that as we have seen with yearly deficits actually adds to our spending a debt tax, if you will, in terms of higher interest rates.

I often have occasion to visit high schools across the width and breadth of the Sixth District of Arizona, and I was at the new Fountain Hills High School last Friday morning for a townhall meeting listening to the perspective of these young people, some of whom have already gained their franchise to vote having celebrated their 18th birthdays, others looking forward eagerly to the opportunity to engage in the national debate and have a voice at the ballot box, and we talked about what this deficit tax, if you will, actually means with the higher interest rates when they want to get a student loan, when they want to have a car loan. The fact is that they are paying more and more money on that loan because of higher interest rates, and that is money that is likewise taken out of their pocket in addition to the taxes they encounter and the taxes their parents encounter and the taxes that now on average working families in America actually account for more of the family budget than food, shelter, and clothing combined.

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Mr. KINGSTON. That is absolutely ridiculous. As a result, the American middle class families now pay an average of 24 percent just in Federal income taxes, compared to their counterparts 20 years ago, who paid about 16 percent, and 30 years ago they paid about 5 percent. The average tax burden right now is 38 percent on average middle class families.

Mr. Speaker, I want to talk to my colleagues about the IRS and about tax simplification and so forth, but before I do that, let me give my colleagues two more perspectives on $1 trillion. Shaq O'Neill makes about $30 million a year, $30 million a season, if you will. He would have to play 33,000 seasons to make $1 trillion. The man makes $30 million a year. He would have to play 33,000 seasons to make $1 trillion. That is ridiculous.

Another definition. Our national budget each year is about $1.6 trillion. If you stuck $1 bills inside 50-foot boxcars on a train, that is about $65 million per boxcar. How long would the train be? Would you care to guess?

Mr. HAYWORTH. I would not conjecture.

Mr. KINGSTON. It would be 240 miles long. Think about that.

Let me yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Let me give my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, some food for thought on how we can balance the budget and not cut some of the valuable programs that we are looking for.

Let us take, for example, education. I was the subcommittee chairman, basically K through 12 during the 104th Congress. In some areas, in some school districts, we get as little as 23 cents on a dollar out of Federal education programs.

The gentleman from Michigan [Mr. HOEKSTRA] the other night in a special order was pointing out that there are 760 Federal education programs, all with bureaucracies, all taking money away from getting the dollars down to the classroom. The average is around 50 cents on a dollar for most areas, but in some areas it is as little as 23 cents on a dollar. That is cutting education because the dollars are not going the way the American taxpayers sent it to Washington to improve education, but it is going to support a bureaucracy and large numbers of programs.

The President in his budget wants a new $3 billion literacy program. There are 30 current literacy programs in those 760 programs, and only 14 are funded. Title I, for example, is our war against illiteracy. But yet the President wants to come up with a new $3 billion program with new bureaucracies in the Department of Education, and why do we not eliminate the programs that are not working of the 30, focus on the ones that are, and drive the money down to the local areas? That is one way.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, but what is interesting is when I talk to employers in my area and I say, what do we need to do in our education system to prepare our kids to go out and compete in the world market against Japanese, British, German children and so forth, they say, you need to have reading and math backgrounds, very strong. Federal education, of all of those 700 education programs, we have 14 reading programs, we have 39 art education programs, we have 11 mathematics programs and 27 environmental programs.

Now, I think environmental and art education are very important, but if you want a job you better go in with math and reading. If we want our children to be able to compete on a global market, we have to do that. That is what you are saying, it would not cost a dime just to redirect funds, but it would produce people who are going to be better assets to the job market.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, at the same time, taxpayers do not have to pay for the extra bureaucracy that is not actually going down to education, so it lessens the burden of taxes and at the same time reduces the size of government that we do away with wasted bureaucracies. It is common sense.

Let me give you another example. How can we balance the budget and actually enhance money to education? The President's direct lending program for student loans was capped at 10 percent during the 104th Congress. When the Government shut down, the President, one of his goals was to take that to 100 percent. We balked and went to 40 percent. At 10 percent it cost $1 billion, not $1 million, but $1 billion more in administrative fees. This is a GAO figure. Fact, not Republicanism. It takes $4 billion more to collect those dollars, and that was only capped at 10 percent.

So when it went to 40 percent, when the Government shut down at the request of the President, we limited the administrative fees which basically go to pay for a higher bureaucracy. And what we did in the subcommittee is we drove an increased Pell grants for poor children to the highest level ever. We thought that was more important to get the money down to the kids instead of paying for a bureaucracy.

We increased the level for special education children to the highest level ever, more important than paying a bureaucracy. We increased student loans, Mr. Speaker, by 50 percent, not 15 but 50 percent, and they said we killed education or cut it by $10 billion. We drove the money down to the zip code, eliminated a bureaucracy, and what Mr. HOEKSTRA and Mr. MCKEON from California are trying to do is look at the programs and let us focus on the ones that work.

The last point, if the gentleman would be kind enough to yield, AmeriCorps, $27,000 per volunteer. The President talks about a volunteer force. In Baltimore it costs $50,000 for a volunteer. And our tax dollars are going to pay for that.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, would you explain what AmeriCorps is, because I think there may be some folks who want to know what AmeriCorps is.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. AmeriCorps is one of the President's pet programs that allows people to go out and help in other areas; for example, painting a fence or cleaning a yard for a senior citizen or doing different kinds of work, and that is supposed to be voluntary, but they also receive an average of $27,000 for that activity, which we think is wrong. Part of that is used as direct pay, part of it is used for child care, part of it is used for administration costs. But we can spend our dollars better at that.

The other area in which we waste money, if we are getting so little return out of Federal Government dollars that taxpayers pay, and a State bureaucracy is just as bad as a Federal bureaucracy if it takes the money from getting down to the teachers and the students and the parents where they can direct it, but if we cannot pass school bond issues at the local level because people are only getting 45 percent of their paycheck because of high taxes and big government, how are we going to build up the infrastructure?

Well, one of the ways in which we are proposing is to take private enterprise, let the IBM's, let the Baby Bells, let the AT&T's, Alcoa put in the fiberoptics, let Apple put in the computer system so that they are not archaic within a year, and give them a tax break for investing in our taxes.

We have less, Mr. Speaker, than 12 percent of our classrooms in this Nation that have even a single phone jack. Business tells us that a large portion of the children coming out of high school do not even qualify for an entry level position because they cannot read. The President was right. We need 4-year-olds to read and 8-year-olds to do math, but if they cannot read and write, they cannot speak the English language or they do not have the technical skills, that delta that my colleagues talk about between the rich and the poor all the time is going to grow exponentially. So it is one of the ways that we can actually enhance and save our tax dollars.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I just would like to thank my colleague from California, because not only has he outlined the parameters of the problem, but he has offered a solution.

Mr. Speaker, just simply to bring this home to Arizona, the Sixth Congressional District and indeed throughout the State of Arizona, there are real problems with inequities in school funding. There are real challenges for rural school districts who, through the evisceration of resource-based industries, have seen their tax bases decline exponentially.

Indeed, I think of Superior High School in the town of Superior, AZ, in the Sixth Congressional District, where the high school is anything but superior in terms of the building. Now, the students that go there are truly superior, fine young people working hard, but they are in a situation where their school has fallen into disrepair and the tax base has been eradicated.

So we have to look for other ways to end these funding inequities, and that is why I am so pleased that my colleague from California wants to step forward with a plan that would call on private enterprise to step forward, and now with a seat on Ways and Means I look forward to working with the gentleman from California [Mr. CUNNINGHAM] and with the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARCHER], the chairman of that committee, to find a way to deal with the Tax Code to help business help schools.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, it is interesting, I was talking to a private school, they had a private school in my district last week and he was telling me about a private school not in my district, but elsewhere in the country, where they were getting away from this rat race that a lot of our school systems are in in terms of buying new computers, because every year you buy new computers and because of the bureaucracy it takes a long time. So if you and I go out and buy a computer tomorrow, it is going to be obsolete. But in the school system it is even more because of all of the redtape that they have to go through.

So what they say is the school system does not buy computers any more. Each child has a laptop and in their lockers are batteries where they charge

their laptops for 4 hours and then they can use them during the course of the day. I strongly believe that that is the technology that we are moving toward rather than having every gizmo that comes out of IBM, and so forth.

But the beauty of it is that these laptops are sponsored by businesses who want to get the kids to be computer friendly, so they underwrite it, and it does not cost the school system, or it costs them a lot less. That is the technology. We are so often playing by yesterday's rules when it comes to government. Technology is lightyears in front of us.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would yield, there is one central point that should be our guide. Every dime appropriated at the Federal level should go to help teachers teach and help children learn. That is our challenge, that is our mission, and that is one of the things I will work on in this 105th Congress.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, before I yield to the gentleman from California, let me say that we have to have child-centered education. Right now the Washington, DC school district spends, I think it is about $10,000 per child because I know that Utah is the lowest in the country at about $3,400 and Washington, DC is the highest in the country. We spend $10,000 per child in Washington DC, and yet this Congress is going to have to spend an emergency appropriation to fund new boilers in Washington DC because they are about to blow up. That is how wasteful, I would say, and overburdensome bureaucracy can be. The money should be going to the teacher and the classroom.

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, if you look at the American people, there are bright sun spots in education. You go to a lot of the schools, we have fantastic teachers and we have some fantastic programs. But if you go, for example, outside Chicago, where I used to coach and teach, about 5 miles down the road there is about 7 miles of Federal housing projects. Those kids do not learn in school. They carry guns, not books. Most of the girls become pregnant one or two times. The grandmothers raise them, and if you are a male child the only hope you have is to be in a gang, or a female child, even today are becoming more and more involved. The chance for them of achieving the American dream is less; the welfare reform helped that.

But those are some of the other ways in education that I think that we can enhance it, and there are so many ways, Mr. Speaker. We are only covering just a little bit here.

Remember a gentleman, Mr. Speaker, named Jaime Escalante? He had a vision that he could teach minority children in the inner cities physics. How much support did he have with the kids? They thought he was nuts. The administrators and the teachers thought you cannot do that in an inner-city school. We have tried it. You are going to fail. What about the parents? He had zero support. Well, Jaime Escalante set out to teach these children physics. It was up to I think 90 percent of them got A's and went on to college in physics when he proved it. Then you got the support of the children, you got the support of the parents, you got the support of the administrators and the community to invest in education.

People today look at all of these programs at the low return that they are getting on the education dollar for their children, and they are not as apt to cough up money.

The second aspect of that is that people are tax tired. They are taking home less. My children are only going to take home 16 to 18 percent of their paycheck. How much are they going to be willing to invest into education?

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All the rest of the money is going to be paying for interest on the debt. So the ballpark line is let us have a system that people can believe in and want to get out and support. Let us give them the resources at home, not the Government, that can support that vision. We can enhance education instead of letting the Federal Government, like the liberals and many of the socialists want to do, to have the Government control everything at great waste.

The direct lending program I mentioned a minute ago, of the President, $50 million in 1 year wasted in a study, in a program on how they could get out the money better—$50 million in 1 year. Yet they want all of that to go out of the Department of Education. What a waste that would be.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, sometimes I do not know why we as government bureaucracies just do not think. There was a case of a school district that spent, listen to this, over $1,000 to obtain a government grant that had a $13 value. They used it to park their bus one day. They spent $1,000 to get a $13 grant. Does that make sense?

There was another case, and the gentleman knows this, his committee ferreted it out, of about $81,000 in safe and drug-free school money that was spent buying dentures for toothbrushing lessons, which is important. Of course, I think it is a parent job, not an educator job. But that money should have gone into drug education.

There was another one, and the gentleman from California [Mr. CUNNINGHAM] remembers his committee found out, out of a school system, and I think I am 90 percent sure of the State, but because of the 10 percent uncertainty I will not say it, but they spent the safe-and-drug-free school money, $171,000 on a 3-day retreat. That is absurd. That is a waste of money. None of that money got to the teacher and to the child in the classroom.

Mr. HAYWORTH. I think the point is well made. Again the message we want to share, Mr. Speaker, with those who join us via television is the notion that we can do a better job, use our resources in a more intelligent fashion when we focus on having children learn in a safe environment, when we assure equality of opportunity for every schoolchild from the inner city to the most rural regions of this country, to places in between, where they have an opportunity to have a quality educational experience, and where we focus resources on helping teachers teach, helping children learn, and empowering parents to make sure their children have an education worthy of their goals and worthy of this Nation's future.

That is the challenge before us. That is why I look forward to working with the gentleman from California. That is why I look forward to working with the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. GRAHAM] who is preparing legislation that would say that we should direct 90 percent of the money raised at the Federal level for education, we should work to ensure that 90 percent of that money gets back into the classrooms locally to help teachers teach and help students learn, and quit empire-building with the Washington bureaucracies; because this redistribution of wealth, as my colleague the gentleman from California has pointed out, and I have seen statistics that are even more dire, where according to some studies only 8 cents of every dollar ends up in some classroom settings.

The answer is more than dollars and cents, C-E-N-T-S; it is common sense, S-E-N-S-E, that we must work to preserve, to empower students, teachers, and parents in this educational endeavor.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California, who wants to make a few more remarks, and then I want to pick the brain of the gentleman from the Committee on Ways and Means and talk about the IRS. If the gentleman from California, the other gentleman, wants to join us, he is welcome to.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, what would we ask our colleagues on the other side of the aisle to agree with us on when we look at the President's budget and the Republican budget to come together?

I think there are some key issues. First of all, we would want the numbers to balance at the agreed amount of time, which is 7 years.

Second, we do not want to increase taxes to do that. The American public and the economy is stagnant at about 3 and 4 percent. Remember that the President in his 1993 budget increased taxes $270 billion. He promised a middle-class tax cut and increased middle-class taxes. He increased the gas tax. He increased the tax on Social Security earners, and increased or at least had even a retroactive tax. The President in this budget increases taxes, Mr. Speaker. We disagree with that.

We would also like Members on the other side of the aisle to agree with us that it is a realistic budget. When the President in the 104th Congress gave us three separate balanced budgets that did not increase the balanced budget in time, but yet when his fourth one scored by CBO came up, 70 percent of the cuts took place in year 7. It is not realistic.

This budget that the President has given us, 98 percent of the cuts take place in years 6 and 7, when he would not even be here. That is not realistic. We are asking for a realistic budget without tax increases on the American public, legitimate savings to save the programs. I think if we take a look also, that there should not be any gimmicks, that the numbers are real.

For example, on Medicare part A to part B, people usually do not understand when we go through it, but let me give an example. If you take Medicare Part A, mostly the in-home care, and transfer those dollars to the general fund, that is like taking your MasterCard or Visa card and paying—saying, hey, I want to borrow the money to pay for it later. That is just increasing the deficit for our children later down the road. What we want to do is fund it so when you write a check, the money is already there. There is no gimmick to that.

But by using part A to the general fund, it is smoke and mirrors to say we are going to use those savings to balance the budget when you are actually increasing spending.

So I think there are several of those kinds of areas that when we balance the budget we will be asking the President and our colleagues on the other side of the aisle to at least have the common sense to agree on a real balanced budget, using real numbers with real savings and no gimmicks and no tax increases.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman. He is welcome to stay and talk about this next issue. I will introduce it this way.

First of all, let me say, we want to talk about the IRS. The criticism is not to the employees, the criticism is to the system. Right now, that system has a Tax Code that is two volumes total and 1,378 pages. It is an IRS that has 480 tax forms, and 280 forms that tell you how to fill out the 480.

In 1994, the Tax Foundation estimates that businesses spent, listen to these numbers, 3.6 billion hours and individuals spent $1.8 billion preparing their tax returns. It is too complicated. One final statistic and then I will yield to the gentleman, because it is all up to the members of the Committee on Ways and Means to get this straight.

According to a study of Daniel Pilla of the Cato Institute, the IRS gives out wrong answers to more than 8 million taxpayers a year. It is too complicated. What can we do to simplify the tax system?

I yield to the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. HAYWORTH].

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, the gentleman from Georgia, because he asks a question that far exceeds the $64,000 question. Indeed, it is a question that deals with trillions of dollars and is fraught with many challenges to our Nation.

I think it is important, in the spirit of simplifying, to first define our goal. I believe, quite candidly, Mr. Speaker, that the American people will accept nothing less than our pledge to end the IRS as we know it.

One way that I think my colleague, the gentleman from Georgia, would certainly champion is to put the service back into the final word in the name Internal Revenue Service; to the extent possible, to end the adversarial relationships that have grown up between the IRS and the citizenry.

Let us not forget, Mr. Speaker, that we have the highest voluntary compliance rate of any Nation in the world when it comes to accruing revenue. But let us also understand this: that since this Nation ratified the 16th amendment, and the first direct tax on income came about in 1913, the cost of government, the cost of the Federal Government, even taking into account inflation, has increased in excess of 113,000 percent. So there are many questions we have to deal with.

I thank my colleague on the Committee on Ways and Means, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] for holding hearings about tax simplification, for working to get to the bottom of many of these issues that confront us: for example, the notion that the new computer system at the Internal Revenue Service, with an expenditure in excess of $4 billion, is not working; and still, Mr. Speaker, the confounding notion that within our Tax Code we penalize people for succeeding, we penalize people for getting married, and finally, we penalize people for dying.

For although some refer to it as an estate tax, the fact is that we have, in essence, a death tax, where people who work hard, like the seniors who live in the Sixth District of Arizona in and around the Sun Lakes Retirement Community in my district, have worked hard, have achieved, would like to pass on, quite frankly, their prosperity to their children, pass on their businesses, and such is the excessive tax rate that these people are hurt.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, these are senior citizens who lived through the Depression. They are frugal. The gentleman is talking about my dad. He was raised in Brooklyn, NY. He fought and he saved, and because of the results of foregoing some pleasures and sacrificing a lot, he has savings now. Because of our tax system, he cannot pass that on. He is not a wealthy man, but he is a middle-class guy who saved. Because of that, he is now being penalized.

That is the same person the gentleman is talking about: the seniors in Arizona, they are in Georgia, they are all over the United States of America.

Mr. HAYWORTH. That is what we want to work to change. We need to change drastically and, yes, even work to repeal this death tax. We need to work to change the system of taxation where people are penalized for succeeding in our economy. We need to hold hearings, as we will, to take a look at alternative notions to the income tax.

Our majority leader, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARMEY] champions the flat tax. Our chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARCHER] champions the notion of a consumption tax, most often reflected in a national retail sales tax.

What is very important for us, both in the Committee on Ways and Means and as a Congress, and indeed as a country, is to examine very carefully all the implications, the benefits, the challenges of these different alternatives and then move forward, once we achieve a consensus, to have that type of tax reform that will indeed end the IRS as we know it.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, let me give the gentleman a statistic that was sent to me by my friend, a Dr. Whitaker of Warner Robins, GA. In 1913 when the original income tax went into effect, if you had an income of $20,000, your tax rate was 1 percent. If you average out a $20,000 income in 1913 to today's dollars, that would be the equivalent of making $298,000 a year.

So for us today to have the same rates as we originally had on the income tax in 1913, someone making $298,000 a year would have a tax rate today of 1 percent. So the tax rate has just gone up and up and up and up, since we know that not to be the case. Even somebody making $20,000 a year would jump on paying the 1-percent tax.

Incidentally, the highest tax in 1913, the highest percentage was 7 percent. And now the average for middle-class Americans is about 24 percent, easily 30 percent for many people, and 33 percent and on up.

Mr. HAYWORTH. If the gentleman will yield, Mr. Speaker, the other thing we need to do, as I talked about, in terms of penalizing people for succeeding, is the excessive taxation, and I really call it the success and prosperity tax. We have come to call it the capital gains tax, and we welcome the initiative the President has put forth in terms of wanting very tightly targeted tax relief in terms of capital gains taxes.

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His plan limits it only to homeowners. There are many small business owners across the country who have worked hard, who have succeeded, who will have more money to save, spend, and invest in job creation and in the economy if they have more of their money to hang onto.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, if the American people, let us just say, had $50 more in their pocket because the

Federal Government did not take that money, we confiscate it now, but if we left $50 more in the pockets of, say, 200 million Americans, that would be another $10 billion in the economy. Will that $50 dollars in your pocket send to college? No. But you will go out to eat more often; you might buy another pair of shoes, another pair of socks, a belt. And when you do that, small businesses will expand to react to that $10 billion infusion of money into the economy. When those small businesses expand, jobs are created. When more jobs are created, more people go to work. When more people go to work, less people are on welfare and other public assistance programs and more tax revenues come in.

President Reagan and President Kennedy both proved this through tax cuts in the 1960's and the 1980's. If we today just give our average amount of tax relief, we would be creating more jobs and increasing revenues. I strongly feel that is very consistent with deficit reduction.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, it is a very important first step that we take these important steps, even as we look at broad based tax reform, that we offer tax relief and tax cuts. This is another area where there are some honest disagreements.

Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin came to testify in front of the Committee on Ways and Means a couple of weeks ago. The administration has a limited plan for a $500 per child tax credit. I asked Secretary Rubin about that single mom in the sixth district of Arizona, and there are many of them, who may not be receiving child support payments from their former spouse, who may be working very hard to stay above the poverty level and therefore not qualifying for the earned income tax credit and let us say the single mom has two children, ages 13 and 15.

Under the administration's plan, that family would receive no tax credit for those children because, you see, the President's plan only goes to age 12. Those of us who are parents, and the gentleman from Georgia and I, the gentleman from Georgia's daughter is just entering her teenage years, our eldest daughter is just leaving her teenage years. There is one basic principle: Children grow more expensive as they grow up.

Mr. KINGSTON. Please do not tell me.

Mr. HAYWORTH. I think it is important that that single mom and single moms like her across the country have the chance to experience that same type of tax relief.

The secretary in response, it is not my intent to put words in his mouth, to paraphrase his comment in response was, well, we had to make tough choices and tightly target these tax cuts. And therein lies a philosophical difference. Good people can disagree.

We believe you can expand that opportunity. You can help those single moms. You can help those families who are having a difficult time and at the same time, with the infusion of capital into our economy, you can actually increase jobs, increase prosperity and move toward fiscal responsibility.

The two goals are not mutually exclusive. It is possible to move to be more fiscally responsible and to allow working Americans to hold on to more of their hard-earned money and send less of it here to Washington. That is the challenge that still confronts us.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for joining with me. We have just a few minutes to close.

I want to say this: In Washington we have an administration that loves big government and talks about the big government being over with. Yet in the State of the Union Address, I think there were introduced 123 new spending programs.

The American people are real good. They are far better than any law that the U.S. Congress can pass. People are better than laws. What we need to do in America is empower people, not lawyers and not police states and so forth, but people.

Give you an example, last year 90 million Americans volunteered over 4 hours a week for charity. That is about 19 billion man-hours a year voluntary. If you round that out at $10 an hour, that is $190 billion volunteered last year by Americans. Add that to the monetary contributions, which is about $150 billion a year, you have an American public that can give and give and give. It is far superior to the form of government that we have in so many cases to deliver goods and services to people back home. Our colleagues in Washington need to recognize that. Get off the people's back. Let them do their own thing.

Mr. HAYWORTH. I thank my colleague from Georgia. Again, he points out so many facts that are pertinent in this debate and in this endeavor. A couple of thoughts come to mind in the wake of the President's State of the Union Message.

I talked to one of my most important constituents, indeed, my most important constituent, my wife Mary. Ms. Mary's first question was this: ''How do we pay for all these programs?'' Will this lead to a greater deficit?

And that is a question that is one that is filled with compassion and with common sense. Let us work to rein in spending, to allow working families to hold on to more of their hard-earned money, to look for what is reasonable and rational. That is the key in this Congress and in the years ahead.

Mr. KINGSTON. I thank the gentleman from Arizona for joining me.

THE TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION REFORM ACT OF 1997, H.R. 930

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCINNIS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. HORN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. HORN]. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1997, H.R. 930. Joining me as original cosponsors are the gentlewoman from New York [Mrs. MALONEY], the gentleman from Florida [Mr. MICA], and the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN].

The Federal Government's travel expenditures are massive. In fiscal year 1994, the last year for which we have precise figures, the Government spent more than $7.6 billion on travel including transportation, lodging, rental cars and other related expenses. There are ample opportunities to save money from this huge sum without restricting necessary travel. The administrative costs, for example, are shockingly bloated. The cost of completing a travel voucher is about $15 in the private sector while it runs as high as $123 in the Federal sector. We should learn something from the private sector.

There are several obstacles standing in the way of efficient and affordable Government travel. Consider for example that the agency managers simply do not have complete travel information available to them. As a result, it is impossible to effectively analyze their travel budgets in order to locate waste and reduce costs. The reason is simple. The governmentwide travel charge card is not used for many travel arrangements. This means valuable information that would be recorded on a credit card invoice is never gathered.

The solution is uniform use of the travel card. This bill provides for uniform use with certain necessary exceptions. Agencies need clear authority to obtain information regarding the travel card issued to its employees. The agencies must be able to verify that charges are business related. This bill gives them that authority. This will make the Federal Government a better customer, which will in turn increase the size of the rebate that the Government receives.

The Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1997 contains several other provisions along these lines as well as authority to participate in travel pilot test programs. The idea is to clear away obstacles to better management, to encourage a concerted effort to improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of Federal travel.

Mr. Speaker, I include a copy of H.R. 930 for inclusion in the RECORD:

H.R. 930

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 ''Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1997''.

SEC. 2. AUTHORITY TO REQUIRE USE OF THE TRAVEL CHARGE CARD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Under regulations issued by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator may require that Federal employees use the travel charge card established pursuant to the United States Travel and Transportation Payment and Expense

Control System, or any Federal contractor-issued travel charge, for all payments of expenses of official Government travel. The Administrator shall exempt any payment, person, type or class of payments, or type or class of personnel from any requirement established under the preceding sentence in any case in which—

(1) it is in the best interest of the United States to do so;

(2) payment through a travel charge card is impractical or imposes unreasonable burdens or costs on Federal employees or Federal agencies; or

(3) the Secretary of Defense or the Secretary of Transportation (with respect to the Coast Guard) requests an exemption with respect to the members of the uniformed services.

(b) LIMITATION ON RESTRICTION ON DISCLOSURE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1113 of the Right to Financial Privacy Act of 1978 (12 U.S.C. 3413) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(q) Nothing in this title shall apply to the disclosure of any financial record or information to a Government authority in conjunction with a Federal contractor-issued travel charge card issued for official Government travel.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) is effective as of October 1, 1983, and applies to any records created pursuant to the United States Travel and Transportation Payment and Expense Control System or any Federal contractor-issued travel charge card issued for official Government travel.

(c) COLLECTION OF AMOUNTS OWED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Under regulations issued by the Administrator of General Services and upon written request of a Federal contractor, the head of any Federal agency may, on behalf of the contractor, collect by deduction from the amount of pay owed to an employee of the agency any amount of funds the employee owes to the contractor as a result of delinquencies on a travel charge card issued for payment of expenses incurred in connection with official Government travel. The amount deducted from the pay owed to an employee with respect to a pay period may not exceed 15 percent of the net pay of the employee for that pay period, except that a greater percentage may be deducted upon the written consent of the employee.

(2) DUE PROCESS PROTECTIONS.—Collection under this subsection shall be carried out in accordance with procedures substantially equivalent to the procedures required under section 3716(a) of title 31, United States Code.

(3) DEFINITIONS.—For the purpose of this subsection:

(A) AGENCY.—The term ''agency'' has the meaning that term has under section 101 of title 31, United States Code.

(B) EMPLOYEE.—The term ''employee'' means an individual employed in or under an agency, including a member of any of the uniformed services. For purposes of this subsection, a member of one of the uniformed services is an employee of that uniformed service.

(C) MEMBER; UNIFORMED SERVICE.—Each of the terms ''member'' and ''uniformed service'' has the meaning that term has in section 101 of title 37, United States Code.

(d) DELAYED IMPLEMENTATION.—The Administrator may delay implementation of subsections (a) and (c) by up to 5 years if the Administrator determines that it is in the best interests of the United States to do so.

SEC. 3. PREPAYMENT AUDITS OF TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Section 3322 of title 31, United States Code, is amended in subsection (c) by inserting after ''classifications'' the following: ''if the Administrator of General Services has determined that verification by a prepayment audit conducted pursuant to section 3726(a) of this title for a particular mode or modes of transportation, or for an agency or subagency, will not adequately protect the interests of the Government''.

(2) Section 3528 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (a) by striking ''and'' after the semicolon at the end of paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end of subsection (a)(4)(C) and inserting ''; and'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) verifying transportation rates, freight classifications, and other information provided on a Government bill of lading or transportation request, unless the Administrator of General Services has determined that verification by a prepayment audit conducted pursuant to section 3726(a) of this title for a particular mode or modes of transportation, or for an agency or subagency, will not adequately protect the interests of the Government.'';

(B) in subsection (c)(1), by inserting after ''deductions'' the following: ''and the Administrator of General Services has determined that verification by a prepayment audit conducted pursuant to section 3726(a) of this title for a particular mode or modes of transportation, or for an agency or subagency, will not adequately protect the interests of the Government''; and

(C) in subsection (c)(2), by inserting after ''agreement'' the following: ''and the Administrator of General Services has determined that verification by a prepayment audit conducted pursuant to section 3726(a) of this title for a particular mode or modes of transportation, or for an agency or subagency, will not adequately protect the interests of the Government''.

(3) Section 3726 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

''(a)(1) Each agency that receives a bill from a carrier or freight forwarder for transporting an individual or property for the United States Government shall verify its correctness (to include transportation rates, freight classifications, or proper combinations thereof), using prepayment audit, prior to payment in accordance with the requirements of this section and regulations prescribed by the Administrator of General Services.

''(2) The Administrator of General Services may exempt bills, a particular mode or modes of transportation, or an agency or subagency from a prepayment audit and verification and in lieu thereof require a postpayment audit, based on cost effectiveness, public interest, or other factors the Administrator considers appropriate.

''(3) Expenses for prepayment audits shall be funded by the agency's appropriations used for the transportation services.

''(4) The audit authority provided to agencies by this section is subject to oversight by the Administrator.'';

(B) by redesignating subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), and (g) in order as subsections (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), and (i), respectively;

(C) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsections:

''(b) The Administrator may conduct pre- or postpayment audits of transportation bills of any Federal agency. The number and types of bills audited shall be based on the Administrator's judgment.

''(c)(1) The Administrator shall adjudicate transportation claims which cannot be resolved by the agency procuring the transportation services, or the carrier or freight-forwarder presenting the bill.

''(2) A claim under this section shall be allowed only if it is received by the Administrator not later than 3 years (excluding time of war) after the later of the following dates:

''(A) The date of accrual of the claim.

''(B) The date payment for the transportation is made.

''(C) The date a refund for an overpayment for the transportation is made.

''(D) The date a deduction under subsection (d) of this section is made.'';

(D) in subsection (f), as so redesignated, by striking ''subsection (c)'' and inserting ''subsection (e)'', and by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''This reporting requirement expires December 31, 1998.'';

(E) in subsection (i)(1), as so redesignated, by striking ''subsection (a)'' and inserting ''subsection (c)''; and

(F) by adding after subsection (i), as so redesignated, the following new subsection:

''(j) The Administrator of General Services may provide transportation audit and related technical assistance services, on a reimbursable basis, to any other Federal entity or to any other activity. Such reimbursements may be credited to the appropriate revolving fund or appropriation from which the expenses were incurred.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall become effective 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. REIMBURSEMENT FOR TAXES ON MONEY RECEIVED FOR TRAVEL EXPENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 5706b the following new section:

''§ 5706c. Reimbursement for taxes incurred on money received for travel expenses

''(a) Under regulations prescribed pursuant to section 5707 of this title, the head of an agency or department, or his or her designee, may use appropriations or other funds available to the agency for administrative expenses, for the reimbursement of Federal, State, and local income taxes incurred by an employee of the agency or by an employee and such employee's spouse (if filing jointly), for any travel or transportation reimbursement made to an employee for which reimbursement or an allowance is provided.

''(b) Reimbursements under this section shall include an amount equal to all income taxes for which the employee and spouse, as the case may be, would be liable due to the reimbursement for the taxes referred to in subsection (a). In addition, reimbursements under this section shall include penalties and interest, for the tax years 1993 and 1994 only, as a result of agencies failing to withhold the appropriate amounts for tax liabilities of employees affected by the change in the deductibility of travel expenses made by Public Law 102–486.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 5706b the following new item:

''5706c. Reimbursement for taxes incurred on money received for travel expenses.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall be effective as of January 1, 1993.

SEC. 5. AUTHORITY FOR TEST PROGRAMS.

(a) TRAVEL EXPENSES TEST PROGRAMS.—Subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''§ 5710. Authority for travel expenses test programs

''(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, under a test program which the Administrator of General Services determines to be in the interest of the Government and approves, an agency may pay

for a period not to exceed 24 months any necessary travel expenses in lieu of any payment otherwise authorized or required under this subchapter. An agency shall include in any request to the Administrator for approval of such a test program an analysis of the expected costs and benefits and a set of criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of the program.

''(b) The Administrator shall transmit a copy of any test program approved by the Administrator under this section to the appropriate committees of the Congress at least 30 days before the effective date of the program.

''(c) An agency authorized to conduct a test program under subsection (a) shall provide to the Administrator and the appropriate committees of the Congress a report on the results of the program no later than 3 months after completion of the program.

''(d) No more than 10 test programs under this section may be conducted simultaneously.

''(e) The authority to conduct test programs under this section shall expire 7 years after the date of enactment of the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1997.''.

(b) RELOCATION EXPENSES TEST PROGRAMS.—Subchapter II of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''§ 5737. Authority for relocation expenses test programs

''(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, under a test program which the Administrator of General Services determines to be in the interest of the Government and approves, an agency may pay for a period not to exceed 24 months any necessary relocation expenses in lieu of any payment otherwise authorized or required under this subchapter. An agency shall include in any request to the Administrator for approval of such a test program an analysis of the expected costs and benefits and a set of criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of the program.

''(b) The Administrator shall transmit a copy of any test program approved by the Administrator under this section to the appropriate committees of the Congress at least 30 days before the effective date of the program.

''(c) An agency authorized to conduct a test program under subsection (a) shall provide to the Administrator and the appropriate committees of the Congress a report on the results of the program no later than 3 months after completion of the program.

''(d) No more than 10 test programs under this section may be conducted simultaneously.

''(e) The authority to conduct test programs under this section shall expire 7 years after the date of enactment of the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1997.''.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of sections for chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, is further amended by—

(1) inserting after the item relating to section 5709 the following new item:

''5710. Authority for travel expenses test programs.'';

and

(2) inserting after the item relating to section 5737 the following new item:

''5737. Authority for relocation expenses test programs.''.

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET, 105TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. KASICH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2 of House rule XI, I hereby submit for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the Rules of Procedure for the Committee on the Budget for the 105th Congress. The Budget Committee adopted its rules on February 4, 1997 in a public meeting by a rollcall vote.

GENERAL APPLICABILITY

Rule 1—Applicability of House Rules

Except as otherwise specified herein, the Rules of the House are the rules of the committee so far as applicable, except that a motion to recess from day to day is a motion of high privilege.

MEETINGS

Rule 2—Regular meetings

(a) The regular meeting day of the committee shall be the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m., while the House is in session.

(b) The chairman is authorized to dispense with a regular meeting when the chairman determines there is no business to be considered by the committee. The chairman shall give notice in writing or by facsimile to that effect to each member of the committee as far in advance of the regular meeting day as the circumstances permit.

(c) Regular meetings shall be canceled when they conflict with meetings of either party's caucus or conference.

Rule 3—Additional and special meetings

(a) The chairman may call and convene additional meetings of the committee as the chairman considers necessary, or special meetings at the request of a majority of the members of the committee in accordance with House Rule XI, clause 2(c).

(b) In the absence of exceptional circumstances, the chairman shall provide notice in writing or by facsimile of additional meetings to the office of each member at least 24 hours in advance while Congress is in session, and at least 3 days in advance when Congress is not in session.

Rule 4—Open business meetings

(a) Each meeting for the transaction of committee business, including the markup of measures, shall be open to the public except when the committee, in open session and with a quorum present, determines by rollcall vote that all or part of the remainder of the meeting on that day shall be closed to the public in accordance with House Rule XI, clause 2(g)(1).

(b) No person other than members of the committee and such congressional staff and departmental representatives as the committee may authorize shall be present at any business or markup session which has been closed to the public.

Rule 5—Quorums

A majority of the committee shall constitute a quorum. No business shall be transacted and no measure or recommendation shall be reported unless a quorum is actually present.

Rule 6—Recognition

Any member, when recognized by the chairman, may address the committee on any bill, motion, or other matter under consideration before the committee. The time of such member shall be limited to 5 minutes until all members present have been afforded an opportunity to comment.

Rule 7—Consideration of business

Measures or matters may be placed before the committee, for its consideration, by the chairman or by a majority vote of the members of the committee, a quorum being present.

Rule 8—Procedure for consideration of budget resolution

(a) It shall be the policy of the committee that the starting point for any deliberations on a concurrent resolution on the budget should be the estimated or actual levels for the fiscal year preceding the budget year.

(b) In developing a concurrent resolution on the budget, the committee shall first proceed, unless otherwise determined by the committee, to consider budget aggregates, functional categories, and other appropriate matters on a tentative basis, with the document before the committee open to amendment; subsequent amendments may be offered to aggregates, functional categories, or other appropriate matters which have already been amended in their entirely.

(c) Following adoption of the aggregates, functional categories, and other matters, the text of a concurrent resolution on the budget incorporating such aggregates, functional categories, and other appropriate matters shall be considered for amendment and a final vote.

Rule 9—Rollcall votes

A rollcall of the members may be had upon the request of at least one-fifth of those present. In the apparent absence of a quorum, a rollcall may be had on the request of any member.

HEARINGS

Rule 10—Announcement of hearings

The chairman shall make public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any committee hearing at least 1 week before the hearing, beginning with the day in which the announcement is made and ending the day preceding the scheduled hearing unless the chairman, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member, or the committee by majority vote with a quorum present for the transaction of business, determines there is good cause to begin the hearing sooner, in which case the chairman shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date.

Rule 11—Open hearings

(a) Each hearing conducted by the committee or any of its task forces shall be open to the public except when the committee or task force, in open session and with a quorum present, determines by rollcall vote that all or part of the remainder of that hearing on that day shall be closed to the public because disclosure of testimony, evidence, or other matters to be considered would endanger the national security, or would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person, or would violate any law or rule of the House of Representatives. The committee or task forces may be the same procedure vote to close one subsequent day of hearing.

(b) For the purposes of House Rule XI, clause 2(g)(2), the task forces of the committee are considered to be subcommittees.

Rule 12—Quorums

For the purpose of hearing testimony, not less than two members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

Rule 13—Time for questioning witnesses

(a) Committee members shall have not to exceed 5 minutes to interrogate each witness until such time as each member who so desires has had an opportunity to interrogate such witness.

(b) After all members have had an opportunity to ask questions, the round shall begin again under the 5-minute rule.

(c) In questioning witnesses under the 5-minute rule, the chairman and the ranking minority member may be recognized first, after which members may be recognized in

the order of their arrival at the hearing. Among the members present at the time the hearing is called to order, seniority shall be recognized. In recognizing members to question witnesses, the chairman may take into consideration the ratio of majority members to minority members and the number of majority and minority members present and shall apportion the recognition for questioning in such a manner as not to disadvantage the members of the majority.

Rule 14—Subpoenas and oaths

(a) In accordance with House Rule XI, clause 2(m) subpoenas authorized by a majority of the committee may be issued over the signature of the chairman or of any member of the committee designated by him, and may be served by any person designated by the chairman or such member.

(b) The chairman, or any member of the committee designated by the chairman, may administer oaths to witnesses.

Rule 15—Witnesses' statements

(a) So far as practicable, any prepared statement to be presented by a witness shall be submitted to the committee at least 24 hours in advance of presentation, and shall be distributed to all members of the committee in advance of presentation.

(b) To the greatest extent possible, each witness appearing in a nongovernmental capacity shall include with the written statement of proposed testimony a curriculum vitae and a disclosure of the amount and source (by agency and program) of any Federal grant (or subgrant thereof) or contract (or subcontract thereof) received during the current fiscal year or either of the 2 preceding fiscal years.

PRINTS AND PUBLICATIONS

Rule 16—Committee prints

All committee prints and other materials prepared for public distribution shall be approved by the committee prior to any distribution, unless such print or other material shows clearly on its face that it has not been approved by the committee.

Rule 17—Committee publications on the Internet

To the maximum extent feasible, the committee shall make its publications available in electronic form.

STAFF

Rule 18—Committee staff

(a)(1) Subject to approval by the committee, and to the provisions of the following paragraphs, the professional and clerical staff of the committee shall be appointed, and may be removed, by the chairman.

(2) Committee staff shall not be assigned any duties other than those pertaining to committee business, and shall be selected without regard to race, creed, sex, or age, and solely on the basis of fitness to perform the duties of their respective positions.

(3) All committee staff shall be entitled to equitable treatment, including comparable salaries, facilities, access to official committee records, leave, and hours of work.

(4) Notwithstanding paragraphs 1, 2, and 3, staff shall be employed in compliance with House Rules, the Employment and Accountability Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and any other applicable Federal statutes.

(b) Associate staff for members of the committee may be appointed only at the discretion of the chairman (in consultation with the ranking minority member regarding any minority party associate staff), after taking into consideration any staff ceilings and budgetary constraints in effect at the time, and any terms, limits, or conditions established by the Committee on House Oversight under clause 6 of House Rule XI. Such staff members shall be compensated at a rate, determined by the member, not to exceed $60,000 per year from the committee's budget. Members shall not appoint more than one person pursuant to these provisions. Members designating a staff member under this subsection must certify by letter to the chairman that the employee is needed and will be utilized for committee work and, to the extent space is available, will spend no less than 10 hours per week in committee offices performing committee work.

Rule 19—Staff supervision

(a) Staff shall be under the general supervision and direction of the chairman, who shall establish and assign their duties and responsibilities, delegate such authority as he deems appropriate, fix and adjust staff salaries (in accordance with House Rule XI, clause 6(c)) and job titles, and, in his discretion, arrange for their specialized training.

(b) Staff assigned to the minority shall be under the general supervision and direction of the minority members of the committee, who may delegate such authority as they deem appropriate.

RECORDS

Rule 20—Preparation and maintenance of committee records

(a) An accurate stenographic record shall be made of all hearings and business meetings.

(b) The proceedings of the committee shall be recorded in a journal which shall, among other things, include a record of the votes on any question on which a record vote is demanded.

(c) Members of the committee shall correct and return transcripts of hearings as soon as practicable after receipt thereof, except that any changes shall be limited to technical, grammatical, and typographical corrections.

(d) Any witness may examine the transcript of his own testimony and make grammatical, technical, and typographical corrections.

(e) The chairman may order the printing of a hearing record without the corrections of any member or witness if he determines that such member or witness has been afforded a reasonable time for correction, and that further delay would seriously impede the committee's responsibility for meeting its deadlines under the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

(f) Transcripts of hearings and meetings may be printed if the chairman decides it is appropriate, or if a majority of the members so request.

Rule 21—Access to committee records

(a)(1) The chairman shall promulgate regulations to provide for public inspection of rollcall votes and to provide access by members to committee records (in accordance with House Rule XI, clause 2(e)).

(2) Access to classified testimony and information shall be limited to Members of Congress and to House Budget Committee staff and stenographic reporters who have appropriate security clearance.

(3) Notice of the receipt of such information shall be sent to the committee members. Such information shall be kept in the committee safe, and shall be available to members in the committee office.

(b) The records of the committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in accordance with Rule XXXVI of the Rules of the House of Representatives. The chairman shall notify the ranking minority member of any decision, pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or clause 4(b) of the rule, to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the committee for a determination on the written request of any member of the committee.

OVERSIGHT

Rule 22—General oversight

(a) The committee shall review and study, on a continuing basis, the application, administration, execution, and effectiveness of those laws, or parts of laws, the subject of which is within its jurisdiction.

(b) The committee is authorized at any time to conduct such investigations and studies as it may consider necessary or appropriate in the exercise of its responsibilities under clause (1)(d)(1) of rule X of the Rules of the House, and, subject to the adoption of expense resolutions as required by clause 5 of rule XI, to incur expenses (including travel expenses) in connection therewith.

(c) Not later than February 15 of the first session of a Congress, the committee shall meet in open session, with a quorum present, to adopt its oversight plans for that Congress for submission to the Committee on House Oversight and the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight in accordance with the provisions of clause (2)(d) of House Rule X.

REPORTS

Rule 23—Availability before filing

No committee report on a bill or resolution shall be filed with the House until copies of the proposed report have been available to all members for at least 36 hours prior to filing, unless the chairman deems it necessary to waive this requirement. No material change (other than the filing of supplemental, minority, or additional views by any member) shall be made in the report distributed to members unless agreed to by majority vote or authorized by the chairman with the concurrence of the ranking minority member.

Rule 24—Report on the budget resolution

The report of the committee to accompany a concurrent resolution on the budget shall include a comparison of the estimated or actual levels for the year preceding the budget year with the proposed spending and revenue levels for the budget year and each out year along with the appropriate percentage increase or decrease for each budget function and aggregate. The report shall include any rollcall vote on any motion to amend or report any measure.

Rule 25—Parliamentarian's Status Report and Section 302 Status Report

(a)(1) In order to carry out its duty under section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act to advise the House of Representatives as to the current level of spending and revenues as compared to the levels set forth in the latest agreed-upon concurrent resolution on the budget, the committee shall advise the Speaker on at least a monthly basis when the House is in session as to its estimate of the current level of spending and revenue. Such estimates shall be prepared by the staff of the committee, transmitted to the Speaker in the form of a Parliamentarian's Status Report, and printed in the Congressional Record.

(2) The committee authorizes the chairman, in consultation with the ranking minority member, to transmit to the Speaker the Parliamentarian's Status Report described above.

(b)(1) in order to carry out its duty under section 302 of the Congressional Budget Act to advise the House of Representatives as to the current level of spending within the jurisdiction of committees as compared to the appropriate allocations made pursuant to the Budget Act in conformity with the latest agreed-upon concurrent resolution on the budget, the committee shall, as necessary, advise the Speaker as to its estimate of the current level of spending within the jurisdiction of appropriate committees. Such estimates shall be prepared by the staff of the

committee and transmitted to the Speaker in the form of a Section 302 Status Report.

(2) The committee authorizes the chairman, in consultation with the ranking minority member, to transmit to the Speaker the Section 302 Status Report described above.

Rule 26—Activity report

After an adjournment of the last regular session of a Congress sine die, the chair of the committee may file any time with the Clerk the committee's activity report for that Congress pursuant to clause (1)(d)(1) of rule XI of the Rules of the House without the approval of the committee, if a copy of the report has been available to each member of the committee for at least 7 calendar days and the report includes any supplemental, minority, or additional views submitted by a member of the committee.

MISCELLANEOUS

Rule 27—Broadcasting of meetings and hearings

(a) It shall be the policy of the committee to give all news media access to open hearings of the committee, subject to the requirements and limitations set forth in House Rule XI, clause 3.

(b) Whenever any committee business meeting is open to the public, that meeting may be covered, in whole or in part, by television broadcast, radio broadcast, and still photography, or by any of such methods of coverage, in accordance with House Rule XI, clause 3.

Rule 28—Appointment of conferees

(a) Majority party members recommended to the Speaker as conferees shall be recommended by the chairman subject to the approval of the majority party members of the committee.

(b) The chairman shall recommend such minority party members as conferees as shall be determined by the minority party; the recommended party representation shall be in approximately the same proportion as that in the committee.

Rule 29—Waivers

When a reported bill or joint resolution, conference report, or anticipated floor amendment violates any provision of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the chairman may, if practical, consult with the committee members on whether the chairman should recommend, in writing, that the Committee on Rules report a special rule that enforces the act by not waiving the applicable points of order during the consideration of such measure.

SUPREME COURT DECISION ON VOTING RIGHTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore [Mr. PEASE]. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentleman from New York [Mr. OWENS] is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I want to talk primarily today about the Supreme Court decision with respect to voting rights in New York City. They have of course come down with a decision in New York that obeys the Supreme Court decision and the precedent it set. So the courts have ordered that one district, the district of my colleague, the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. VELÁZQUEZ], the 12th Congressional District of New York, be redrawn; and the courts have said this must take place by July 30. The legislature has until July 30 to redraw the district.

I think that this process has been going on for some time now. We understood that the Supreme Court, when it made its decision on the Georgia case and the North Carolina cases and the Texas case, all those cases let us know that it was almost inevitable that eventually some district in New York that was being challenged would be struck down and the district that has the oddest shape of course was the 12th Congressional District, presently held by Congresswoman VELÁZQUEZ.

We knew it was coming but nevertheless my neighbors seemed very alarmed. In the surrounding area, people are alarmed. The whole city is alarmed, asking questions as if this was a brand new situation. So for that reason, I find it important to comment. I have been on about four radio stations, and the kinds of questions I receive show that previous discussions of this matter, and I have spoken on the floor at least twice about the Voting Rights Act and the implications of the Voting Rights Act, the reason for the Voting Rights Act, the justice of the Voting Rights Act, but at home it has not come through because they did not feel it concerned them. It was in Georgia, North Carolina, Texas, Louisiana, recently Virginia. Now it has come home to New York.

So it is important, and I think that the fact that Congresswoman VELÁZQUEZ is appealing the decision is important. She knows that the likelihood that that appeal will be upheld, the likelihood that her appeal will receive success is very slim. She wants to make the point that the decision has come down, and it is a district court ruling in a matter that they consider consistent with the Supreme Court and the inevitability of that is one thing but the justice of it is another.

It is not just that the Supreme Court that set the process in motion was wrong, that it was a 5 to 4 decision. Any 5 to 4 decision should be questioned and requestioned. The morality of it, the legality of it, all should be questioned, and she did not want to accept that.

So we set in motion a process of having a dialog in New York that should have been going on all along because there is something more at stake here than just the redrawing of lines at one time. The whole act, the Voting Rights Act and the essence of the Voting Rights Act is now in jeopardy because the principle applied to congressional districts is also to be applied to State legislative districts and also city council districts and any other jurisdiction of the government, same principles would be applied. So it is a matter that deserves extensive discussion.

Now, in the process of this discussion, I want to also talk about a few other things that seem unrelated but I intend to put them together, I assure you. I want to talk about some good news that has taken place in the past 24 hours. The Swiss Government announced that they were going to set up a $5 billion fund to compensate or to help victims of catastrophes, especially victims of human rights violations, such as victims of the Holocaust. Let me just make it clear that this is a Swiss Government taking this action, following an action that was previously taken by the Swiss banks. The Swiss banks already established a fund, I think, of 100-some million dollars, a fund to directly compensate victims of the Holocaust.

Now the Swiss Government, the President of Switzerland has gone further, and that act of reconciliation is what I want to talk about. Where does reconciliation come in the process of evaluating the justice or injustice of the Voting Rights Act?

☐ 1615

What is the Voting Rights Act all about? Why was the Voting Rights Act, why is the Voting Rights Act being questioned on the basis of race, on the basis of its denial of equal rights?

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor argues in the majority opinion that we cannot draw a district with predominant consideration of race. That violates the equal protection clause in the 14th amendment.

What Justice Sandra Day O'Connor does not tell us is that the 14th amendment is not about equal protection for everybody in a colorblind society. The 14th amendment is about a remedy of slavery.

The 14th amendment came about as a result of the need to take care of the long pattern of injustices established in 232 years of slavery. And when the Civil War was fought and finally won, Congress had to pass first the 13th amendment, which freed the slaves. Abraham Lincoln freed a certain segment of the slaves in the Emancipation Proclamation, but he did not free all the slaves and it was not a constitutional matter.

A President can issue an Executive order. When he goes out of office, the Executive order no longer applies. So the Emancipation Proclamation did not free the slaves permanently. It was the 13th amendment.

Following the 13th amendment was the 14th amendment, which talked at great length about slavery. Most people think the 14th amendment is a little line about equal protection under the law. That is only one tiny part of the 14th amendment. The 14th amendment is about slavery and certain steps that the Government had to take to remedy the effects of slavery and to deal with the people who are now the descendants of slaves.

So the Swiss Government's action is a process of reconciliation dealing with what they did not do 50 years ago, 50 years ago when the Nazis invaded most of Europe. The Nazis subjected the Jews to the Holocaust, 6 million people being wiped out. They stole their money and their goods and so forth. A lot of the gold and the money of Jewish victims of the Holocaust ended up in

Switzerland. It was generally understood for the last 50 years that that had happened. Only now is Switzerland, under great pressure, finally beginning to deal with that.

And I would like to applaud the positive step taken by the Swiss Government. Was it justice? I doubt it. It is at least a positive step in the process of reconciliation. And I will come back to that.

Most important of all, I would like to show how the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of the South African Government is a model that even America ought to take a look at, because we have all these leftover problems resulting from 232 years of slavery and we are not able to deal with the problems in an effective, honest, and just way unless we admit that there was a great crime committed; unless we admit that there was a great problem created for 232 years; that the descendants of African slaves for 232 years they were enslaved and they have some problems and the Nation owes them something and we ought to talk about that.

We ought to talk about what we are going to do to rectify those problems. And even before we get to rectifying the problems, let us at least tell the truth about it. Let us at least have a national exploration of what it meant to have 232 years of slavery, 232 years where people could not acquire wealth, 232 years where there was an attempt to obliterate the humanity of a certain group of people in order to make them more efficient and effective as beasts of burden.

I am repeating myself. I have said this a couple of times on the floor before. But I think it is important to review these things, because in New York they are just beginning to wake up to the fact that we have a problem with respect to the Voting Rights Act. A lot of the people I talk to, and a lot of people who called into the radio shows said, well, it is only fair that we not consider race, that we not consider color. We should have a colorblind society.

It is hard to deal with that discussion unless we deal with history. Now, I am not a historian. I majored in mathematics. I was never that fond of history, but I have as I have grown older begun to understand and appreciate the power of history. And history is what civilization is all about. If we do not remember history, or respect history or learn from history, then we are not able to build a civilization. We cannot deal with truth unless we have it in the context of history.

So the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission seems like it is a long way away from the Voting Rights Act and it does not seem related. It may seem like it is not related to the Swiss Government action today, but it is all a part of what I want to talk about today.

I want to go further and talk about beyond the Voting Rights Act; that there is a need for a whole lot of other actions and activities of Government that now will never take place unless we begin to look at the impact of 232 years of slavery, and, after that, about 150 years of special discrimination, oppression.

The fact that the reconciliation process is gaining momentum, the fact that the reconciliation process is now accepted, beginning to make an impact, an imprint on our overall world civilization is very important.

It may be that the steps being taken are only tiny steps, but what was the liberation of Haiti all about? The liberation of Haiti was accomplished because we made promises that we would not punish, we would not seek justice, we would just seek the truth and reconciliation. Punishment of the people who had thrown out the legal Government of Haiti and terrorized the people for 3 years; our Government said that should not take place. And Aristide and the Government of Haiti agreed. We will not emphasize punishment, we will emphasize reconciliation.

What happened in Bosnia? We had to have some agreement among the fighting parties that they would not pursue justice over reconciliation. Yes, there is a clause which says that war criminals will be sought, but the definition of war criminals makes it pretty clear we are talking about a very tiny amount of people. Most of the people who participated in the terror, in the war crimes, and the devastation of the Balkan countries involved, the old Yugoslavia, parts of Yugoslavia, they will not be punished. We are pursuing reconciliation there.

The Swiss Government's action is another act of reconciliation. In Uganda, where they massacred a half million people in a short period of time, one tribe after another, we are trying to pursue reconciliation. Reconciliation is being pursued in Uganda, but the courts are holding forth, cases are being tried, they are trying to get the truth of what happened. It is important before they go forward.

What I am saying is that unless we have a bedrock of truth on which to build the future, building the present and future gets kind of wobbly. We threw away the Voting Rights Act and said no group should be treated in a special way. Well, we moved from the Voting Rights Act to the set-asides. Set-asides for minorities and women have now been discouraged by the Supreme Court because that is treating a group in a special way.

The Supreme Court did say that the Federal Government had a right to pursue any remedies it wanted to with respect to past injustices. So Federal set-asides were accepted, whereas local set-asides would only be accepted if they proved there was immediate discrimination or past discrimination that could be proved. It was a complicated way of diluting the understanding that if there are injustices that have gone on for a long time, Government has a duty to try to correct and adjust the situation in order to compensate for those injustices.

The German Government is made up of people who are living and breathing now, citizens paying taxes, many of them were not alive during the Nazi era, yet the Germans have steadfastly paid reparations to certain identified Jewish victims of the Holocaust.

The Germans have had to pay for a number of other things, because a nation is considered a continuing body and we do not drop whatever is happening because it was a group called the Nazis or the Gestapo. The German Government has to assume that responsibility.

The Swiss Government of today was not the Swiss Government that was there when they capitulated to the Germans and they acted in concert with the Germans in the looting of certain fortunes and a number of things that went on, which the Government of Switzerland is not even acknowledging today, but they are saying we understand something went wrong and today we are going to move forward and try to, in the spirit of reconciliation, do something positive.

The principle of special treatment to deal with special past crimes, special past injustices, special past investigations is what I am talking about: special treatment in the Voting Rights Act, special treatment we need in the emergency funding of education right now.

The same people that were victimized by 232 years of slavery are the descendants of those people, and they are the ones being victimized in our big cities right now. They are being victimized because children are being forced to go to school in buildings that are unsafe. Not only are they not conducive to learning but the buildings have asbestos problems, they have lead poisoning problems, they have problems of overcrowding which affects the psyche as well as the physical health of children. Those things are going on right now in America.

The need to deal with that on an emergency basis and understand that there is a need to do that because the situation results from past injustices and past failures must go forward.

There is a need for more empowerment zones. We came up with a good solution, which the Republicans and Democrats both bought into, when the President proposed that we have empowerment zones in big cities and also in rural areas where we have a large amount of poverty. The empowerment zone concept was considered a great step forward because it combined the private sector effort with the public sector effort.

When empowerment zones were first proposed, the number 50 was the magic number. For a long time they talked about 50 empowerment zones. A good idea that everybody endorsed then, and it is a good idea still to endorse. But we went from 50 empowerment zones on the drawing board down to 9

empowerment zones when they finally enacted the legislation, 6 in the big cities and 3 in rural areas.

The President began to talk during the election of our increasing the empowerment zones from 9 to 20, which we thought was still too few, but in his State of the Union Address he fell back from 20 to talking about 6 additional empowerment zones.

So empowerment zones are part of an effort to correct past injustices, part of an effort to deal with the special problems created by oppression and the victimization of people. And empowerment zones should be pushed forward and expanded. We need more of them and we need them now, not a trickle-down approach where by the year 2000 we may have 20. We need to deal with the problem right now.

Empowerment zones rightly focus on the poorest areas in the country. We have to prove poverty. In my district we have census tracks, which are the census tracks from which most of the children with asthma come. They are the census tracks from which most of the children who have not graduated from high school come. They are the census tracks which have the largest numbers of people in the prisons in New York State.

There is a correlation between extreme poverty. We have census tracks with a large number of low-income housing developments. Low-income housing developments are there because people need housing, but it groups people in low income and there is a correlation between the low income and the low education. There is a correlation between the crime rate and the health problems. Clearly, it qualifies for an empowerment zone.

There is no problem once we get the opportunity. But if we only have nine empowerment zones in the whole country and only six of those empowerment zones are urban areas, and the other gentleman from New York, CHARLIE RANGEL, was the author of the bill, so he has the one in New York City, in Harlem, which is a long way from Brooklyn. Just across the river in psychological terms, but Brooklyn, NY, is part of New York City. It has 2.5 million people, 2.5 million people.

If it was a separate city, it would be the fourth or fifth largest city in the country. We have problems there which are concentrated. And if the empowerment zones were to be distributed in an equitable and just manner, we would get an empowerment zone. I have told my constituents this is the No. one priority on my agenda, an empowerment zone.

But in the process of trying to get an economic empowerment zone, we are up against the philosophy that seems to be prevailing that we should not give special treatment to people in need. That same philosophy that mitigates against the Voting Rights Act, mitigates against the set-aside laws, is now operating in anything where we propose to help people in great need, except of course in the case of earthquakes, floods, and hurricanes.

When we have storms or natural disasters, we immediately rush to the aid of people. We have appropriated like $8 billion in aid to California in the last 3 years, $6 billion for Florida, and $6 billion for Midwestern States for floods. Florida suffered from hurricanes.

□ 1630

We quickly respond and understand people are in special need when natural disasters occur, but 232 years of slavery and the byproducts of that, the poisonous legacy of that, we do not want to consider. So we need emergency education funding, we need economic empowerment zones, we need workfare to end and have Federal job creation programs instead of putting people on workfare, which is a prelude, a prerequisite for a new kind of slavery because you are working people for less than minimum wage, no fringe benefits, dehumanizing them. Workfare becomes a prelude to slavery if it has no opportunity at the end, if there is no job training promise, if there is no attempt to build a situation in the economy where jobs will be available, public sector jobs are not being created. Then you are moving in a direction of slavery.

Mr. Speaker, the cruelty of the welfare reform and the immigration reform is coming home to my district. My office is packed with people, old people who have been in this country for 20 or 30 years, for one reason or another did not become citizens, no chance now that they are going to be able to meet the requirements, pass the tests, answer the questions. They are going to now have to starve because they cannot get food stamps, they cannot get any benefits, SSI is closed to them. They cannot get into nursing homes when they get sick. All of that goes down the drain.

The cruelty of it is unnecessary. Perhaps the average American citizen would not sit still and accept this if they understood what it is all about in terms of the legacy of injustices and past failures and how that produces a large number of people in this kind of condition.

As I said before, I want to talk primarily about the Voting Rights Act and its impact on New York City in terms of the need to draw new lines and the implications of the fact that the courts have now chosen to abandon any special considerations in the drawing of those lines, special considerations that are needed with respect to race.

So I have a potpourri of things I am throwing in here that all relate back to the same subject. I go a little further, I would like to call attention to the fact that the Chinese criticize human rights violations in America today. Some of us have voted year after year that we should not have most favorable trading status with China because China on a massive scale violates human rights. They have got more humans in China, so they can violate rights on a scale that makes everybody else appear to be playing games. When you have more than 1 billion people and you violate human rights, you are violating quite a number of humans, the rights of quite a number of humans.

So China has been criticized, but the present administration, our administration, the Democratic administration, and I think the leadership of the Republican Party also approves it. They place trade and business first, and they keep certifying China and allowing it to have most favorable nation status.

Mr. Speaker, China is not grateful for the fact that we criticize them but still give them the most favorable nation status. They have now fought back and they are criticizing the United States for violating human rights. They say we violate human rights by not providing for food, clothing and shelter for all the people, for health care for all the people, for jobs for all the people. China has slapped back at the United States. They have even gone so far as to criticize our election process.

The latest criticism of China is that we are allowing people to buy elections, that the large amounts of money that go into our elections constitute bribery. That is the charge of the Chinese. I think that we should take note. Although I do not agree with the Chinese, I think our arrogance in criticizing the rest of the world should be tempered. There are a lot of problems wrong here. We need to take a close look at ourselves.

What I am saying is that that is what we need in order to put in perspective problems relating to voting rights, problems related to appropriations for education, appropriations for jobs, economic development, problems related to our fantastic hostility toward the poor as expressed in welfare reform, immigration reform. We need to take a step back and take a look at the richest nation that ever existed on the face of the Earth and say to ourselves, how are we really behaving.

A truth and reconciliation commission would help us do this. If we understood ourselves and understood the history of this Nation and how it did not come into being automatically, by some magic process and waving of the hands of God, there were a lot of things done right by our Founding Fathers, and there were a lot of things done wrong in the economic sector. Slavery was an engine that built the Nation, helped to build the Nation economically. The wiping out of large portions of the Native American population also helped to build a new Nation economically, but it was built on the blood and bones of people who did not deserve what they got.

So we need to take a step back and look at our history and evaluate it. Ken Burns has a documentary that played a couple of weeks ago on Thomas Jefferson. Thomas Jefferson was a

very complex man, also a very great man, a giant; so ordinary people are not expected to be able to really understand the psyche of Thomas Jefferson fully. He was the kind of individual who comes only once or twice or a few times in a century. He was equivalent in politics to Einstein in science as far as I am concerned.

Mr. Speaker, if there had been no Thomas Jefferson, I do not think there would be an America as we know it today. We would have a very different constellation. So Thomas Jefferson ranks with Lincoln, competes with Lincoln as the greatest American President in my opinion. Perhaps Lincoln is greater because he acted decisively in very complicated, trying circumstances, and Thomas Jefferson acted decisively in some times but he backed away from many other battles; and that may be the difference. But historians have ranked Presidents, and I think Jefferson, Roosevelt, Lincoln, they all rank in the top three, one way or another.

Jefferson certainly was a great President. Jefferson, however, did have slaves. He was a southerner. He was a plantation owner. Jefferson also, documents show, had a 38-year love affair with one of his slaves named Sally Hemings. Sally Hemings is sort of blotted out of history, but researchers have reconstructed enough about her to let us know that she had a relationship with Jefferson for 38 years. I think a truth and reconciliation commission would help us to unearth that, and we would benefit a great deal. It is a love story that I think needs to be told, the story of Sally Hemings and Thomas Jefferson. It would help the Nation a whole lot to know exactly how this great man, why this great man maintained a relationship with a slave woman for 38 years. If that could happen, I do not think it should be seen as something to be hidden or something to be proud of. Obviously it was no passing passion. Obviously it was no exploitation of one human being over another. You do not do that for 38 years.

Obviously Sally Hemings was a very exceptional person even though history has blotted out a lot of what she was, and we do not know because certain Jefferson letters and documents are mysteriously missing, et cetera. But Ken Burns' documentary on Jefferson has titillated a lot of discussion. Certainly my interest, which started like 10 years ago, in Thomas Jefferson has been renewed. This is a part of our history that a Truth and Reconciliation Commission should take a look at. We may be proud and learn a lot from an examination of the intimate life of Thomas Jefferson as well as the rest of his life.

I think that factual history has a major role in this process of reconciliation. Factual history would make us understand more about what 232 years of slavery meant. Factual history, as we examine the facts more closely, if we funded a commission and they looked at it more closely, you might understand what I mean when I say that 232 years of slavery was an obliteration process, an attempt to obliterate the humanity of a set of people to make them more efficient as workers, as beasts of burden. The facts of history would help us understand that. The facts would lead us to do some of the things that have been done recently in the study of the children of Romania.

In Romania, the Communist Government of Romania decided that children were better off raised in orphanages. Large numbers of children were put into orphanages. They could have found families in many cases for them, but it was a policy of the Government: Maximize the number of children in orphanages; let the State raise them.

What you have is a kind of small Holocaust related to little children. Large numbers of American families have attempted to adopt some of those Romanian children since the wall went down in Romania and the dictator who started all this was executed by the people of Romania. They have gone in, large numbers of Americans wanting to adopt children. In many cases the children were physically beautiful, a little malnourished and pathetic looking but physically beautiful, and they have run up against a very interesting problem. Many of them have found when you try to transport children of Romania into America, give them the nurturing and do everything that a parent could do, and most of these are middle-class people because it costs about $10,000 to go through the process of getting them adopted, so they have some means. They take care of the kids very well. They run up against the problem of the children cannot do certain things, that something has happened to them that makes it impossible for them to relate in the usual human ways. Some of the parents have had to give up the children, have just found that it is impossible.

Psychiatrists have been brought in to study the situation. They have actually taken photographs, taken x-rays of the brains of the children. They have found a pattern where parts of the brain atrophy, they shrink because of the lack of human contact. These people were put in places where they were in pens. They had only other children there of their same age, very little human contact except to feed them. And often they were not fed on time and deprived. But the big thing is the lack of the human contact has led to a condition that can be documented. The brains have been affected on most of the children.

There are a few exceptions, which is a testament to the human spirit and the human endurance that is there, but the majority of them are in a situation where they do not come back. You cannot deal with the problem that the brain has already shrunk. They have documented evidence of this. I saw it on public television. I watch a lot of public television, and I saw it. They actually had the graphs and the charts, the picture of the brain, et cetera.

I asked myself, what happened to the brains of all these slave children who were put in situations where they were taken care of in the same way, only in worse conditions. They did not have pens. They were put on dirt floors. They were put on floors that in the wintertime only were covered with straw. They were fed like pigs. They would put the milk and the cornbread together and spread it in a trawl the way they feed pigs. They went through all these kind of inhumane conditions, they were sold back and forth from their parents, all kinds of things happened. What if we were to really get a thorough documentation of what that phenomenon was like and then begin to understand what impact it had on generations, to have all those babies who became adults, who went through that process.

Mr. Speaker, how much of that is a part of the problem that we are experiencing? And what a great thing it was that the human spirit of most African-Americans who are alive today, they are still alive because their ancestors overcame those kinds of conditions. But that is just one horrendous example. Why do we not have an economic study of what it means to have a slave family, 232 years ago, that is about seven or eight generations we are talking about. And each generation, because they are slaves, cannot pass anything on to the next generation.

There have been studies that show clearly that most wealth in America has been accumulated from inheritance. One generation passes money down to the next. They invest that or they find ways to expand on that, they pass it down to the next. So wealth in America is primarily, and probably all over the world, is primarily the result of inheritance. Bill Gates is a great exception. There are a number of people who have sort of broken out of the mold, made billions of dollars due to technological advancements. They are very fortunate. But in general, studies have shown that wealth is a product of family, inheritance.

Two hundred thirty-two years went by where African-Americans and their descendants inherited zero. Nothing. They are different from the immigrants who came here who might have had a suitcase full of clothes. You had wealth if you came with a suitcase full of clothes.

□ 1645

The African Americans came, and an attempt was made to deprive them not only of everything they had—they were automatically deprived of every physical thing they had, but their language was considered a problem. So they were divided up in ways which placed people who spoke different languages together in order for them not to be able to generate conspiracies. They were in every

way deprived of any heritage, traditions, folkways, mores. All that was deliberately blotted out.

So what if we really studied that seriously, had a commission which had some funding, and were to see the impact of it? What impact would that have on our policy making, our attitudes toward policy making? We might discover some good things, you know, in the process.

There was an article I read recently which talked about the south's hidden heritage. We discovered some positive things and some of the stereotypes that we have might be overcome, because there was an article that was in the New York Times on February 16 of this year, 1997, by Eric Foner. I picked it up and I saw the name Eric Foner, and I was very interested in the article because I have a book in my office by Eric Foner. It is a study of mulattoes, the mulattoes and the impact of mulattoes, the offspring of the slave holders, the slave owners and slave women, and he has a long catalog of various mulattoes and what happened to them and their impact, et cetera.

So Eric Foner's name attracted my attention. He is a teacher at Columbia University, teaches history there, and he is also the curator of an exhibition at the South Carolina Historical Museum. At Columbia University, New York, he is a teacher, but he is a curator of an exhibition at the South Carolina Historical Museum. That is an odd combination which I found very interesting. And his article is about the south's hidden heritage.

If we had a truth in reconciliation commission we might find out things like this, and they may contribute a great deal to the dialog and the reconciliation process. He points out in his article, which I will not read in great detail, but he points out that Mississippi, which is often singled out as being an example of the worst race relations and the worst historical—historically the worst of the slave States, that Mississippi had more Mississippians who fought for the Union than for the Confederacy. That is an interesting fact, it is an odd fact; it is a fact, I think, which if it was placed into the hopper of a reconciliation process may do some good, you know.

He points out that during the Civil War 200,000 African Americans, most of them freed slaves, fought in the Union Army. Tens of thousands of Mississippi slaves were recruited in the Union forces. Several thousand whites from Mississippi also fought under the stars and stripes. In fact more Mississippians fought for the Union than for the Confederacy.

And he goes on to talk about other Civil War monuments in the south that celebrate the south's history one way or another. He talks about the fact also that Gen. James Longstreet, a famous general for the Confederacy, General Longstreet has no monuments to him in any southern towns because after the war was over General Longstreet supported rights for the newly freed slaves, so his name up to now is mud among his compatriots in the south.

A truth in reconciliation commission might appreciate that fact, might unearth the achievements of General Longstreet after the war, and it might lead to General Longstreet being a positive force in a dialog and the development of reconciliation in America.

What am I going on with this potpourri for? It is all about trying to make the point that the Supreme Court decision on the Voting Rights Act is a landmark decision, it is a dangerous harbinger of things to come. If we do not deal with the distorted notions behind it, the philosophy of it, and understand what it is all about, we are in danger of losing other kinds of policy institutions.

We fought hard for certain institutions to be put in place. We fought hard to get the Voting Rights Act, we fought hard to end segregation in the schools, we fought hard to get set-asides established so that in Government contracts a small percentage, a tiny percentage of contracts were awarded to minorities and to women. A lot of that is being rolled back. Affirmative action is being challenged, and a lot of the same arguments that are used by the Supreme Court in its promulgation of this wrong decision are used in all of those cases, that America should be a colorblind society.

Everybody is equal. Therefore you cannot take steps to remedy anything on the basis of past injustices. You must treat everybody equally. That may be a dream that will take place some day, but it is not a fact and a reality now, and the fact that we close our eyes makes the process of building a great Nation more difficult. We may have serious problems if we continue to go down this road, but we will not acknowledge that schools in inner-city communities which have the greatest bulk of the descendants of African slaves need special help. Empowerment zones in inner-city districts need special help to create jobs and create opportunity. We cannot run away from that responsibility.

In the Supreme Court decision, I think I pointed out Supreme Court decision that was related to the Georgia case, and was used as the backbone and the ultimate decisionmaking as within the context of the Supreme Court decision for all other cases, including the recent case of New York. NYDIA VELAZQUEZ's 12th District has been subjected to the same reasoning that was used in the Georgia case, and therefore at this point I want to go back to a statement I made on this floor before:

The Georgia case was a case decided by a five to four configuration. Five members voted for it, and four members voted against it. Ruth Bader Ginsburg wrote the opinion for the minority; Justice Kennedy wrote the opinion for the majority. Justice Kennedy based his ruling on another case which said that you can not have any consideration of race when the Government is involved. Justice Ginsburg challenged this and said this is not so self-evident, it is not common sense. It was not obvious to Justice Ginsburg, and I will repeat what I said on the floor before:

The law, as the law is made and the intent of the constitutional amendment as examined, it is not at all clear to Justice Ginsburg that the 14th amendment is primarily concerned with being colorblind and not concerned with remedying past wrongs, which the full, legal immigration of the African Americans, the former slaves and their descendants into American life, require.

Let me read a few excerpts from Justice Ginsburg's dissenting opinion directly. Quote:

> Legislative redistricting is a highly political business. This court has generally respected the competence of State legislators to attend to the task. When race is the issue, however, we have recognized the need for judicial invention, the judicial intervention, to prevent dilution of minority voting strength. Generations of white discrimination against African Americans, as citizens and voters, account for that surveillance.

In other words, the courts did get involved with redistricting after hundreds of years of, say, you know, we are not going to draw lines. Legislatures can do a better job with that. They got involved only because there was an injustice that continued from one generation to another in representation for minorities, in most cases for the descendants of African slaves.

In other words, what she is saying is that we have generally kept our hands off the judiciary. The judiciary kept its hands off the reapportionment process. There was a series of cases that established clearly that it was better to leave the State legislatures alone to do this, and the only regular systematic intervention of the courts came in the case of the Voting Rights Act. They upheld the Voting Rights Act as being constitutional originally and proceeded for a long time to accept it and support it.

We reauthorized the Voting Rights Act for 25 years. I think it has about 15 more years to go because the Congress, after having tested it, reauthorized it 2 or 3 times for 2 years, 4 years, 5 years; finally decided to reauthorize it for 25 years. But to quote Justice Ginsburg again:

Two years ago in Shaw versus Reno this court took up a claim analytically distinct from a vote dilution claim. Shaw authorized judicial intervention in extremely regular reapportionments.

To continue quoting Justice Ginsburg:

> Today the court expands the judicial role, announcing that Federal courts are to undertake searching review of any district with contours predominantly motivated by race. Strict scrutiny will be triggered not only when traditional districting practices are abandoned, but also when those practices are subordinated to and given less weight than

race. Applying this new race as predominant factor standard, the court invalidates Georgia's districting plan even though Georgia's eleventh district, the focus of today's dispute, bears the imprint of familiar districting practices. Because I do not endorse the court's new standard and will not upset Georgia's new plan, I dissent, says Justice Ginsburg on the occasion of the court case that set the precedent for what has been decided now in New York. NYDIA VELAZQUEZ would not have been ordered to redraw lines in this case, if the court had not ruled on the Georgia case in this manner.

To continue quoting justice Ginsburg:

We say once again what has been said on many occasions. Reapportionment is primarily the duty and responsibility of the State through its legislature or other body rather than of a Federal court. Districting inevitably has sharp political impact, and political decisions must be made by those charged with the task. District lines are drawn to accommodate a myriad of factors geographic, economic, historical and political, and State legislatures as arenas of compromise, electoral accountability, are best positioned to mediate competing claims. Courts with a mandate merely to adjudicate are ill equipped for this task. The lines have been redrawn in New York City, have been ordered redrawn because the court which is ill-equipped with the task is interfering with the process, and they have never done that before. She points out geographic, economic, historical, political and number of factors go into drawing the lines of a district, a congressional district, State Senate district, assembly, all under the same process. It is a political process.

BARNEY FRANK offered the other day when I was looking for examples of strangely shaped districts, oddly shaped districts that have nothing to do with the Voting Rights Act, BARNEY FRANK offered his district. It is one of the oddest shaped districts in the country. It is in Massachusetts. Had nothing to do with the Voting Rights Act. Historically there have been stranger creatures drawn as districts than anything that we have seen put forward in these voting rights act cases, but suddenly esthetics becomes important. The odd shape, if it had something to do with race maybe, requires strict scrutiny.

I quote Justice Ginsburg again. Federal courts have ventured now into the political thicket of reapportionment when necessary to secure to members of racial minorities equal voting rights, rights denied many States including Georgia until not long ago. The 15th amendment which was ratified in 1870 declared that the right to vote shall not be denied by any State on account of race. That declaration for many generations was often honored in the breach. It was greeted by a near century of unremitting and ingenious defiance in several States including Georgia. The defiance in Georgia and several southern States was open, well known, poll tax, lynchings of people who tried to assert their right to vote. You wanted to vote at one point, you had to recite the constitution without stopping. In one State they require that you tell how many bubbles there are in a bar of soap. They came in with all kind of ridiculous questions for black voters who were seeking to vote.

So that is legendary. We know about that. What you do not know is that in places like New York, New York City with a large black population, they have for years, for many decades, drew lines where they went to the black community and put the pin down in the middle of the community so that a large black community would be a part of four different districts. They would have no power in any one of those four districts because they are only a small part of all those districts. It was a pattern repeated over and over again in big cities like Philadelphia, Chicago, all across the country.

□ 1700

So the politicians had the power to do that and they did it and they were allowed to do it.

The 15th amendment, ratified in 1877, said the right to vote shall not be denied by any State on account of race. That declaration for many generations was offered under the breach. After a brief interlude of black suffrage enforced by Federal troops but accompanied by rampant attacks against blacks, Georgia held a constitutional convention in 1877. Its purpose, according to the convention's leader, to quote the convention leader of the Georgia Constitution in 1877, was to fix it so that the people shall rule and the Negro shall never be heard from. This is part of the history that Justice Ginsburg quoted in order to deal with the Georgia case.

She continues, in pursuant of this objective, Georgia enacted a cumulative poll tax requiring voters to show their past as well as current poll taxes paid. One historian described this tax as the most effective bar to Negro suffrage ever devised.

In 1890, the Georgia General Assembly authorized white-only primaries. Keeping blacks out of the Democratic primary effectively excluded them from Georgia's political life. The victory in the Democratic primary in those days was tantamount to election.

Early in this century Georgia Governor Hoke Smith persuaded the legislature of Georgia to pass the Disenfranchisement Act of 1908. As late as 1908, they passed the Disenfranchisement Act of 1908. True to its title, this measure added various property, good character and leadership requirements that as administered served to keep blacks from voting. This result, as one commentator observed 25 years later, was an absolute exclusion of the Negro voice in State and Federal elections.

I am citing all of this to let my colleagues know that this is the Georgia case that is the decisive case, the basis for striking down districts in Virginia and Texas, in Louisiana and Florida, and now in New York City. If my colleagues want to know the history, if my colleagues want to know the other side, this is the other side argued by Justice Ginsburg. She did not agree with Justice O'Connor, she did not agree with Justice Clarence Thomas, and she wrote a brilliant statement that every person in New York who is concerned about justice ought to read.

Disenfranchised blacks have no electoral influence; hence, no muscle to lobby the legislature for change, and that is when the court intervened. She is saying that the court intervened and the Voting Rights Act was created because the processes were being used to exclude and to oppress a particular group. It was a violation of the 15th amendment.

Justice Ginsburg makes it quite clear that the equal protection clause does not rule out extraordinary measures being taken by the Federal Government to deal with past wrongs and to compensate for what happened in 232 years of slavery and the period of disenfranchisement that followed. She argues, Justice Ginsburg argues, with the basic principle that is established by Justice O'Connor in Shaw versus Reno, she argues against that principle; she does not accept that premise.

But then Justice Ginsburg moved to another area and she showed that the 11th Congressional District that was being challenged in Georgia had better lines, less crooked lines, less strange lines; the shape was better, more rectangular than most of the other Georgia districts.

So the district of the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. VELÁZQUEZ] has been called the Bullwinkle district in New York. It is called the Bullwinkle district because it looks so strange; somebody says it looks like Bullwinkle. It is a big joke. But I assure my colleagues that throughout history there have been many Bullwinkles and Bullwinkle's relatives that never have been challenged. We also know that right now across the Nation, of the 435 districts drawn, some of the strangest safe districts have nothing to do with the Voting Rights Act, they have nothing to do with race.

So I come back to my original concern. People of New York, people of my district understand this Voting Rights Act is in jeopardy; the fact that a colleague of mine has been ordered to redraw her district. The question has been asked many times, how will this affect you? It will affect me immediately because I have some boundaries with the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. VELAZQUEZ]. I am on the boundary of people who do have boundaries with her. So they may, in the process of redrawing the district, impact upon my district as it is now.

There are several plans that have been proposed, very modest plans. Some involve adjustments where they move the lines around a bit and a few districts will be impacted and that is it. That is one scenario. The problem could be resolved with the simple scenario of adjusting lines in a few districts. Another scenario is that since the State legislature has ordered the redrawing of all of the lines; not all of

the lines, but redrawing of the lines for her district, the State legislature can choose, if they wish, to redraw all of the lines in the whole State. They have that option. They can choose to draw lines as far away as several thousand miles, in Buffalo, on the border of Canada if they wish. They have that option. Being told by the courts to redraw lines mean they have an option.

Some people in the State legislature, powerful people, the Governor is powerful, the majority leader in the senate, they are powerful Republicans, they may try to get revenge on the Democrats who won in districts that were primarily Republican, who had a large percentage of Republicans, and they may try to draw boundaries in ways which impact on those districts. Some Democrats may choose to want to make some adjustments and get even with some of their enemies by redrawing some lines somewhere.

Mr. Speaker, the scenario that does not make sense is also possible. It does not make sense to do that. The wild scenario of drawing lines throughout the State is one possibility. The scenario of common sense is to just make adjustments downstate in the area of New York City.

Now, I say all of this because it is important if people have questions, they want to know is my district in jeopardy? Why am I concerned about this? I am not concerned primarily because it impacts on my district at all. I am concerned about the future of the Voting Rights Act. I am concerned about the principle of effective Government policies to focus on problems that exist as a result of past Government behavior, past wrongs that were done, past official policies.

When the Constitution was written and they made slaves, they did not even refer to slaves. They said other individuals would be counted as three-fifths, other Indians would be counted as three-fifths of a man. We enshrined in the Constitution a grave error, and the policy decision, the wrong policy decision was perpetrated from then on.

We failed to include in the Declaration of Independence the long section that Jefferson wrote condemning slavery. It was taken out as a compromise. So we failed again in our public policy to deal with the problem. Later on, Jefferson attempted to pass a bill which banned slavery in all of the States that would be added to the Union and it lost by 1 vote in Congress. It lost by 1 vote. We failed in public policy again. It went on and on until you have the blood bath of the Civil War.

So we have a responsibility to correct the results, the by-product of past Government failures. What the Swiss are doing finally, in their offering of a fund for $5 billion is saying that we accept some of that responsibility in the case of what happened with the Jews in the Second World War. The Swiss are setting a great example.

I was speaking to some bankers this morning at a breakfast and I said, look, you bankers who worry so much about the Community Reinvestment Act and the small amount of money you put into big cities and minority neighborhoods, you worry about every penny and you nickel and dime us to death. Why do you not look at the example now being set by the Swiss? Why not have the American millionaires and the tremendous amounts of accumulation of American wealth in America respond to some human needs in America in the same way the Swiss now begin to respond? It took the Swiss 50 years.

Switzerland is a beautiful little country; I have been there twice. It is amazing how clean it is, how orderly it is; law and order is fantastic in Switzerland. Switzerland has a very educated population. In Switzerland the people dress nicely, they look nice and they act nicely, but that does not govern morality. There is no correlation between sanitation and cleanliness and morality.

They behaved abominably. They behaved like the worst of humanity by operating in cahoots with the Germans to take the wealth of all of these helpless people. They denied entry into Switzerland to people who were running from the terror of the Holocaust. They did terrible things. Some people have said, well, they have $5 billion they are now willing to put up. That is not enough. They want justice. Let us calculate how much they have earned and all the money they stole and make them pay up.

I do not think we should ask for justice, it has taken so long to this point. Reconciliation is greater than justice, reconciliation is more important than justice. Justice we may never have. Steps have been taken toward reconciliation; let us accept those steps.

I think I have said before that sometimes it seems that civilization is not going forward. Terrible things have happened in a nation like Germany, with large numbers of educated people, leaders, the history of producing the greatest musicians in the world, the greatest scientists, the greatest mathematicians. A nation like Germany created also some of the greatest crimes against humanity on a scale that no other set of terrorists have ever been able to accomplish in the world.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. SCHIFF (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and on March 8 on account of official business.

Mr. STRICKLAND (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of official business.

Mr. DREIER (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and tomorrow on account of personal reasons.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. NORTON) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. SKAGGS, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WISE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ENGEL, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. LAHOOD) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. GRANGER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PAPPAS, for 5 minutes, on March 6.

Mr. ROHRABACHER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCARBOROUGH, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GIBBONS, for 5 minutes, on March 6.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan, for 5 minutes, today and on March 11.

Mr. FORBES, for 5 minutes, on March 6.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HORN, for 5 minutes today.

(The following Member (at the request of Mr. OWENS) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. KASICH, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. NORTON) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. VENTO.

Mr. MILLER of California.

Mr. CONDIT.

Mr. SERRANO.

Mr. WEYGAND.

Mr. KUCINICH.

Ms. HARMAN.

Mr. TOWNS.

Mr. LEVIN.

Mr. BENTSEN.

Mr. WAXMAN.

Mr. BERMAN.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. LAHOOD) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. BILIRAKIS.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

Mr. PORTER.

Mr. GOODLING.

Mr. GOSS.

Mr. PORTMAN.

Mr. THOMAS.

Mr. GILMAN in two instances.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia in two instances.

Mr. GOODLATTE.

Mr. COOK.

Mr. PACKARD.

Mr. CALLAHAN.

Mr. WOLF.

Mr. WALSH.
Mr. MCINTOSH.
Mr. EWING.
Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut.
(The following Members (at the request of Mr. OWENS) and to include extraneous material:)
Mrs. MORELLA.
Mr. DAN SCHAEFER of Colorado.
Mr. SHAYS.
Mr. SKELTON.
Mr. CONDIT.
Mr. PICKERING.
Ms. STABENOW.
Mr. SHAW.
Mr. ENGEL.
Mr. MCDERMOTT.
Mr. SHERMAN.
Mr. ORTIZ.
Mr. CHRISTENSEN.
Ms. HARMAN.
Mr. SCHUMER.
Mr. CLAY.
Mrs. MALONEY of New York.
Mr. RAHALL.
Mr. VENTO.
Mr. QUINN.
Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.
Mr. SOLOMON.

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that committee did on the following date present to the President, for his approval, a bill of the House of the following title:

On February 28, 1997:

H.R. 668. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reinstate the Airport and Airways Trust Fund excise taxes, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, March 6, 1997, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2093. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a report pursuant to section 1306(c) of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1997, pursuant to Public Law 104–201, section 1306(c) (110 Stat. 2707); to the Committee on National Security.

2094. A letter from the Managing Director, Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting the Board's reports entitled ''1997 Salary Rates'' for its employees in grades 1–15 and ''Executive Level Salary Ranges'' for its executive level employees, pursuant to section 1206 of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 [FIRREA]; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

2095. A letter from the Acting Director, Defense Security Assistance Agency, transmitting the Department of the Army's proposed lease of defense articles to the NATO Maintenance and Supply Agency [NAMSA] [Transmittal No. 08–97], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2; to the Committee on International Relations.

2096. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting notification of a proposed manufacturing license agreement for production of major military equipment with Spain (Transmittal No. DTC–13–97), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(d); to the Committee on International Relations.

2097. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting notification of a proposed manufacturing license agreement for production of major military equipment with Spain (Transmittal No. DTC–12–97), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(d); to the Committee on International Relations.

2098. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed manufacturing license agreement for production of major military equipment with Japan (Transmittal No. DTC–19–97), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(d); to the Committee on International Relations.

2099. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting notification of a proposed manufacturing license agreement for production of major military equipment with the United Kingdom (Transmittal No. DTC–39–97), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(d); to the Committee on International Relations.

2100. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or defense services sold commercially to Switzerland (Transmittal No. DTC–2–97), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

2101. A letter from the Director of Fiscal Resources, Department of the Interior, transmitting a report of activities under the Freedom of Information Act for the calendar year 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(d); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

2102. A letter from the Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting a report of activities under the Freedom of Information Act for the calendar year 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(d); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

2103. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting a report of activities under the Freedom of Information Act for the calendar year 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(d); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

2104. A letter from the Chairman, International Trade Commission, transmitting a report of activities under the Freedom of Information Act for the calendar year 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(d); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

2105. A letter from the Acting Executive Secretary, National Security Council, transmitting a report of activities under the Freedom of Information Act for the calendar year 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(e); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

2106. A letter from The Special Counsel, Office of the Special Counsel, transmitting a report of activities under the Freedom of Information Act for the calendar year 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(d); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

2107. A letter from the Director, U.S. Trade and Development Agency, transmitting a report of activities under the Freedom of Information Act for the calendar year 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(d); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

2108. A letter from the Director, Financial Services, Library of Congress, transmitting a copy of the U.S. Capitol Preservation Commission annual report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996; to the Committee on House Oversight.

2109. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting notification of his determination that Israel is not being denied its right to participate in the activities of the International Atomic Energy Agency, pursuant to Public Law 99–88, chapter V (99 Stat. 232); Public Law 100–461, title I (102 Stat. 2268–3); jointly, to the Committees on International Relations and Appropriations.

2110. A letter from the Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting a copy of the Commission's report entitled ''Federal Sector Report on EEO Complaints and Appeals, FY 1995'' and a copy of the EEOC's ''Annual Report on the Employment of Minorities, Women, and People with Disabilities in the Federal Government, FY 1995,'' pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 2000e–4(e); jointly, to the Committees on Government Reform and Oversight and Education and the Workforce.

2111. A letter from the Fiscal Assistant Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's December 1996 ''Treasury Bulletin,'' pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 9602(a); jointly, to the Committees on Ways and Means and Transportation and Infrastructure.

2112. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General of the United States, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation entitled ''Anti-Gang and Youth Violence Act of 1997''; jointly, to the Committees on the Judiciary, Education and the Workforce, and Commerce.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 5 of rule X and clause 4 of rule XXII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. EHLERS:

H.R. 922. A bill to prohibit the expenditure of Federal funds to conduct or support research on the cloning of humans; to the Committee on Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

H.R. 923. A bill to prohibit the cloning of humans; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. MCCOLLUM (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. LUCAS of Oklahoma):

H.R. 924. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to give further assurance to the right of victims of crime to attend and observe the trials of those accused of the crime; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. KLUG, Mr. DICKEY, Mr. NEUMANN, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. CHABOT, Mrs. KENNELLY of Connecticut, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. STARK, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Ms. JACKSON-

LEE, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. EVANS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mrs. CARSON, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 925. A bill to prohibit the Department of Defense from allowing defense contractors to recoup merger-related restructuring costs from the taxpayers; to the Committee on National Security.

By Mr. MCCOLLUM:

H.R. 926. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to permit Federal prisoners to engage in community service projects; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCCOLLUM (for himself and Mr. SCHUMER):

H.R. 927. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for appointment of U.S. marshals by the Attorney General; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CHRISTENSEN (for himself, Mr. BASS, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. COBURN, Mr. DICKEY, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. NORWOOD, and Mr. WHITFIELD):

H.R. 928. A bill to amend the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 to ensure that employees have adequate access and information regarding the use of employee dues and fees paid to labor organizations; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. CANADY of Florida (for himself, Mr. HALL of Ohio, Mr. HYDE, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. COBURN, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. ARMEY, Mr. DELAY, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mrs. LINDA SMITH of Washington, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. MASCARA, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr. HULSHOF, Mrs. NORTHUP, Mr. BARCIA of Michigan, Mr. DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. MCCRERY, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. KLINK, Mrs. CHENOWETH, Mr. SKELTON, Ms. DANNER, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mr. KNOLLENBERG, Mr. HILLEARY, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. BRYANT, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. HERGER, Mr. CRANE, Mr. DICKEY, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. BALLENGER, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. ROEMER, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BLILEY, Mr. CANNON, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. PITTS, Mr. FORBES, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. WALSH, Mr. BUNNING of Kentucky, Mr. GANSKE, Mr. HILL, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. QUINN, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. CALLAHAN, Mr. STUMP, Mr. MICA, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. MCCOLLUM, Mr. BEREUTER, Mr. TALENT, Mr. PACKARD, Mr. CAMP, Mr. BARR of Georgia, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. MCINTOSH, Mr. BUYER, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. POSHARD, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. JOHN, Mr. KANJORSKI, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, Mr. BAKER, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, Mr. SOLOMON, Mr. WICKER, Mr. RYUN, Mr. SAM JOHNSON, Mr. PARKER, Mr. COBLE, Mr. BONO, Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. ISTOOK, Mr. WATKINS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. MCDADE, Mr. HANSEN, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. JONES, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. BURR of North Carolina, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. WAMP, Mr. LINDER, Mr. JENKINS, Mr. GUTKNECHT, Mr. GOODLING, Mr. PETRI, Mr. NEY, Mr. SANFORD, Mr. LARGENT, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. HASTERT, Mr. NUSSLE, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. ROGERS, Mr. SALMON, Mr. POMBO, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. LIVINGSTON, Mr. EVERETT, Mr. SKEEN, Mr. ARCHER, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. METCALF, Mr. OXLEY, Mr. PAXON, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. GILLMOR, Mr. SPENCE, Mr. KASICH, Mr. NEUMANN, Mr. BOB SCHAFFER, Mr. MOLLOHAN, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. GOODE, Mr. PEASE, Mr. COMBEST, and Mr. WHITFIELD):

H.R. 929. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to ban partial-birth abortions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HORN (for himself, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. MICA, and Mr. PORTMAN):

H.R. 930. A bill to require Federal employees to use Federal travel charge cards for all payments of expenses of official Government travel, to amend title 31, United States Code, to establish requirements for prepayment audits of Federal agency transportation expenses, to authorize reimbursement of Federal agency employees for taxes incurred on travel or transportation reimbursements, and to authorize test programs for the payment of Federal employee travel expenses and relocation expenses; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

By Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Ms. LOFGREN, and Ms. ESHOO):

H.R. 931. A bill to provide an exception to the restrictions on eligibility for public benefits for certain legal aliens; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ABERCROMBIE (for himself and Mrs. MINK of Hawaii):

H.R. 932. A bill to amend chapter 3 of title 28, United States Code, to provide for the appointment in each U.S. circuit court of appeals, of at least one resident of each State in such circuit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin:

H.R. 933. A bill to expand the definition of limited tax benefit for purposes of the Line Item Veto Act; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland (for himself, Mr. DELAY, Mr. TRAFICANT, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. STUMP, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. SKEEN, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. EHRLICH, Mr. SOLOMON, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. BARR of Georgia, Mr. CRANE, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. SCARBOROUGH, Mr. SALMON, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. HERGER, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. ISTOOK, Mr. MCINTOSH, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SNOWBARGER, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. JONES, Mr. SAM JOHNSON, Mr. HILLEARY, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. PITTS, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. PACKARD, Mr. NEUMANN, Mr. DICKEY, Mr. COBLE, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mrs. CHENOWETH, Mr. BONO, Mrs. NORTHUP, Mr. CANNON, Mr. PAUL, Mr. METCALF, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, and Mr. HUTCHINSON:

H.R. 934. A bill to prohibit the payment to the United Nations of any contributions by the United States until U.S. overpayments of such body have been properly credited or reimbursed; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. CONYERS:

H.R. 935. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to impose a penalty upon States that do not give full faith and credit to the protective orders of other States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DOOLITTLE:

H.R. 936. A bill to authorize further appropriations for the stabilization and repair of damages to the Mountain Quarries Railroad Bridge, commonly known as No Hands Bridge, caused by the heavy rains and flooding in California in December 1996 and January 1997; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 937. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the inclusion in gross income of unemployment compensation; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R. 938. A bill to amend the Trade Act of 1974 to extend the period of time within which workers may file a petition for trade adjustment assistance; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R. 939. A bill to permit revocation by members of the clergy of their exemption from Social Security coverage; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R. 940. A bill to reform the Federal unemployment benefits system; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. EWING (for himself, Ms. DUNN of Washington, and Mr. KOLBE):

H.R. 941. A bill to provide for permanent most-favored-nation treatment to the products of the People's Republic of China when that country becomes a member of the World Trade Organization; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey (for himself, Mrs. ROUKEMA, and Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN):

H.R. 942. A bill to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to provide authority for States to limit the interstate transportation of municipal solid waste, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce.

H.R. 943. A bill to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to provide authority for States to control the movement of municipal solid waste to waste management facilities within the boundaries of the State or within the boundaries of political subdivisions of the State; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. GILLMOR (for himself, Mr. OXLEY, and Mr. MANTON):

H.R. 944. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require improved disclosure of corporate charitable contributions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. GILLMOR:

H.R. 945. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require corporations to obtain the views of shareholders concerning corporate charitable contributions; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. GOODLATTE (for himself, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. NEY, Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, Mr. DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. FURSE, Mr. CANADY of Florida, and Mr. GOODE):

H.R. 946. A bill to amend chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that annuities for Members of Congress be computed under the same formula as applies to Federal employees generally, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, and in addition to the Committee on House Oversight, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut (for herself, Mr. MATSUI, Mr. SAWYER, Mr. HOUGHTON, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Ms. DUNN of Washington, Mr. CAMP, Mr. SAM JOHNSON, Mrs. KENNELLY of Connecticut, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Ms. MOLINARI, Mr. HERGER, Mr. WELLER, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. WATKINS, Mr. OXLEY, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. NEY, Mrs. LINDA SMITH of Washington, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FILNER, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. DREIER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. KLUG, Mr. GILLMOR, Mr. FROST, Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts, Mr. SKAGGS, Mr. EVANS, Ms. FURSE, Mr. CANNON, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. ROGAN, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. FARR of California, and Mr. COOK):

H.R. 947. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the research credit and to allow greater opportunity to elect the alternative incremental credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KILDEE:

H.R. 948. A bill to reaffirm and clarify the Federal relationship of the Burt Lake Band as a distinct federally recognized Indian Tribe, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mrs. LOWEY (for herself, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, and Mr. ENGEL):

H.R. 949. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the disposition of a firearm to, and the possession of a firearm by, nonpermanent resident aliens; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MARTINEZ (for himself, Mr. DELLUMS, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. FILNER, Mr. TORRES, Mr. NADLER, Mr. RUSH, Mr. FOGLIETTA, Mr. MANTON, Ms. WATERS, Mr. OWENS, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. ENGEL, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. ANDREWS, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. ACKERMAN, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. BROWN of California, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. DIXON):

H.R. 950. A bill to establish a national public works program to provide incentives for the creation of jobs and address the restoration of infrastructure in communities across the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MCINNIS:

H.R. 951. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to exchange certain lands located in Hinsdale, CO; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. MILLER of California (for himself, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. NADLER, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. VENTO, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, and Mr. SHAYS):

H.R. 952. A bill to clarify the mission, purposes, and authorized uses of the National Wildlife Refuge System, and to establish requirements for administration and conservation planning for that system; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mrs. MINK of Hawaii (for herself, Mr. ACKERMAN, Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FROST, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. MASCARA, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mrs. MORELLA, Ms. SANCHEZ, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Ms. WOOLSEY):

H.R. 953. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for programs regarding ovarian cancer; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. OXLEY (for himself, Mr. TAUZIN, Mr. GILLMOR, Mr. UPTON, Mr. WHITE, and Mr. DAN SCHAEFER of Colorado):

H.R. 954. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to clarify the authority of the Federal Communications Commission to authorize foreign investment in U.S. broadcast and common carrier radio licenses; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. PAPPAS (for himself and Mr. TALENT):

H.R. 955. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit the deduction of home office expenses where the home office is the sole fixed location of the business; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. HASTERT, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. RANGEL):

H.R. 956. A bill to amend the National Narcotics Leadership Act of 1988 to establish a program to support and encourage local communities that first demonstrate a comprehensive, long-term commitment to reduce substance abuse among youth, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SHAYS (for himself and Mr. MCHALE):

H.R. 957. A bill to abolish the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct in the House of Representatives, establish an Independent Commission on House Ethics, and provide for the transfer of the duties and functions of the Committee on the Independent Commission; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. SOUNDER:

H.R. 958. A bill to prohibit United States assistance to Mexico for fiscal year 1998 unless the Government of Mexico meets certain narcotics control requirements; to the Committee on International Relations, and in addition to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. STUPAK:

H.R. 959. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to restrict the mail-order sale of body armor; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. THOMAS:

H.R. 960. A bill to validate certain conveyances in the city of Tulare, Tulare County, CA, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. UPTON (for himself and Mr. FARR of California):

H.R. 961. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate the requirement that States pay unemployment compensation on the basis of services performed by election workers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. WYNN:

H.R. 962. A bill to redesignate a Federal building in Suitland, MD, as the ''W. Edwards Deming Federal Building''; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GILMAN:

H. Con. Res. 36. Concurrent resolution expressing support for equal and fair access to higher education in the Albanian language in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. CONDIT (for himself and Mr. ROHRABACHER):

H. Con. Res. 37. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Sikh Nation should be allowed to exercise the right of national self-determination in their homeland, Punjab, Khalistan; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mrs. MORELLA (for herself, Mr. SAWYER, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. DINGELL, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. JOHN, Mr. BALDACCI, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, and Mr. OBERSTAR).

H. Con. Res. 38. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress with respect to the collection of ancestry data as part of the decennial census of population; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

By Mr. GILMAN:

H. Res. 81. Resolution providing amounts for the expenses of the Committee on International Relations in the 105th Congress; to the Committee on House Oversight.

By Mr. LAHOOD:

H. Res. 82. Resolution designating majority membership on certain standing committees of the House; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. GEKAS (for himself, Mr. SHAW, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. STEARNS, and Mr. PORTER):

H. Res. 83. Resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Federal commitment to biomedical research should be increased substantially over the next 5 years; to the Committee on Commerce.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 4 of rule XXII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 1: Mr. BLUNT and Mr. RILEY.

H.R. 9: Mr. RUSH.

H.R. 34: Mr. GRAHAM.

H.R. 38: Mr. WYNN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. KILDEE, and Mr. PARKER.

H.R. 59: Mr. COMBEST, Mr. PACKARD, Mr. BAKER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CANNON, Mr. BOB SCHAFFER, and Mr. HOEKSTRA.

H.R. 65: Mr. GUTKNECHT, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania, Mr. WATT of North Carolina, and Mr. DICKS.

H.R. 66: Mr. SANDERS, Mr. OLVER, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. BALDACCI, Mr. DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. PORTER, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. DELLUMS, Mr. TORRES, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. KUCINICH, and Mr. HINCHEY.

H.R. 69: Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. BERRY, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma.

H.R. 80: Mr. MILLER of Florida, Ms. HARMAN, and Mr. CHABOT.

H.R. 86: Mr. CAMP.

H.R. 96: Mr. BURR of North Carolina and Ms. FURSE.

H.R. 107: Mr. BORSKI, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KANJORSKI, Mr. CONDIT, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. NADLER, Ms. FURSE, and Mr. DEFAZIO.

H.R. 108: Mr. QUINN and Mr. PARKER.

H.R. 127: Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, and Mr. SABO.

H.R. 203: Mr. FARR of California.
H.R. 215: Mr. FAZIO of California.
H.R. 230: Mr. FOLEY.
H.R. 240: Mr. CANADY of Florida, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. CAMP.
H.R. 250: Mr. STUPAK.
H.R. 279: Mr. NEUMANN, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. FAZIO of California, Ms. JACKSON-LEE, Mr. OWENS, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. WYNN, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. DIXON, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. BAESLER, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. CONDIT, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. MCDADE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MOAKLEY, Mr. TORRES, Mr. MATSUI, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. ROMERO-BARCELO, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. LIVINGSTON, and Mr. RIGGS.
H.R. 280: Mr. EVANS, Mr. BENTSEN, Mr. MATSUI, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 284: Mr. OBERSTAR.
H.R. 285: Mr. COYNE, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 286: Mr. COYNE and Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 287: Mr. COYNE, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 289: Mr. NEY.
H.R. 303: Mr. GUTKNECHT, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania, and Mr. DICKS.
H.R. 328: Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 336: Mr. STUMP and Mr. POMBO.
H.R. 337: Mr. WEXLER, Ms. PELOSI, and Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 363: Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 371: Mr. DOOLEY of California, Mr. HORN, Mr. JEFFERSON, and Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island.
H.R. 399: Mr. STEARNS, Mr. HOBSON, Mr. BALDACCI, Mr. WELLER, and Mr. PARKER.
H.R. 419: Mr. DEUTSCH, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. BENTSEN, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. DELLUMS, and Ms. JACKSON-LEE.
H.R. 420: Mr. CAMPBELL.
H.R. 437: Mr. STEARNS, Mrs. FOWLER, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. FORBES, Mr. HOYER, and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H.R. 443: Ms. PELOSI and Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin.
H.R. 444: Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 446: Mr. BARR of Georgia and Mr. MCKEON.
H.R. 474: Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Ms. JACKSON-LEE, and Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN.
H.R. 475: Mr. CLEMENT, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. BUNNING of Kentucky, Mr. WALSH, and Mr. NORWOOD.
H.R. 498: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 519: Mrs. KELLY.
H.R. 535: Mrs. KENNELLY of Connecticut, Mr. CANADY of Florida, Mr. ACKERMAN, and Mr. ABERCROMBIE.
H.R. 536: Mr. HINCHEY and Mr. FORD.
H.R. 538: Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. NORTON, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. YATES, Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mr. LAFALCE.
H.R. 554: Mr. POMEROY.
H.R. 560: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 561: Mr. RANGEL, Mr. FILNER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HINCHEY, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 582: Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. DELLUMS.
H.R. 586: Mr. NUSSLE and Mr. TIERNEY.
H.R. 607: Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin, Mr. LARGENT, Mr. FILNER, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. RIGGS, and Mr. PARKER.
H.R. 621: Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 667: Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. FROST, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. FILNER, and Mr. ROGAN.
H.R. 678: Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. KNOLLENBERG, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, Mr. MCCRERY, Mrs. FOWLER, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. LARGENT, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. MCINNIS, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mr. BLILEY, Mr. PICKETT, Mr. SOLOMON, Mr. BATEMAN, Mr. MANZULLO, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. STUPAK, and Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 680: Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma and Mr. WALSH.
H.R. 686: Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 688: Mr. LARGENT, Mr. BARTON of Texas, and Mr. LOBIONDO.
H.R. 714: Mr. MASCARA, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. GEKAS, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. MCDADE, Mr. GREENWOOD, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, and Mr. BORSKI.
H.R. 722: Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. JONES, Mr. PARKER, Mr. PAPPAS, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. LOBIONDO, and Mrs. CHENOWETH.
H.R. 734: Ms. LOFGREN and Mr. DELLUMS.
H.R. 750: Mr. BLUNT.
H.R. 755: Mrs. KELLY, Mr. BLUNT, and Mr. LARGENT.
H.R. 789: Ms. DUNN of Washington.
H.R. 800: Mr. DELLUMS.
H.R. 825: Mr. PAYNE, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. FILNER, Mr. FARR of California, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. JACKSON-LEE, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. LIPINSKI.
H.R. 849: Mr. BONO, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. GOODLATTE, and Mr. EWING.
H.R. 867: Mr. RAMSTAD and Ms. PRYCE of Ohio.
H.R. 879: Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mrs. CARSON, and Mr. FARR of California.
H.R. 880: Mr. DELAY, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. QUINN, Mr. WELLER, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. LARGENT, Mr. MCCRERY, and Mr. SENSENBRENNER.
H.R. 907: Mr. HINOJOSA.
H.J. Res. 54: Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. COOK, Ms. DUNN of Washington, Mr. GEKAS, Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, Mr. ISTOOK, Mr. JONES, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. PASCRELL, Mrs. ROUKEMA, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. TAUZIN, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, Mr. THORNBERRY, and Mr. WICKER.
H. Con. Res. 6: Ms. RIVERS and Mr. STUPAK.
H. Con. Res. 13: Ms. FURSE and Mr. COSTELLO.
H. Con. Res. 14: Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. ACKERMAN, Ms. RIVERS, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. YATES, Mr. MCNULTY, and Mr. FLAKE.
H. Con. Res. 17: Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA.
H. Con. Res. 31: Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr. SCARBOROUGH, Mr. BOB SCHAFFER, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. DICKEY, and Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina.
H. Res. 64: Mrs. CARSON.

United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 143 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 1997 *No. 27*

Senate

The Senate met at 12 noon, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by Chaplain Charles H. Richmond, national chaplain of the American Legion, Edmond, OK. Pleased to have you with us.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Dr. Charles H. Richmond, national chaplain of the American Legion, offered the following prayer.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, to You our Creator, Supreme Judge, and God of all nature we pray. As we pledge allegiance to our God and the flag of our country, may it not be a mere salute to custom or tradition, but a sincere desire to know and to follow Thy will. We need not ask for Thy presence, because You are always near. Instead we pray that we might have receptive hearts and minds, in tune with Thy will, so that we may listen to Your voice. The weight of responsibility is heavy. The Holy Scripture speaking of government says, ''There is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God * * * for the authorities are God's servants who give their full time to governing.'' We give thanks for men and women who are willing, able, and committed to government service. Give our leaders the continued strength, integrity, courage, and wisdom not only to govern, make laws and policies, and direct our Government, but also to lead the American people in right living and patriotism. Give us the wisdom and conscience to know what is right, and the strength to do what is right, that we may truly pray ''God bless America.''

Mr. NICKLES addressed the Chair.

RECOGNITION OF THE ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able assistant majority leader, Senator NICKLES, is recognized.

Mr. NICKLES. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

DR. CHARLES H. RICHMOND, GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I thank the guest Chaplain, Dr. Charles Richmond from Edmond, OK, for a beautiful prayer. I also thank him for his service to our country as national chaplain of the American Legion, but also for his lifetime of dedication and service to God and country in his capacity as a leader.

He has given his time to the American Legion, first serving as chaplain of the Oklahoma American Legion Boys State for the past 5 years and, more recently, becoming the national chaplain of the American Legion in September 1996.

Dr. Richmond is an ordained Southern Baptist minister. He has touched the lives of the members of many churches throughout Oklahoma and across our country. Although now retired, he continues to be active in many church and religious activities.

Dr. Richmond has been an educator. He has also served as a public schoolteacher, a coach, a counselor, and a principal. In addition, he served as dean of men and later dean of student affairs at the University of Central Oklahoma for over a quarter of a century.

Dr. Richmond began his lifelong dedication to God and our country as a young man. In 1942, he entered World War II, the youngest person ever to enter the Chaplain Service. Only 30 days after entering the Army, he was sent overseas to Asia, where he devoted 2½ years to serving United States troops during the China, Burma, and India campaign. In 1950, he was reactivated with the Oklahoma National Guard and served in Korea and Japan. While in Japan, he led the building of a Christian church which spawned 22 churches and missions over the next 10 years. Dr. Richmond later served 20 years as division chaplain of the Oklahoma National Guard.

Dr. Richmond has served the community of Edmond as president of the Edmond, OK, club of Rotary International. In March 1996, he was chosen to serve as the Oklahoma State Senate chaplain.

Today, I am honored to recognize Dr. Charles Richmond, a great American and Oklahoman, as guest Chaplain in the U.S. Senate.

Dr. Richmond, again, I thank you for an outstanding prayer, words of encouragement—one that I hope all of us will certainly pay attention to.

SCHEDULE

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, I announce that following morning business today, the Senate will begin consideration of Senate Joint Resolution 5, the waiver resolution for the Barshefsky nomination, at 1 p.m. Under a previous order, there will be 3 hours of debate on the Hollings amendment and 1 hour of debate following the resolution itself. Following disposition of the amendment and the resolution, the Senate will proceed to a vote on the nomination of Charlene Barshefsky, to be U.S. Trade Representative. Therefore, Senators can expect several rollcall votes throughout Wednesday's session of the Senate.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

CHANGE OF ALLOCATION OF MORNING BUSINESS TIME

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the morning

business time allotted to Senator GRAHAM of Florida be allocated to Senator DORGAN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BURNS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURE PLACED ON CALENDAR—SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 22

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I understand there is a resolution at the desk that is due for its second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 22) to express the sense of the Congress concerning the application by the Attorney General for the appointment of an independent counsel to investigate allegations of illegal fundraising in the 1996 Presidential election campaign.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, on behalf of other colleagues, I object to further proceedings on this matter at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The joint resolution will be placed on the calendar.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be a period for the transaction of morning business, not to extend beyond the hour of 1 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein not to exceed 5 minutes each.

The Senator from Pennsylvania is recognized.

Mr. SANTORUM. Thank you, Mr. President.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, this morning, I attended a press conference with Representative CHARLES CANADY from Florida, as well as Senator HATCH and Congressman HYDE, the chairmen of the respective bodies' Judiciary Committees, to introduce the House bill, which is companion to the bill I introduced last month, on the issue of partial-birth abortions.

At that press conference, Senator HATCH and Chairman HYDE announced a joint House-Senate Judiciary Committee, calling witnesses before the joint committee hearing to talk about previous testimony given by those organizations to Congress in light of the disclosure of Ron Fitzsimmons, who heads an organization of abortion clinics, that he ''lied through his teeth,'' and others, likewise, I will add—this is me speaking, not him—lied through their teeth in telling Congress and the American public the situations in which the partial-birth abortion procedure was used and the number of times that procedure was used.

I said at that press conference, and I will say to my colleagues in the Senate today, as I did last year when we debated this bill, I am hopeful that as a result of the new information having been brought to light, not just with Mr. Fitzsimmons but, frankly, over the past year or so, with this new information that has been brought to light not just by him, but by newspaper reports, magazine reports from the mainstream media, that we will have Members of the Senate on both sides—I ask everyone to relook at this issue and base your decisions on the facts as we now know them, not the misinformation or disinformation given out by organizations like the National Abortion Rights Action League or Planned Parenthood or others who deliberately lied to the American public, misled the American public on a variety of issues.

First, they came to the Congress and said—in fact, look at Members of Congress on the House side, going to the well, saying this was true because these organizations said it was true, that the procedure was done under anesthesia and the anesthesia killed the baby.

We had an anesthesiologist come forward and say, ''Wait a minute, we have women now who won't get anesthesia to deliver children,'' which is normal in this country, of course, ''because they are afraid they are going to kill their baby,'' and so they had to back off. ''Well, we didn't really mean that.'' Well, of course they meant it. They testified to it.

Then the next great lie was that this was a procedure done, you know, with only a few hundred a year, only with women whose health was in danger or whose children were fatally deformed, and, as a result of that, we need to have this option available. ''There's only a few hundred a year.''

In fact, you know, tap into NARAL's home page. You will find the information still there. At least it was a couple days ago until some people found it. Now they may have pulled it. But they still say there are only a couple hundred being performed and only in the third trimester. That was their argument all along. It is a lie. That is what Mr. Fitzsimmons says—he lied through his teeth.

How would he know? He is the president of an organization of abortion clinics. He called up the doctors of the clinics, and the doctors said, ''No. We perform this fairly routinely,'' not just on third trimester babies—and some are—but the vast majority—95 percent is my guess, or even more—are on healthy mothers with healthy babies in the fifth and sixth months of pregnancy. Those are the facts.

If Members of this body will look at those facts and vote based on the facts as we know them—this procedure, which involves taking a baby, late term, fifth, sixth, in rare cases seventh, eighth, maybe even ninth month, but in rare cases in that situation, taking this baby, delivering the baby feet first, delivering the entire baby except for the head, then taking a pair of scissors and puncturing the base of the skull, sticking a suction tube in there and suctioning the brains out, killing the baby and then delivering this now dead baby.

If the Members of the U.S. Senate know, as we do know now, that that happens, not a few hundred times—in my opinion, a few hundred times is pretty horrible—now several thousand times, at least according to Mr. Fitzsimmons, 3,000 to 5,000—given the industry track record on what they report, probably multiples of that, but at least that many—whether we are going to condone healthy moms, healthy babies, some of them viable, being allowed to have this abortion done in this just most gruesome manner.

So I ask the Members of the Senate to not just fall into your camp that you are comfortable with, you know, if you are pro-choice, ''I've got to be pro-choice.'' This is not pro-life, not pro-choice, certainly not Democrat or Republican. There were Democrats at the press conference. Democrats have been some of the most vocal supporters of this bill. This is an issue of who we are as a country and who this body is as a Senate.

We have a life-of-the-mother exception. I know Members continue to get up and say, ''Well, we need to do this to protect the life of the mother.'' There is a life-of-the-mother exception. It is clear. It is solid. No one who reads it would say it is anything but a life-of-the-mother exception.

So, if this procedure needs to be done to save the life of the mother, which I have not found anybody who says it is necessary, but if it is, you can do it. But after that, this procedure must be made illegal, given the facts as we now know them.

So I am asking Members, new Members who have not voted on this issue, and Members who have voted the other way in particular, to take a look at this information.

Let me challenge folks here in the other gallery, in the news media, to start doing your homework. This information was readily available. All you had to do was report it. All you had to do was look. All you had to do is ask. I know you folks love to believe people who agree with you, and you take that as gospel. Well, do your work. Investigate. Find out the truth.

The American public just does not want to hear what your friends in these organizations say is the truth. They want to know the real truth. It is your job to tell them. We tried to tell them. We were here giving you the facts. You just decided not to report them. Tell the truth. Let the American public know what is really going on out there. When they continue, as they will, to lie on television, these organizations, to try to hide their dirty secrets, call

them on it. Quit pandering to the other side. You owe it to the country. We are talking about lives of innocent babies here. You owe it to your profession. We owe it to the country. I yield the floor.

Mr. BROWNBACK addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas is recognized for up to 30 minutes.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Thank you, Mr. President.

I certainly appreciate what the Senator from Pennsylvania was just stating on this very critical issue on partial-birth abortions. It is a sad situation that has occurred in this country. I am hoping that this body and this Nation and this Government can respond to this situation.

AN UNLIMITED AMERICA

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, the era of big Government is over. May it rest in peace. In its place a new era is about to unfold. An unlimited America with a smaller Federal Government, economic opportunity for all, and a renewed culture.

An unlimited America was the vision for the Nation set forth by our Founding Fathers. It is the vision enshrined in those two great charters of freedom: our Declaration of Independence and our Constitution. Many of America's most intractable problems stem from the fact that we've strayed from that vision—and lost direction. But I have no doubt that if we can recapture the Founders's vision of limited Government, personal responsibility, and economic opportunity that America's greatest days will be yet to come.

The Founding Fathers of our Nation believed in the people. They created a new nation based on the radical notion that the people could be free and trusted—that the nation would be great if you trusted the people to be good. Before the birth of America, individual rights only existed so far as the grace of the dictator or monarch allowed. They were believed to have a divine right to rule, because it was thought that the people could not be trusted to rule themselves.

Our Founders believed that the people had the right to govern themselves—and that government derives its power from the consent of the governed. But this right also imposed a requirement on ''We the People'': We must be a moral and just people. John Adams put it this way, ''Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate for the government of any other.''

Yet, today, we have placed the Government in the role that was reserved for citizenship. We have gone from ''We the People'' to They the Bureaucracy.

In our recent efforts to create a more perfect union we have relied too much on the Government and too little on ourselves. We have forgotten that self-government demands the habits and virtues required for such a government. ''Republican government,'' James Madison noted, ''presupposes the existence of these qualities in a higher degree than any other form.'' Yet at some point we decided that goodness for the Nation simply came from the greatness of government. But the greatness of our Nation can never be measured by the size of our GDP or even the strength of our armies. National greatness rises from personal goodness.

And that is the starting point for ending the era of big Government and beginning the era of an unlimited America. Our mission is to re-limit the Federal Government; to release economic opportunity for all our citizens; and to renew our families and our culture. In my view these principles are not divisible—if any one is missing, the old era will not give way to the new and America will not return to the straight path—the only path which leads to national greatness.

RELIMITING GOVERNMENT

Fifteen years ago, President Reagan spoke before the British Parliament and made a prediction that shook the world. We were witnessing, he declared, ''a great revolutionary crisis—a crisis where the demands of the economic order are colliding with those of the political order.'' The Soviet Union, which seemed at the height of its power, was running ''against the tide of history by denying freedom and human dignity to its citizens.'' Despite all its tanks and missiles, the Soviet Union would soon be swept aside by the ''march of freedom and democracy''—leaving—''Marxism-Leninism on the ash heap of history.''

Many of Reagan's listeners thought he was dreaming. But Ronald Reagan had faith in freedom. He knew that communism, though militarily powerful, was ideologically dead. He knew what our founders knew: that in a truly legitimate government, power does not come out of the barrel of a gun, but only from the consent of the people. In a few years the Berlin Wall came tumbling down and the Evil Empire crumbled with a suddenness that astonished supporters of freedom and rocked the world's remaining tyrants.

Today big Government is facing the same internal crisis as the Soviet empire was in 1982. Big Government is institutionally strong, but structurally weak. It is backed by armies of special interests that ferociously protect their budgets and intimidate anyone who challenges their subsidies, but it has been abandoned by the American people.

Our mission is to implement big Government's replacement—to unite the principles of economic freedom and the cause of cultural renewal to forge a new governing consensus that will lead America into the 21st Century. Conservatives sometimes forget that limiting government is not an end in itself, but a means to a better society.

We must remember that our Federal Government has helped America achieve many great things in this century. Along with our allies, we defeated two potentially mortal threats to freedom: fascism in World War II and communism in the cold war. Government built the Interstate Highway System that helped create our modern economy. It established Social Security and Medicare systems which have sharply reduced poverty in old age, and enabled senior citizens to live longer and in better health. Through student loans and the GI bill, it offered educational opportunity to those who might have otherwise been denied. And it enforced civil rights laws in the 1960's when it was clear that State governments could not protect the civil and political liberties of all Americans.

But today, America's problems are different. And they require a different response by government.

Unlike 50 years ago, our most difficult problems cannot be solved by the benevolent hand of a powerful, centralized bureaucracy. We can still have an effective Government, without a big Government that takes away our freedoms and degrades our values.

UNLEASHING AMERICA'S ECONOMIC POTENTIAL

As I stated, our mission is to implement the replacement of big Government—to unite the principles of economic freedom and cultural renewal to forge a new governing consensus that will lead America into the 21st century.

The principles of economic freedom are the very same principles that will bring forward a renewed culture and a society of limited government. Faith, family, and freedom: these are the values that make both our national economy and our national character strong. When government undermines these values, it hurts our families and our economy. Today, big Government is holding back our economy and preventing our people from reaching their full potential.

Perhaps, the most obvious evidence is the fiscal bankruptcy of the Federal Government. Today, we are more than $5.3 trillion in debt—a crushing burden that amounts to over $20,000 for every man woman and child. We are broke. And the budget deficits of today are minor compared with the fiscal disaster that will confront us in the early 21st century when Social Security and Medicare are unable to pay their bills.

But huge deficits and skyrocketing debt are just one problem.

Americans currently labor under a tax code so complicated that even tax lawyers and accountants can't understand it. We tax personal income two and three times before a citizen can see a return on his work or investment. Our people must work until May 8 just to pay their taxes to the Government before they can earn a penny to support their families.

Our Tax Code is one of the greatest remnants of an over-intrusive big Government. It is perhaps the single greatest obstacle to greater individual freedom and prosperity. Ronald Reagan

made enormous progress during his presidency, scaling the top rate from 70 percent down to 28 percent. But since then, taxes have gone up—under both Republican and Democrat presidents

The power to levy and collect taxes was meant to fund a constitutional Government, not to become a political device in and of itself. Today, our central Government discourages certain behavior and rewards others based purely on the whims of those who control the tax monster.

And as long as the current tax system exists, we will have not met the challenge of replacing big Government and America's potential will never be fully reached.

In other examples of big Government, we have over 340 Federal ''economic development'' programs which redistribute capital from productive citizens to bureaucratically-favored entities. Our regulatory state imposes hidden taxes on our families, our businesses and our dreams without truly measuring the consequences and weighing the alternatives. And our political class has become satisfied with expanding our economy at a lethargical pace. Meanwhile, entrepreneurs are being denied capital for their innovative ideas, parents are spending more time at work and less at home, and the American dream is slipping away from more and more families.

Many of these barriers are leftover from the great experiment with big Government that is entrenched in our system. Defenders of this system may be winning the battle, but they cannot win this war of ideas. The economic future of our country is inextricably tied to our people.

This is why I am optimistic that we will break the bonds that are stifling the innovation and creativity of our people. As this new wave of information technology grows into each household and every new child's mind, the system that relied on Government experts to guide our economy will be washed away in a tide of entrepreneurial capitalism that will make the industrial revolution pale by comparison. Legions of entrepreneurs with innovative ideas, exciting energy and new talents will bring forth the inevitable implosion of today's redistributive and elitist economic policy. And our job as people who love freedom is to do everything we can to help advance this process.

RENEWING THE AMERICAN CULTURE

We must also not forget that a nation must be full of good people before it can be a great nation. George Washington, in his First Inaugural, said that there is ''no truth more thoroughly established than that there exists in the economy and course of nature, an indissoluble union between virtue and happiness; between duty and advantage.'' As a result, he predicted that ''the foundation of our national policy will be laid in the pure and immutable principles of private morality.''

If this is true—and I believe it is—then certainly the best predictor of future greatness is current goodness.

Where are we today on the goodness of the Nation? If we were to measure gross domestic piety in America we would ideally view the nature of each persons heart. Seeing as we cannot measure another's soul, we are left to measure actions and extrapolate from it goodness.

The number of crimes committed does tell us something about the soul of the nation. So does the number of abandoned households, the divorce rate, the rate of teenage suicide and abortion. If these are extraordinarily high, can anyone disagree that the goodness of the Nation has declined and its long-term success is in jeopardy?

But let me make a bold statement here. America is in ascent again. While I have just spoken about the many terrible and vexing problems of our Nation, this Nation has always shown an ability to deal with its problems once it focuses on what those problems are.

I believe today we are focused on the problems of America. We are seeing the limits of Government and the needs of the hearts of our people. Many of our citizens are realizing that in their individual actions—each and every day touching, loving, encouraging, and caring for their fellow man and woman—that they have the power to continue America as a great Nation.

A NEW GOVERNING CONSENSUS

Men and women all across this Nation like Pastor Reid are mending America's social fabric by reviving the families, civic organizations, and faith-based institutions that teach character and nurture the soul. They may not all think of themselves as conservatives, but they embody the conservative way of thinking. And they are rediscovering the principles of limited self-government, personal responsibility, and entrepreneurial capitalism that the founders envisioned for America.

The restoration of America's civil society has replaced the fight against communism as our central need and our central focus. This need unites libertarians with their emphasis on a free society with cultural conservatives with their emphasis on faith, family, and responsibility with pro-growth Americans who want to free up the genius of the American people through entrepreneurial capitalism. This vision, a vision of freedom, responsibility, and growth can form the core of a new conservative governing consensus.

Our cause should be unified, not fractured. Americans of all sorts should work together to restore this common vision of a limited government so we can open markets, free up individual creativity, and above all else, renew the American culture. Indeed, the sum of these goals is essential to the whole of our destiny as a nation.

This isn't a utopian fantasy or wishful thinking. Americans and our Government have practiced these principles before, and we will do so again. When Alexis de Tocqueville visited America in the 1830's, he discovered the most democratic, most egalitarian, most religious, most prosperous, and most charitable country on Earth. It was a country of limited national Government, and active citizen participation in local government. Every community had newspapers describing how citizens formed voluntary associations to solve problems instead of expecting them to be solved by politicians.

The industrial revolution of the late 19th century and the early 20th century was a time of rapidly growing entrepreneurial capitalism and great personal achievement. It was no coincidence that this period also saw the creation of the Red Cross, the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, YMCA's and YWCA's, hundreds of private colleges and universities, and countless other organizations that strengthened character and addressed the problems of their communities.

This explosion of community organizations and faith-based institutions coincided with an economic, cultural and moral reawakening that touched America in many ways. As the great scholar James Q. Wilson has written, crime went down in the second half of the 19th century even though this was a period of rapid industrialization and urbanization. The rate of abortions fell in half during this period. Again, government did not create this development, people did.

Today there are signs that America is entering another great revival of civic, voluntary activity. In the tradition of Jews, Mormons, and other religious groups with strong charitable traditions, conservative Evangelicals and Catholics run schools for low-income children. They operate maternity homes that give unwed mothers the love and support they need to choose life. They go into our cities' meanest streets and prisons to rescue gang members, drug dealers, and prostitutes from lives of violence, addiction, and desperation. Name a social ill afflicting our cities—poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, illegitimacy—and you will find a self-selected, religiously affiliated program attacking the problem with prayer and sweat and a small army of volunteers.

Some scholars say that America is entering a fourth great awakening, a revival of religious faith and fervor. In the American political tradition, freedom and religious revival have always gone together. The first great awakening helped inspire the American Revolution, and religious faith was at the center of the anti-slavery and civil rights movements. And as the call for freedom grows with this revival, we will have the chance to restore an unlimited America where Government will focus on self-limitation, people will focus on self-governing, and our society will grow and prosper both economically and culturally creating an era of an unlimited America.

I have no illusions about the problems we face. Ours is the work of generations. But today the American people have a choice to make. We can either continue along the path of administrative, bureaucratic Government and follow the tired mediocrity of big Government, or we can begin the long and difficult task of rebuilding an America that knows no limits.

To follow this path we must do two things:

First: The creed of America is to be found in the Declaration of Independence, which Jefferson called ''an expression of the American mind.'' We must renew our commitment to these principles, return to our Constitution and reassert ourselves as a free, self-governing people.

Second: America has always had within itself a deep source of regeneration. It gains nourishment from its many, varied roots; its history, its religious faith, its free market and its immigrant heritage. And what holds us all together is America's love of liberty, deep in the hearts and minds of the American people. We must renew what Washington called ''the sacred fire of liberty'' and set it ablaze across the land.

These are not easy tasks. Yet I remain an optimist for these are powerful forces on the move in our society. I don't know about you, but I have every confidence that Americans will choose the right path for themselves, and for future generations that have yet to enjoy the blessings of freedom. And as we do, we will establish the era of an unlimited America.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. BYRD addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I may proceed for not to exceed 12 minutes.

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

Mr. BYRD. I thank the Chair.

EACH SENATOR IS ACCOUNTABLE ONLY TO HIS OWN CONSTITUENTS

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, on several occasions during the last few days some of the proponents of the balanced budget amendment here in the Senate have taken to the floor and to the airwaves, and other ways to criticize those Senators who have seen fit to follow the dictates of their own conscience and oppose the balanced budget amendment which was defeated in the Senate by a single vote last evening.

In the main, these attacks seem to have been directed especially at those Members who may have indicated support for a balanced budget amendment during a campaign, but found it impossible to support the particular amendment which was put before the Senate for a vote.

I should say parenthetically at this point that I voted for the balanced budget amendment in 1982. I had not thought much about it at that time. I had not studied it. But following my vote for that amendment on that occasion I decided to study the matter and to consider it seriously, and consider the impact upon the Constitution. And I changed my vote from 1982 to 1986. In 1986 I voted against a constitutional amendment to balance the budget, and I have been against it ever since, and I always will be against it because I have given it thorough consideration and thought. And I have come up with a conclusion that I am very comfortable with.

So there are those who may have indicated support for a balanced budget amendment during the campaign but found it impossible to support the particular amendment, as I say, which was put before the Senate for a vote on yesterday.

I rise today to again congratulate those Members, who, after careful study of the specifics of this particular amendment, had the intelligence and the courage and the vision to discern the amendment's obvious flaws, and the courage to follow the dictates of their own consciences.

More and more the trend today in political life in America is to blindly endorse proposals, simply because they are popular or because they fit neatly into a set of ideological preconditions endorsed by one political party, or the other. The specifics, the details, the actual impact of many of these political ''no-brainers,'' if you will, is glossed over in favor of the attraction of simplicity and ideological purity. Just as we have ''dumbed down'' our textbooks, the last decade has made a ''dumbing down'' of our politics as well. I often think that we insult the American people with the obvious demagoguery which spews forth from Washington in the form of pandering and very-very-tired, old cliches.

I would like to remind my colleagues that law and legislating is about the examination of details. We don't legislate one-liners, or campaign slogans. Here, in this body and in the other body, we put the force of the law behind details that impact mightily upon the daily lives of our people. That is a solemn responsibility. And it is more important than political popularity, or winning the next election or marching lockstep to the orders of one political party, or another.

Especially in the case of amending the Constitution, that responsibility weighs more heavily. For in that instance we are contemplating changes in our basic, fundamental organic law—changes that, when once implanted in that revered document, can only be removed at great difficulty, and which will impact, quite possibly, upon generations of Americans who, yet unborn, must trust us to guard their birthright as Americans.

Once the Constitution is amended, it takes quite a while to repeal that amendment, as we saw in the case of the 18th amendment—the prohibition amendment—which became a part of the Constitution in January 1919, and it was not removed from the Constitution until December 1933. In other words, it was in the Constitution for 15 years before it could be repealed. So we have to be very, very careful when it comes to amending the Constitution. It is most unlike passing a law, or amending a law, which can be repealed within the same calendar year here in the Congress.

The suggestion has been made on this floor that to change one's mind and to go against a statement made in a campaign is somehow a disservice to this country. Well, I differ, and I differ strongly. What I think I am hearing on the floor of this Senate is nothing more than an effort to use an individual Member's vote against a popular, but fatally flawed proposal, to cut politically against that Member, and further to use the Senate floor for the crass political purpose of meddling in the politics of several of the sovereign States.

A campaign pledge is one thing, but may I remind all of those who worship at the altar of campaign pledges that there is another pledge that each of us makes as we stand before this body and before we assume the office of United States Senator. That pledge is a solemn oath taken with one hand on the Bible and ending in the words ''so help me God.''

Now, that is a pledge that will trump all of the campaign pledges. Forget about the campaign pledges. Those who make pledges in campaigns, if it is their first campaign for the Senate, they have not been in the Senate and they have not heard the debate on a given matter. They haven't listened to their colleagues in the Senate. Oh, they have been Members of the House, as I was a Member of the House at one time. But once they enter this body, they are a Member of the United States Senate, the only forum of the States that exists in this great Government of ours. It is a different body. They then represent a different constituency—usually. And so it is quite a different thing.

It is our oath of office that is overriding. In it we swear before the Creator to ''support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic.''

A Member of this body having so sworn to uphold that sacred trust is then obligated to do his best to adhere to it according to his best intellectual efforts and the dictates of their own conscience. One does not surrender his or her independence upon becoming a United States Senator. One does not swear allegiance to a political party when he takes that oath of allegiance to the Constitution. That Member is then answerable to God and, under law, to his own constituents. They know about Senators' votes. We don't have to trumpet the votes for the benefit of the constituents of another Senator. Constituents of Senators know about the votes of their Senators, and a Senator is answerable, not to any political

party or person, not to any colleague, not to any organization, but answerable only to his own constituents, to his own conscience, and to his own God. He is answerable to his own constituents—the people who trusted his judgment enough to send him here in the first place.

The suggestions which have been made on this floor about the dubious honesty of some Members are more than regrettable. They represent the kind of judgmental rigidity that really has no place in a body such as this.

Let me also say at this point that the threats to run down that last remaining vote so badly desired by the proponents of this amendment by tinkering with language are empty fulminations because this proposal is fatally flawed. It is flawed in a way that cannot be mended because its enactment would forever shift the artful balance of powers crafted by the framers. That is where it is fatally flawed. No language fix can cure the terminal illness of the attempt to write fiscal policy and political ideology into a national charter intended to serve as a guideline for generations. This Senator, for one, will never be a party to grafting this pock-marked monstrosity, largely aimed at adding a star to the crown of one party's political agenda, to the body of our organic law. Now, I realize that several Democrats voted for this amendment. But I don't attempt to be the judge of their vote. Their constituents have that responsibility.

The eagerness to tinker belies the obvious insincerity behind the effort, and the remarks on this floor over the past several days should be enough to convince us all that what is really wanted by some in this body is not the amendment itself, but an issue with which to whip its opponents. This is simple politics, my colleagues. And it is politics at its most unappealing and destructive level.

It is easy to do the obvious thing. It is easy to do the popular thing. What it is not easy to do is to have the courage of one's convictions and to stand up for those convictions. So I say again, thank God for Members such as those who have been so roundly chastised in recent days. Throughout our history, men of courage have made the difference. Cloned sheep who cower at the suggestion of independent thought and action were not what the framers of the Constitution had in mind when they created ''the greatest deliberative body'' in the history of the world. They had in mind men of courage. Andrew Jackson said, ''One man with courage makes a majority.'' John F. Kennedy wrote a Pulitzer prize-winning book about those Senators who had the courage, on matters of principle, to follow their own convictions. If the advice of some of those who have taken to the floor in recent days had been followed, the pages of that book would be blank and this Senate and this country of ours would never have endured.

Let me close, Mr. President, with the words of Senator William Pitt Fessenden of Maine, from a eulogy delivered upon the death of Senator Foot of Vermont in 1866, just 2 years before Senator Fessenden's vote to acquit Andrew Johnson brought about the fulfillment of Fessenden's own political prophecy.

When, Mr. President, a man becomes a member of this body, he cannot even dream of the ordeal to which he cannot fail to be exposed;

of how much courage he must possess to resist the temptations which daily beset him;

of that sensitive shrinking from undeserved censure which he must learn to control;

of the ever-recurring contest between a natural desire for public approbation and a sense of public duty;

of the load of injustice he must be content to bear, even from those who should be his friends;

the imputations of his motives;

the sneers and the sarcasms of ignorance and malice;

all the manifold injuries which partisan or private malignity, disappointed of its objects, may shower upon his unprotected head.

All this, Mr. President, if he would retain his integrity, he must learn to bear unmoved, and walk steadily onward in the path of duty, sustained only by the reflection that time may do him justice, or if not, that after all his individual hopes and aspirations, and even his name among men, should be of little account to him when weighed in the balance against the welfare of a people of whose destiny he is a constituted guardian and defender.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. DORGAN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, am I to be recognized for 15 minutes in morning business under a previous order?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Yes. Without objection, the Senator from North Dakota is recognized for 15 minutes.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I thank you.

I enjoyed listening to my distinguished colleague from West Virginia, Senator BYRD.

Edmund Burke said something similar to the words used by Senator BYRD when he closed, and I do not know them exactly, but he was talking about what a representative in a representative government owes to his or her constituency. And Edmund Burke said something like: Your representative owes you not only his industry but also his judgment, and he betrays rather than serves if he always sacrifices it to your opinion.

I do not know if that is an exact statement, but it is close to the expression of Mr. Burke and I think describes the requirement of someone serving in public office in this country to do what they think is right—not to be a weather vane to analyze what is the prevailing wind on Tuesday or Thursday, but to do what they think is right. That is especially important when we are talking about altering the Constitution of the United States.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

I thank him for reciting this jewel by a great Irish statesman, Edmund Burke, who I believe lost the next election after he had made that statement. He may have foreseen that, but nevertheless he made the statement. It still lives, and it is a very appropriate guiding charter, in my judgment, for those of us in this Chamber today.

U.S. MERCHANDISE TRADE DEFICIT

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I come to the floor today because we will be taking up an issue dealing with the confirmation of a nominee for U.S. Trade Ambassador. In conjunction with that will be an issue raised by the Senator from South Carolina [Mr. HOLLINGS] on a matter relating to the negotiation of international trade agreements and whether in those negotiations, agreements can be reached that effectively change U.S. law. I intend to support the amendment offered by the Senator from South Carolina. I think he is absolutely correct, and I hope to be able to come and speak to that point when he offers his amendment.

As we begin talking about the nomination of the U.S. Trade Ambassador, I want to take a moment to mention something that occurred about 2 weeks ago which passed almost unnoticed in this town, and it relates to the issue of trade. It relates to the kind of trade ambassador we have and relates to the kind of trade policies we employ.

A couple of weeks ago, we learned that in this last year the merchandise trade deficit experienced by the United States of America was $188 billion—a $188 billion trade deficit. This makes 21 consecutive years of U.S. merchandise trade deficits, with a cumulative total of nearly $2 trillion.

We have spent a lot of time in recent days with books stacked on books 8 feet high in this Chamber showing fiscal policy and budgets. Perhaps we should have a chair or a table that stacks piles and piles of trade agreements and trade deficits one on top of another to show what we owe others in the world from an accumulation of nearly $2 trillion in trade deficits.

That is the other deficit, the deficit no one wants to talk about, the deficit no one wants to address. And yet, it is a deficit that predicts a weakness and a continual weakening in America's manufacturing base. That which we used to produce at home is now all too often produced abroad. That which was manufactured here is manufactured somewhere else. Good jobs that paid well with good benefits here are now offshore. And that is what this deficit spells.

No country in history that I am aware of has long remained a strong, dominant world power without retaining its core manufacturing base, for economic health in any country is not what you consume but, rather, what

you produce. What you produce is measured by the strength and the breadth and the dimensions of your manufacturing base. This trade deficit is injuring our country. No one seems to care much about it or be willing to do much about it.

Six countries comprise more than 90 percent of our current trade deficit: Japan, nearly 30 percent of the deficit; China, 24 percent of the deficit; Canada and Mexico, which represents NAFTA, the NAFTA trade agreement, that is 24 percent of the deficit; Germany and Taiwan together, about 16 percent of the deficit.

NAFTA was one the most recent trade debates we have had in this Chamber. We were told that if we have a free trade relationship with Mexico and Canada, our two nearest neighbors, we would have new vistas of economic opportunity and create hundreds of thousands of new American jobs. Well, NAFTA was passed—not with my vote, but NAFTA was passed. The NAFTA bill was enacted, it is now law, and now we are choking in trade debt with our two neighbors.

The architects of NAFTA knew what they were doing. They constructed a kind of economic cow that feeds in the United States and is milked by both neighbors. No one that I know of can credibly come around to this Chamber who had advertised the virtues of NAFTA and now do anything but be embarrassed with what has happened. What has happened is injuring this country. Giant trade deficits with Canada and Mexico are hurting this country.

Mexico now sends more automobiles to the United States than the United States exports to all the rest of the world. Let me say that again because I think it is important. Mexico now ships more automobiles into the United States of America than the United States of America exports to all of the rest of the world.

We were told: Well, NAFTA, that's just a little old thing so that some of those low-skilled jobs can go down south. They could do some of those low-skilled jobs at lower labor costs down south. So, what are the largest imports into the United States from Mexico today? The product of low-skilled jobs? No. Electronics, automobile parts, automobiles. Exactly the opposite of what was predicted.

My point is that we must be concerned about this, we must be vigilant about it, and we must try to do something about it. We must have the same energy in this Chamber on this issue as there has been exhibited on the issue of fiscal policy, the budget deficits that result from fiscal policy that is out of balance.

There is merit, enormous merit in requiring that we march toward a balanced budget in the fiscal policy in this country because you cannot keep saddling your children and grandchildren with consumption that you now have and saying, well, we are going to consume, but you pay the bills. That is not fair, it is not right, and it is not healthy for this country's economy.

There is something else that is fundamentally unhealthy about this country's economy, and that is our trade relationships that result in this enormous trade deficit that we have, a merchandise trade deficit of $188 billion. I could spend hours talking about the specifics, and I cannot and I will not because I do not have the time. Let me just mention one item, and I will bet not many people understand.

For example: Let's talk about T-bone steak that is shipped from the United States to Japan, just to demonstrate the low expectations we have of those with whom we trade. Some while ago there was a negotiation on beef from America to Japan, and at the end of the negotiation there was a day of feasting, people believing that those who engaged in these negotiations had just won a gold medal at the Olympics. Enormous success, we were told. They crowed about the successful negotiation on beef.

Well, where are we now some years later? We are getting more beef into Japan. That is true. So they all say that is enormously successful. Guess what. There is a 50 percent tariff on American beef being sent to Japan. Does anybody under any set of circumstances believe that is success, that we now are able to get beef into Japan with a 50 percent tariff, and therefore we ought to say, ''Hosanna''?

That is not fair trade. That is not free trade. That is not open trade. It is not fair for this country. It is not fair for our beef producers. And I can go through line after line and example after example. T-bones to Tokyo. They ought to go there without a 50-percent tariff on them to be fair to our producers. We purchase much of what they export to us. They ought to purchase what we export to them without impediment.

I do not want to go on. I would like to talk about trade in some more detail, with my colleague from West Virginia, Senator BYRD, and Senator HOLLINGS and others. I would say, for myself, and I expect I could say on their behalf, we do not complain about this as people who believe that we ought to put walls around our country.

I believe in expanded trade. I believe in expanded opportunity. But I darned sure believe in retaining a manufacturing base in this country, insisting that trade around the world be fair trade. Nobody in this country working in a manufacturing plant ought to have to compete with a 14-year-old working 14 hours a day making 14 cents an hour. Nobody under any condition ought to be expected to or ought to have to compete with that, and it happens every day in every way under our trade agreements.

I am just saying the other deficit, nearly $2 trillion at this point, with this year's trade deficit being one of the largest in history, that deficit we ought to care about and ought to do something about.

Ambassador Barshefsky—we are going to vote on her. She is tough. She has confronted a number of other countries on trade relationships in a significant way. I appreciate that. But she is only as tough as the administration will allow her to be in demanding fair trade. The last several administrations, the last four administrations, in fact, have been disappointments to me on trade, including this one. They have done better than previous administrations, but not good enough. It is not good enough for this country.

It used to be, we could handle international competition with one hand tied behind our backs because we were the biggest, the best, the most. That is not true anymore. We face shrewd, tough, international competitors and it is time we understand that trade relationships must be fair and must be balanced, and must care about this country's productive sector as well.

I am not going to speak at length about the amendment offered by Senator HOLLINGS. I do intend to support it when he offers it. I hope to be able to come down and speak about it. But I did want to say a few words, just as a precursor to a discussion we will have about the confirmation of another trade ambassador.

We have had trade ambassadors. We have confirmed them. We have heard the talk about straightening out some of our trade relationships. But year after year, the merchandise trade deficit continues to grow with almost no notice and almost no one seeming to care about its impact on this country.

Mr. President, I expect to come back later in the day when we debate these issues. With that I yield the floor.

Several Senators addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Roberts). The Senator from Ohio is recognized.

Mr. MCCAIN. Will the Senator from Ohio yield to me for just 1 minute?

Mr. DEWINE. I will be happy to yield.

Mr. MCCAIN. I appreciate the remarks of the Senator from North Dakota. The fact is, it is hard for me to understand the argument when the American economy is the best it has been, in the opinion of any expert, in a long, long time. Our unemployment is low, our trade continues to grow, our economy continues to grow. It is a direct result of free trade. How can we make the argument, which will be done later on, that somehow we should be reraising barriers that are protectionist and isolationist when it flies in the face of what every outside expert says has been the main engine of growth of the American economy, and a that is free trade?

What Ms. Barshefsky has just done, in the negotiation of the telecom agreement, is a signal, an important and remarkable advance to the effort of free trade in allowing American companies and corporations into foreign markets so we can hire more

Americans and continue to have this remarkable growth in our economy and a bright future for Americans. The debate will be drawn, time after time, and has been, between protectionism, between the desire to raise those protectionist barriers, to go back to the good old days of Smoot-Hawley or whether we are going to move forward with free trade and reduce barriers.

I believe the American people and those people who are engaged in business, those who are in the business of doing business, will strongly support the position that the administration holds of free trade and reduction of barriers for competition.

I yield back to my colleague from Ohio.

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent the period of morning business be extended until the hour of 1:30 and I be permitted to speak for up to 20 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. LEVIN. Reserving the right to object, I am wondering whether I could reserve 8 minutes of that time, between now and 1:30, as part of the unanimous consent agreement?

Mr. DEWINE. I have no objection.

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

Mr. LEVIN. I wonder if my friend from Ohio will yield me just 1 minute of that time now while the Senator from North Dakota is on the floor, to react to his comments?

Mr. DEWINE. I will be more than happy to do that.

Let me just state the topic I want to talk about is going to take awhile. So I will be more than happy to yield. If you go on too long, I will simply come back later on. That will be fine.

Mr. LEVIN. I just ask if the Senator will yield 1 minute, and then I will yield the floor and come back for the remainder of my 8 minutes. But while Senator DORGAN is on the floor, I just wanted to comment for a few seconds. I just wanted to compliment Senator DORGAN for his comments. His speech is a free trade speech. We all have to listen carefully to what he said. That 50-percent tariff on American beef going to Tokyo—it is absurd that we tolerate it.

In NAFTA, we permit, for 25 years, Mexico making it a crime to sell an American used car in Mexico. That is part of NAFTA. NAFTA, for 10 years, restricts American-assembled automobiles from going into Mexico. So, what the Senator from North Dakota is pleading with us to do, is to insist that we have as much access for our manufactured goods and our agricultural products to other countries as they do to our country. I commend him on his remarks and I reserve the remainder of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio is recognized.

Mr. DORGAN. Will the Senator from Ohio yield 30 seconds to me?

Mr. DEWINE. I will be more than happy to.

Mr. DORGAN. I will not engage the remarks of the Senator except to say we should reserve the decision on this point. One can drive down a street and see a Cadillac in front of an expensive house, and if you do not understand the debt that will be used to repossess the house and the Cadillac, you don't understand the financial position there. The same with our country. The fact is, our abiding trade deficits are undermining our country's long-term economic future and we had better not decide to ignore them. We had better confront them on behalf of American producers and on behalf of this country's interests. This is a debate we must have soon.

I appreciate very much the indulgence of the Senator from Ohio.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio is recognized again.

DISASTERS

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, let me start by expressing on this floor, as I did this past Monday, my sympathy for the families who have lost loved ones in the last week due to tornadoes, due to flooding and other natural disasters. This has been a very, very tough week. In my home State of Ohio, we are experiencing a flood of once in the last 30 or 40 years magnitude—we have not experienced anything like this since the 1960's. Not only is my home State of Ohio experiencing this, but, of course, Kentucky and Indiana is as well. Vice President GORE is, as I speak, in Ohio, having the opportunity to view firsthand the damage. We appreciate his visit. We welcome it.

We also appreciate the prompt action by President Clinton in designating 14 Ohio counties, to make them eligible for disaster assistance. Governor Voinovich has now made an additional request to the President to add two additional counties, Hamilton County, Cincinnati, as well as Clermont County. Both these counties have been hit exceedingly hard by the flooding. In fact, we have yet to see the high-water mark, which should not occur for a few more hours in Cincinnati and Clermont County, the Richland area—that part of our State.

We really have an area in Ohio from Monroe County, up river, all the way down to Hamilton County. What we have seen is what we always see during tragedies such as this. We see Americans responding. And, in the midst of the tragedy, the suffering, what we see is neighbors helping neighbors and people out there just making a difference. We have Red Cross volunteers. We have emergency department volunteers. We have fire department volunteers. The National Guard is actively involved. But most of all, we have people who are just volunteers, who are just out there making a difference, who do not necessarily belong to any group except they are Ohioans or Kentuckians or Hoosiers from Indiana, and they are out there making a difference in their local communities. So let me pay tribute to them.

The work that we have at hand is going to continue. Once the spotlight of CNN and the network news goes off Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana and goes off the river communities, the work is going to have to continue. We will have to be hanging in there and doing what we can.

I appreciate the prompt response of FEMA and the Federal officials who were in Ohio yesterday, traveling with Lt. Gov. Nancy Hollister. I appreciate their prompt response and prompt recommendations to the President. I look forward to working with them, as well as working with the local communities, in the weeks and, frankly, months ahead.

We are seeing not only a tremendous amount of damage, in the millions of dollars, to homes, trailers, people having to be relocated, but we are also seeing an immense damage to the infrastructure of the southern part of the State of Ohio. I don't think any of us know what this is going to amount to. We won't know until the river goes back and things begin to get back to normal before we can assess the full damage. When you look at some of the counties in southern Ohio, there is not a one of them that has the capacity to respond, as far as dollars are concerned. This is something that cannot be budgeted. We, of course, will be looking forward to working with FEMA and other agencies to get assistance in there to those counties.

HAITI

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I had intended to come to the floor today and talk about Haiti, a long way from Ohio. I have had the opportunity to visit Haiti three times in the last 18 months. I have had the opportunity to meet with our Ambassador, to meet with President Preval in Haiti, to meet with our members of the Armed Forces that we still have in Haiti, doing an absolutely fantastic job. One of the nice things about having the opportunity to travel to other countries and to see what is going on is the opportunity to see U.S. troops and to see the tremendous job that they do. It is just one more inspiring thing a Member of Congress can do.

As I said, I intended to come to the floor today and talk about what I think is important in regard to Haiti. We have invested $2 billion. We have risked U.S. servicemen's lives. We still have United States service men and women in Haiti. Haiti is our neighbor. What happens in Haiti will impact us. Haiti is not of strategic importance to the United States, but Haiti, because of geography, because of historical ties, will continue to have an impact on the United States.

If we want to search for examples to prove this theory, we don't have to think back too far in recent history when we had thousands of Haitian boat

people coming across the sea, and we were faced with the horrible decision of what we do with them—people who were seeking freedom, people who were seeking the opportunity to simply provide food for their families, and we had to deal with that.

So Haiti, because of its geography, is very important to the United States, will continue to be important, and I intend to come to the floor sometime within the next week to detail what I found on the trips I have made to Haiti and some of the specific recommendations I have. But because of the constraints of time, and I know there are other Members who have expressed a desire to speak, I will, Mr. President, yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. LEVIN. First, while my friend from Ohio is here, I thank him for yielding before. I appreciate that.

USE OF FBI BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION SUMMARIES

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I want to take a few moments this afternoon to set the record straight on an important point concerning the use of FBI background investigations in the consideration of the executive branch nominees by the Senate.

A number of inaccurate comments have been made about the handling of FBI files in connection with the pending nomination of Tony Lake to be Director of Central Intelligence. Some Senators are calling for access to the complete files which the FBI used to prepare the summaries that were provided to the White House and the Congress. The Senators cite former Senator Tower's nomination to be Secretary of Defense as a precedent for requesting those so-called complete files.

For example, a February 17, 1997, letter to the majority leader, signed by 16 Senators, only three of whom were Members of the Senate at the time the Tower nomination was considered, and none of whom were then members of the Armed Services Committee, states the following:

> As you know, when former U.S. Senator John Tower was nominated for Secretary of Defense, his complete FBI file was placed in a secure room of the Capitol for Members of the Senate to read and evaluate. Given the clear precedent and the critical nature of the position of Director of Central Intelligence, this is the procedure which we believe should be followed in the case of Mr. Lake.

The fact is, Mr. President, that neither the Armed Services Committee nor the full Senate ever had access to the raw investigative files used by the FBI to compile its summary of the background investigation of Senator Tower. The Armed Services Committee and all Senators had access only to the FBI summary of its investigation of Senator Tower to be Secretary of Defense.

I understand that the summary of the FBI's background investigation of Tony Lake has already been provided to the chairman and vice chairman of the Intelligence Committee, just as the summary of the FBI's background investigation of Senator Tower was provided in the Armed Services Committee in 1989.

A little background is useful here on the process of FBI background investigations of executive branch nominees. Prior to the submission of a nomination to the Senate, the FBI conducts a background investigation of the nominee for the purpose of providing the President with information about the suitability of a prospective nominee. The report of the investigation is submitted to the counsel to the President who is responsible for preparing appropriate advice to the President.

The FBI background material provided to the Armed Services Committee in connection with nominations includes only the FBI summary of its interviews. If the committee determines that additional information is necessary, a request for this information is made of the White House. If necessary, the FBI investigates further, and additional summaries are provided to the committee. The underlying investigative materials are not submitted to the committee, and they never have been. I repeat that. The underlying investigative materials, the so-called raw investigative materials, are not submitted to the Armed Services Committee and they never have been, including in the case of Senator Tower when his nomination was before us to be Secretary of Defense.

The standard practice before the Armed Services Committee has been that the summary of the FBI investigation is read only by the chairman and the ranking minority member of the committee or their Senator-designee from the members of the committee. These summaries can be extraordinarily personal and confidential, and, for that reason, the executive branch is not allowed staff access generally to those FBI summaries.

A February 10, 1989, letter from President Bush's White House counsel, Boyden Gray, to the Senate majority leader described the ''terms and conditions under which summaries of FBI background investigations on Presidential nominees have been made available to Senators since 1981.'' This is what then-White House counsel Boyden Gray said to the Senate majority leader.

> The FBI summary is hand-carried by an attorney in this office to the Senator who reviews the file with the White House attorney. When the Senator has finished reading the summary, it is hand-carried back to the White House.

That same practice was followed throughout the Bush administration and the first term of the Clinton administration.

Access to FBI summaries was expanded for the committee's consideration of the nomination of former Senator Tower to be Secretary of Defense in 1989. For the committee's consideration of that nomination, Senator Nunn and Senator WARNER, the chairman and ranking member of the committee at that time, felt that it was important that all Senators on the committee have access to the FBI summary of its background investigation of Senator Tower and that a limited number of committee staff also have access to those summaries to prepare the committee report on the nomination.

After lengthy discussions and negotiations with President Bush's counsel, Boyden Gray, Senators Nunn and WARNER and Mr. Gray reached a written agreement on the terms of access to the FBI summary of its investigation of Senator Tower, which allowed all members of the Armed Services Committee and a very limited number of committee staff to have access to the nine chapters of the FBI summary. The summary was put in room S407 here in the Capitol, along with summaries of the summary which were prepared by the committee staff, to make it easier for the members of the committee to review those summaries.

Mr. President, the agreement between Senator Nunn, Senator WARNER, and Mr. Gray makes it very clear that what the Armed Services Committee had access to was—and here I am quoting from the access agreement—''the Federal Bureau of Investigation's summary of its background investigation of Senator John Tower.''

And the agreement here between Senators Nunn and WARNER and Mr. Gray went on to inventory the material which was provided to the committee as follows:

> The FBI summary consists of the following parts:

This is the inventory agreed upon relative to Senator Tower's nomination.

> The FBI summary consists of the following parts: (1) summary memorandum (undated [but which was, in fact, dated December 13, 1988]); (2) summary memorandum (December 23, 1988); (3) summary memorandum [which was also] (undated [in this agreement but which was January 6, 1989]); (4) summary memorandum (January 13, 1989); (5) summary memorandum (undated [but which was, in fact, January 25, 1989]); (6) summary memorandum [dated] (February 8, 1989); and (7) summary of the ongoing investigation not yet completed by the FBI.

Now what that quote is from is the agreement between Senators Nunn and WARNER and Boyden Gray, the then-White House counsel.

Mr. President, I wonder how much time I have left?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair observes that the Senator's time has expired.

Mr. LEVIN. If there is nobody else seeking recognition, I ask unanimous consent to have 3 additional minutes.

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

Mr. LEVIN. I thank the Chair.

So then I observe, Mr. President, that the quote which I just shared with this body is from the agreement, and every single item on that inventory is a summary document.

Two additional FBI summaries were added to the seven listed in the original agreement before the Senate finally voted on the Tower nomination a month later. These FBI summaries, which were eventually placed in S–407 for review by all Senators, were the only FBI materials received by the Armed Services Committee.

As Senator Nunn stated on the Senate floor when he opened the debate on the Tower nomination—and this probably is the most succinct place where Senator Nunn stated this on the Senate floor—

> What we have in S–407 is the summary of interviews the FBI conducted. They prepare the summary. We do not see nor do we have the underlying interviews.

That is stated about as succinctly and directly as you can by the then-chairman of the Armed Services Committee.

So, in short, the committee did not have access to any raw investigative files or interview transcripts, nor did the Senate. What we had were the nine chapters of the FBI summary of its investigation.

Following the committee's action on the Tower nomination, Senators Mitchell and Dole reached an agreement with the Bush administration that all Senators would have access to the same FBI summary of the background investigation of Senator Tower that was made available to the members of the Armed Services Committee. In other words, after the Armed Services Committee voted, then the agreement between Senators Mitchell and Dole was that the full Senate would have access to those same summaries that the committee Senators had access to.

So the fact is, Mr. President, that in considering the nomination of Senator Tower to be Secretary of Defense, the Armed Services Committee—and eventually all Senators—had access to the FBI summary of its background investigation of Senator Tower, no more and no less. We did not have access to any of the raw investigative material that the FBI used to prepare those summaries.

Mr. President, the Senate has had the nomination of Tony Lake to be Director of Central Intelligence for 2 months. And some Senators have questions about Mr. Lake's suitability for the position. Those questions should be raised with the nominee in the hearing next week so that he can respond, and Senators can then reach their own judgments about his suitability for this important position.

But we should not act on any misunderstanding as to what the precedents are relative to raw investigatory materials. And in dealing with the Lake nomination, which I am glad to see is now scheduled for a hearing, I think it is important that Senators realize that the precedents here relative to executive nominees are such that we do not have access to those materials because they contain so much rumor, so much inaccurate information that we rely on the FBI to go through all that raw material and give us the summary reports that then we rely on, and then if we need or desire additional information, we make that request of the FBI and of the Justice Department.

There is a larger issue at stake here also, Mr. President, and that is the growing intrusiveness of the nomination and confirmation process. Make no mistake about it: if the executive branch agrees to provide raw FBI files to the Intelligence Committee, a new precedent will be set for future nominations to executive branch positions. The FBI summaries contain the most personal, private, and sensitive details of an individual's life. Some of these details have no bearing on an individual's suitability for office.

As Mr. Gray stated in his February 14, 1989, letter to the Armed Services Committee, even the material included in the summary of an FBI background investigation is so sensitive that their disclosure could jeopardize ''the privacy interests of [the nominee] and others, the confidentiality of FBI sources, the FBI's ability to conduct background investigations, and our ability to recruit qualified candidates for positions of governmental service.''

It is already difficult to convince talented people to serve in government. If people realize that every rumor or allegation that the FBI dredges up or that every off-hand comment or statement that someone says about a nominee in an interview is subject to being read by 100 Senators and selected staff—and possible leaks to the media—it will be even harder to get the kind of people all of us want to serve in confirmed positions in the executive branch.

I ask unanimous consent, Mr. President, that the February 10, 1989, letter from Mr. Gray to the Senate majority leader, the February 14, 1989, agreement on the terms of access to the FBI summary of its investigation of Senator Tower, and the February 14, 1989, letter from Mr. Gray transmitting that agreement to Senator Nunn, be printed in the RECORD.

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

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, DC, February 10, 1989.

Hon. GEORGE J. MITCHELL,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. MAJORITY LEADER: As a follow-up to our meeting of January 27, 1989, I am sending you a precise description of the terms and conditions under which summaries of FBI background investigations on Presidential nominees have been made available to Senators since 1981. That description is set forth below.

At the request of the White House, the FBI conducts a full-field investigation of a candidate for Presidential nomination. A summary of the results of this investigation is reviewed by the Counsel to the President prior to a final Presidential decision to nominate the individual in question. Once the nomination is forwarded to the Senate, that summary is made available for review by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee considering the nomination (and the Majority and Minority Leaders if they desire). With the approval of the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member, other Senators on the Committee are given an opportunity to review the summary.

The FBI summary is hand-carried by an attorney in this office to the Senator who reviews the file with the White House attorney. When the Senator has finished reading the summary, it is hand-carried back to the White House. (Within the White House, access to the FBI summary is limited to members of the White House Counsel's office, the Chief of Staff, and the President.)

In the event the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee believe there are issues that have not been adequately addressed in the FBI summary, the Counsel to the President may request the FBI to conduct further investigation. The summary of that additional investigation is provided to the White House counsel who then makes it available to the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member on the same terms and conditions as the original FBI summary.

The procedures outlined above are necessary to protect the FBI's investigatory process as well as the privacy interests of the nominee and the other individuals who agree to be interviewed by the FBI. Since the FBI relies on the willingness of people to provide information in a confidential manner, access to this information is limited. For the same reasons, members of this office and Senators have historically refused to comment publicly on the contents of the FBI summary.

As we discussed, this practice enables the Senate to utilize information prepared by the FBI for the White House in the execution of its Constitutional advice and consent responsibilities. Further, it is my understanding (as evidenced in the enclosed letter from former Deputy Counsel to the President Richard A. Hauser, Section IV of the enclosed old ''Presidential Appointee's Handbook'' (which has been used since at least 1986) and Appendix A of the revised ''Presidential Appointee's Handbook'') that this practice was consistently followed by Senate Committees in their consideration of Presidential nominees between 1981 through mid 1986.* Accordingly, with your concurrence, it is my intention to continue this practice throughout the Bush Administration.

Sincerely,

C. BOYDEN GRAY,
Counsel to the President.

TERMS OF ACCESS TO THE FBI SUMMARY OF ITS INVESTIGATION OF JOHN TOWER (NOMINATION AS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE)

The Counsel to the President has agreed to make available to the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) four copies of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's summary of its background investigation of Senator

*The one exception to this rule was the Senate Judiciary Committee, which was subject to a separate agreement because judgeships are lifetime appointments.

John Tower. (The FBI summary consists of the following parts: (1) summary memorandum (undated [December 13, 1988]); (2) summary memorandum (December 23, 1988); (3) summary memorandum (undated [January 6, 1989]); (4) summary memorandum (January 13, 1989); (5) summary memorandum (undated [January 25, 1989]); (6) summary memorandum (February 8, 1989); and (7) summary of the ongoing investigation not yet completed by the FBI.) Since these documents are the property of the Executive branch and involve extremely sensitive information, they will be made available only through the Office of Senate Security located at Room S–407, United States Capitol. Only Senators on the SASC and not more than 6 designated SASC staff members (as determined and designated by the Chairman, SASC, and the Ranking Minority Member) and designated members of the Executive branch shall be granted access to these documents at this location. The names of the designated staff members shall be provided, in writing, to the Counsel to the President prior to their being given access to the documents; and the names of the Executive branch officials shall be provided, in writing, to the Chairman, SASC, prior to their access at this location. A record of all persons using these documents in Room S–407 shall be maintained.

Access to these documents will be limited to Senators on the SASC and the 6 designated SASC staff members. These documents may be reviewed in Room S–407 only; no additional copies may be made; and no documents may be removed. Any notes derived from these documents shall be treated as sensitive and shall be used only in connection with the Committee's Executive Session deliberations (and vote). At the conclusion of the Committee's deliberations (and vote), any notes shall be destroyed or considered part of the FBI documents for purposes of this Agreement.

Within 14 days of the conclusion of the Committee's deliberations (and vote) on Senator Tower's nomination, these documents will be returned to the Counsel to the President unless another agreement has been reached with the Senate leadership.

SAM NUNN,
Chairman, Senate Armed Services Committee.
JOHN WARNER,
Ranking Minority Member.
C. BOYDEN GRAY,
Counsel to the President.

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, DC, February 14, 1989.

Hon. SAM NUNN,
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: With respect to our conversation last Friday regarding access by the Senate Armed Services Committee to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) summary of its background investigation of Senator Tower in connection with his nomination as Secretary of Defense, I am gratified that we have now reached an understanding on the way in which we will proceed.

I believe the fact that all of the Committee's subsequent deliberations involving the FBI summary on Senator Tower's nomination will occur during Executive Session only, that this nomination has significant national security implications, and the unique nature of the allegations concerning Senator Tower warrant a one-time-only exception to the procedures governing access to FBI background investigations by Committee members.

The documents we will provide are extremely sensitive. Their disclosure could jeopardize the privacy interests of Senator Tower and others, the confidentiality of FBI sources, the FBI's ability to conduct background investigations, and our ability to recruit qualified candidates for positions of governmental service. Therefore, I am pleased that we have agreed on ground rules for Committee access that suit our purposes and yours. The enclosed Terms of Access sets forth the procedures for access, custody, storage, and return to the Executive branch of the FBI background summary. With this understanding, we are prepared to deliver copies of these documents to your Committee immediately.

I believe that this understanding will make it possible for the Committee to proceed expeditiously on this nomination once the FBI has completed its investigation.

Sincerely,

C. BOYDEN GRAY,
Counsel to the President.

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

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

WAIVING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE TRADE ACT RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF THE U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GREGG). Under the previous order, the clerk will report Senate Joint Resolution 5.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 5) waiving certain provisions of the Trade Act of 1974 relating to the appointment of the United States Trade Representative.

The Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I believe under the unanimous-consent agreement the amendment by Senator HOLLINGS is in order at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, as I understand, the pending business is that I send to the desk an amendment to the waiver amendment of the committee; is that at the desk?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair would observe that the desk does not have the amendment.

Mr. MCCAIN. The waiver amendment is the pending business. What is not at the desk is the amendment of the Senator from South Carolina to the waiver.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The observation by the Senator from Arizona is correct.

AMENDMENT NO. 19

(Purpose: To require Congressional approval before any international trade agreement that has the effect of amending or repealing statutory law of the United States law can be implemented in the United States)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from South Carolina [Mr. HOLLINGS] proposes an amendment numbered 19.

On page 2, after line 8, insert the following:

SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF CERTAIN TRADE AGREEMENTS REQUIRED.

No international trade agreement which would in effect amend or repeal statutory law of the United States law may be implemented by or in the United States until the agreement is approved by the Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces there are 3 hours equally divided on the amendment by the Senator from South Carolina.

The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. HOLLINGS. I thank the distinguished Chair. Mr. President, I ask that the distinguished senior Senator from North Carolina [Mr. HELMS] be added also as a cosponsor of the amendment.

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

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, the amendment that has just been read is so simple, so fundamental. I am hearkening to our new Members of the U.S. Senate, just in January, a few weeks ago, ''I hereby pledge to support and defend the Constitution of the United States.''

This is constitutional language, that no international agreement that would, in effect, amend or repeal statutory law can be implemented until approved by the Congress. Under the Constitution, article 1, section 8, it is the duty of the Congress to regulate foreign commerce—not the executive branch; not the executive branch.

Obviously, to really change the law you would have to have three readings in the House and three readings in the Senate and signed by the President. The fact that this amendment, which I tried to make as clearcut and as principled as it possibly could be, where there would be no confusion, has been so vigorously opposed by the White House and certain ones in Congress that there is no doubt in my mind that with respect to foreign trade, with respect to global competition, we are in the hands of the Philistines, we are in the hands of the multinationals. Rather than the Congress controlling the multinationals and international trade, the multinationals, by this initiative, are controlling the Congress.

What is the initiative? Well, they could not find any language to amend my amendment. They could not find anybody to really object to it. What they did do, then, was to say, well, we will get some letters written—incidentally, by people who had nothing to do with this particular part of the telecommunications bill—and the comments were that Mr. ARCHER of the

Ways and Means Committee over on the House side then sends a letter on the one hand, saying that he would blue slip this particular appointment of Barshefsky in that the Hollings amendment would involve revenues.

You know that is not going to happen. I think they made some bad mistakes over on that side. I think they have sort of redeemed themselves from the contract. They certainly have redeemed themselves from three budgets. In 1995, they said the President was inconsequential and that they had three budgets, and whether you agreed or not, that is what they were going to do. Now they say, Mr. President, ''Please give us a second budget.'' They do not even give one, much less three. But I do not think they would revert back to nonsensical conduct and try to act like an appointment to be confirmed by the U.S. Senate wherein it had a rider that the law be obeyed, the Constitution be supported and defended. ''Protect and defend'' is the oath we take, and that involves revenues. But be that as it may, Mr. President, that is exactly what they have done. And more recently, they have come by—and I have been vitally interested—and one of the ambassadors in the United States Trade Representative's office was to be appointed ambassador in charge of trade there at Geneva—we have written letters and made calls to the White House—Ms. Rita Hayes. Now we have calls in, indirectly, that that can't be had or done. I think it was about to be approved—''unless HOLLINGS gives up his amendment.''

So they have tried every shenanigan in the world, which tells me—and should tell this Congress—that the executive branch is going to make its agreements, come hell or high water, and they could care less. Not a treaty, but just executive agreements. The media and everybody is supposed to go along and say, well, I think the Senator is right, but we have to go ahead with this appointment. They are changing the law. They admire the three readings in the House and the three readings in the House with respect to Ms. Barshefsky. She does not previously qualify having registered British Steel and foreign competitors. They passed that waiver out, and it no doubt will be adopted here in the U.S. Senate, but to just say ''provided further, that if she enters into an agreement that would amend or change statutory law, that before it be implemented, it first must be approved by Congress.'' Just as simple as that.

So let's get right to the ''meat of the coconut,'' as they say, because this has been going on for 2 years. This isn't any last minute—one of the letters from one Senator said this is a last-minute attempt. Oh, no, this isn't last minute. We had hearings on foreign ownership of telecommunications. We have had testimony of the different entities. Mr. Reed Hunt, the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, who was at one time conspiring for this particular approach—I don't know where he is now, but I am checking him. I quote Mr. Hunt:

> I am concerned about the prospects of foreign monopolies being able to buy into our markets while they are still monopolizing their home markets. And as global media developments occur, as the Congressmen mentioned earlier, we must be attentive to the fact that if a foreign company is a monopolist in its own country, it has a prospect of using that monopoly to leverage unfair competition into this country. I am concerned about that.

That is in May 1995, almost 2 years ago.

Mr. President, we also have the statement of the FBI and the DEA, who wrote, also, in May 1995:

> Even with the foreign corporation as privately held, we believe that a foreign-based company could be susceptible to the influence and directives of its own government. There are numerous examples of foreign companies being used and directed by their governments to carry out, or assist in carrying out, government intelligence efforts against the United States Government and all major corporations.

That is a letter to the Honorable JOHN D. DINGELL, on May 24 1995, by the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Judge Louis J. Freeh, and the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, Thomas A. Constantine.

Mr. President, the law that we are talking about, and the two sections—section 310(a) of the statutory law of communications—''The station license required under this act shall not be granted to or held by any foreign government or the representative thereof.'' Section 310(b) limits any owning or controlling interest to 25 percent.

Now, I understand somebody is going to say the special trade representative never testified. We had numerous meetings. You have to know how the executive branch works. We haven't had any hearings from them once they got the agreement here in February, just last month—any hearings on the agreement, or anything else of that kind. They just gave away 100 percent in violation of 310(a). They didn't just do the 25 percent in 310(b). They go in, as naive as get out, I can tell you that. I want to build a bridge back to the old-fashioned Yankee trader. Come in and say, look, we have the largest and the richest market; what can you come up with? Let's see what you propose and we will work with it. Instead, like goody-goody two shoes, this touchy-feely crowd that we have up here in Washington says, ''We will give you 100 percent and let's see what you come up with.'' Nippon Telephone & Telegraph says, ''Thank you for the 100 percent, bug off, you get nothing from us.'' And you go down the list. No country gave us any kind of 50-percent ownership. Our best of allies and friends in international trade, Canada and Mexico, in NAFTA, said, ''No, you can't get a 50-percent.'' Under 50 percent. So you can see what a spurious approach they used, in violation of the law.

So I talked to Ambassador Kantor at that particular time, back in 1995, and Senator BYRD wrote a letter on April 3, 1995. And, again, Ambassador Kantor, the United States Trade Representative, came forward with his letter and acknowledged the law. I think that is the important part, because in his letter back to Senator BYRD on April 24, 1995—I am trying to congeal it so everybody understands it—I ask unanimous consent that this letter from Michael Kantor, dated April 24, 1995, be printed in the RECORD.

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

APRIL 3, 1995.

Ambassador MICKEY KANTOR,
U.S. Trade Representative,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR: The Senate will soon take up S. 652, the Telecommunications Competition and Deregulation Act of 1995, to promote competition in the telecommunications industry. I am writing to solicit your views on the revision of foreign ownership provisions, specifically the revision of Section 310(b) of the 1934 Communications Act.

As you may know, the Commerce Committee's reported bill would allow the FCC to waive current statutory limits on foreign investment in U.S. telecommunications services if the FCC finds that there are ''equivalent market opportunities'' for U.S. companies and citizens in the foreign country where the investor or corporation is situated.

I would like to have your assessment of the impact of this provision for both enhancing the prospects of U.S. penetration of foreign markets, and for foreign investment in American telecommunications companies and systems.

Specifically, what impacts and advantages can we anticipate will result from enactment of this provision on the ongoing negotiations in Geneva on Telecommunications which has been established under the GATT, to be incorporated into the General Agreement on Trade in Services?

Second, which markets in Asia and Europe are now closed to U.S. telecommunications services in such a way that action on the basis of the concept of Reciprocity in the Senate bill is likely? What timeframes for such action, if any, would you contemplate?

Third, what has been the position of nations whose markets are closed to U.S. telecommunications services in the way of justifying their lack of access, and what likely reactions can we anticipate from those nations as a result of this legislative provisions?

What role do you think can be most usefully played by your office in effectively implementing the provision that has been recommended?

Lastly, in analyzing the legislation reported from the Senate Commerce Committee, do you have any suggestions as to how the provision might be strengthened to better serve the goal of opening foreign markets to U.S. telecommunications services and products?

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

ROBERT C. BYRD.

Mr. HOLLINGS. I will just read one line:

> By amending the legislation as we suggest, the Congress would provide effective market opening authority for both multilateral and bilateral negotiations on basic telecommunications services.

I emphasize the phrase ''by amending the legislation as we suggest,'' because you got the U.S. Trade Representative Barshefsky, she says, ''You don't have to amend it now. I got agreement. Take it and like it or else.'' But that isn't what the U.S. Trade Representative said in 1995. We heard about this. So on April 25, we wrote a letter—the distinguished majority leader, Senator TRENT LOTT, the distinguished Senator from Texas, KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON, the distinguished Senator from Hawaii, DANIEL K. INOUYE, and myself.

I ask unanimous consent that this letter to the President on April 25, 1996, be printed in the RECORD.

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

U.S. SENATE, COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION,
Washington, DC, April 25, 1996.

Hon. WILLIAM J. CLINTON,
The President,
The White House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: We are writing to express our concern with the current negotiations governing trade in telecommunications services. The United States has an open and competitive market for telecommunications services. U.S. companies are the most innovative in the world. Current negotiations should not result in an agreement that unilaterally opens the United States market while barriers, both formal and informal, continue to keep U.S. companies out of foreign markets.

We are deeply concerned about the effects of any trade agreement, including a review by a dispute settlement panel of the World Trade Organization (WTO), on the independence and integrity of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Congress did not make any changes to the foreign ownership limitations of the Communications Act when it enacted the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (P.L. 104–104).

We believe strongly that the public interest test contained in the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, must be retained and that current practices governing foreign investment not be altered. Any change in current U.S. law and FCC practices as a result of any trade agreement should be done only with the approval of the Congress in accordance with our Constitutional obligation to regulate foreign commerce.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

ERNEST F. HOLLINGS,
DANIEL K. INOUYE,
TRENT LOTT,
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON.

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, we cite thereon the independence and integrity of the Federal Communications Commission. ''Congress did not make any changes to the foreign ownership limitations of the Communications Act when it enacted the Telecommunications Act of 1996.''

What really occurred was, on the Senate side, we said, fine, we will go along on a majority percentage of ownership by a foreign entity if there is reciprocity. If there is an equal opportunity for U.S. companies to own and control, we will let them own and control, under certain circumstances, with, of course, Judge Freeh's and Mr. Constantine's inhibitions, and we had the same concerns. We would study them and go over them very closely. We had reciprocity with the snapback provision. I authored it. We put it in the bill after hearings and said, look, if the country changes its mind or comes under improper control and they kick us out, snap back, kick them out. Fair is fair. We thought that very reasonable to move an agreement on the international telecommunications. But the representatives of the White House, in particular the Special Trade Representative, now called U.S. Trade Representative, started dealing with Mr. OXLEY on the House side. And we were in the conference.

So all during 1996 in that particular conference, we worked around and we worked around. Finally, in December, I talked to our friend Mickey Kantor, the Ambassador. I said, ''Mickey, we can't get together on this one. There is not going to be any change. Whatever agreement you make will just have to come back. Maybe that is the way. If you want some change in the law, then come on back to Congress.''

We have debated it already now for 3 years. We would be glad to get together on it. But with all the facets of the upgrading and the revision of the 1934 telecommunications act and considering all the various decisions made over a 60-year period, we couldn't agree.

So Ambassador Kantor said, fine, that is what they would do. However, in the early part of the year when we came back—again negotiating all during 1996—to the Congress just a couple of months ago, we kept hearing again that we were somehow going to be ignored and that they were making offers over there.

Mr. President, on February 4, 1997—again Senators ROBERT BYRD, BYRON DORGAN, DANIEL INOUYE, and FRITZ HOLLINGS—the four of us joined in a letter to the White House saying that the USTR should not commit the United States to a trade agreement that limits the scope of the public interest test administered by the FCC, and any changes to current U.S. law should be done only with the approval of the Congress.

So it was clear in January and February, long before they made the agreement, that we were watching closely as best we could. I met on January 17 with Ambassador Barshefksy. I want it clearly understood that at that particular time we meant exactly what we said. I cautioned her. It was on January 17. I had already met. That is why we sent that February letter. When I met with Ambassador Barshefksy, it was crystal clear to this Senator. I have been up here 30 years. I am the senior junior Senator. And my friend STROM says, ''You had better get used to it.'' But I dealt with these trade representatives way back into the 1950's, 40 years ago. I have handled clients as a practicing lawyer, when the individual continues to not answer the question and is sort of hugging up to you and says, ''I want to work with you, I want to work with you, I want to work with you.'' I said to Ambassador Barshefksy, ''Madam, I do not want you to work with me. I want you to work with that statute. Don't go over and say you did not know anything about it because we have been in the debate, and you are going to have many Members really turned off on this one, and we will have to take action.'' But it was quite apparent to me with that ''I want to work with you'' stuff that she had no idea of working with us in good faith. Of course, now we know.

As reported in the Journal of Commerce on February 19, 1997:

> The United States decision to end its statutory restrictions on foreign investment in this sector was crucial to carrying along a global deal in which the rest of the world has made varying levels of commitment to similarly open their markets.

So, to end the statutory restrictions, we have not extended the statutory restrictions. Nothing has been happening. There has not been three readings in the House nor three in the Senate. We haven't even debated it here this year. But they already have the trade press quoting exactly what the public official of the U.S. Government is saying. Here we are all in the uproar. We have the special committees, the independent prosecutors, ''Get them, get them, foreign influence on policy. We can't have anybody give us a contribution and influence policy.'' And over here, while we are not looking, a public official of the U.S. Government is giving it away in violation of section 310(a) and 310(b) of the communications act. So, yes, I talked to Members. I said, ''I just want to make it crystal clear that either we are going to go to conference''—like our lawyer friend Sullivan, who said, ''I am not a potted plant''—''or else we will let the executive pass its own little laws, and we can go on home and forget about trying to work up here to set some valid policy.''

So thereby is the amendment.

Mr. President, it is interesting. I must report to you that even while Ms. Barshefsky couldn't get it, I read that the Canadian official reported in the Wall Street Journal—and, I quote again, prior to the amendment—''We think that when you look at the overall package, our offer is every bit as good as the American offer.'' However, Canada ''has serious reservations about the United States proposal because it won't be backed by U.S. legislation.'' At least the trade negotiator from Canada got my message. I never have talked to that individual. But I can tell you now, we could not get through. We couldn't get through at all.

You have to understand along this line, Mr. President, because you are from the hinterlands where people think straight, that you can tell why this crowd up here operates in the beltway and miasma totally of their own dreams. And when we as Senators go

home—Oneita Mills, which just a couple of months ago closed down, was just not a complicated operation making T-shirts. But I got there some 35 years ago when I was Governor—and I am proud of it—in a little country town of Andrews, SC, and I got 487 employees, and Washington says, ''Don't worry about it. What we need is retraining, retraining, retraining.'' The former Secretary of Labor, my friend Bobby Wright, that is all he thinks: Skills, skills, skills, retrain. We have skills coming out of our ears. We manufacture automobiles. They didn't go to Detroit. We never made one. But we have the skills, and we put in there a technical training system. I put it in. In 1961, we broke ground up there in Greenville on a garbage dump. I guess EPA would catch me now. But that is where the school is. And I broke ground for 16 others. We got the skills.

But back to Oneita, they said, ''Retrain, retrain; get another job; we don't have enough skills. You don't understand the problem. We up here in Washington understand the problem.'' Nonsense. Assume that they retrain as computer operators; tomorrow morning you have 487 computer operators. The average age at Oneita was 47 years of age. Are you going to hire the 47-year-old computer operator or the 20- or 21-year-old? You are not going to assume the retirement costs and the health costs of the 47-year-old. They are out.

Yes, I see it when I look at that GE plant that I brought in from Brazil. In the competition they said, if you want to sell those transformers to us, you are going to have to move your plant. So when I brought one to South Carolina, they closed the plant down and GE is gone, moved offshore.

Malaysia, Baxter Medical. I brought that one in, but we are still giving tax incentives to invest overseas, so they closed down last year and they have gone to Malaysia. Saturday before last, Sara Lee in Hartsville, with 187 jobs, gone to Mexico.

We lost, in the year 1995, 10,000 textile jobs in South Carolina, and I think an equal amount this past year. I am trying to get the figure. When they talk about educate, educate, educate, educate here at the White House, they better buy a few books and read them themselves. They better get hold of ''Looking at the Sun,'' by James Fallows, or ''Blindside'' by Eammon Fingelton or ''The Future of Capitalism,'' by Les Thurow, or our friend Bill Greider, ''One World, Ready or Not,'' and, of course, the most recent book by Robert Kuttner ''Everything For Sale.'' You begin to sober up and understand what the head of Motorola, in Malaysia said as quoted by Mr. Greider that the people of America have no idea in the Lord's world what is happening to them.

What we are doing is making the exception the rule. And what is the exception? The exception is free trade, free trade, free trade. Adam Smith, market forces, market forces. After World War II, that was a valid contention. We had the dominant auto industry. We wanted to foster capitalism in the emerging Third World. We were looking for freedom and democracy to be spread into Europe and into the Pacific rim. So we taxed ourselves by billions for the Marshall Plan and thereupon coaxed our industries to invest overseas. And invest they have.

But if you want to see the sheep dog gobbling up the entire flock, you ought to watch these multinationals that we created. The nationals went over. They resisted it at first. They could not speak the language. The air flights were not good. They did not get good food on them or anything else of that kind. But gradually they learned that in manufacturing, 30 percent of volume is in labor cost—payroll. And you can save as much as 20 percent in a typical manufacturing entity by moving to a low-wage country. So it is that an entity, a manufacturing company that has $500 million in sales can keep its sales force, its executive office back here at the home headquarters but move its production, its manufacture to a low-wage country and make itself $100 million, or it can stay here, continue to work its own people and go broke.

That is what is going on. How do you get that through the news pages so they understand it?

So the nationals gradually became over the 50-year period since World War II, multinationals, and then the national banks, Chase Manhattan and Citicorp, as of 1973, made a majority of their profit outside the United States. So you have got the multinational corporations and the multinational banks. And thereupon you have them making their money and coming back in with the consultants and the takeover of all the think tanks and everything else.

I can bring you right up to date. They just established a chair at the Brookings Institute on free trade, and do you know who is financing it? Toyota. Toyota. So Brookings comes and says, this is great about free trade. Oh, sure, those multinationals, they joined up with the foreign countries. The foreign countries want to dump everything. The multinationals want to manufacture and dump everything back here.

Then, of course, the retailers. The retailers, we proved here in many a debate, do not lower their price. They make a bigger profit. So every time we bring up a reciprocal trade measure or try to get customs agents, which are needed because there is over $5 billion in transshipments in violation of our agreements, whenever we try to get that, the retailers are up here pigeonholing every Senator.

So you have the multinationals, the multinational banks, the consultants, the campuses, the think tanks, and then read ''Agents of Influence,'' by Pat Choate, and that was back 7 years ago when Japan, one country, had a $113 million retainer of—I don't know how many law firms or whatever it was around here—representatives. I got up at that time the total salaries of all the House Members, 435, and all the Senators, 100. Of the 535, we were only paying to have represented the people of America some $71 million. Japan was better represented in Washington at $113 million.

Read the book and you will see how these U.S. Trade Representatives, after putting in time here, went to represent the other side. That is why we have the waiver. Senator Dole said you cannot represent a foreign entity and then come in here and represent us. But, of course, the Finance Committee is in a fix, and there we are. There we are, in the hands of all the lawyers around here. There are 60,000 lawyers registered to practice in the District of Columbia. That is more lawyers than the entire country of Japan. And they come around here and they hate lawyers, they hate lawyers. They are all billable hours. Get yourself charged on an ethics charge and try to find one for less than $400 an hour. They have never been in the courtroom. They never tried a case. They come around here. They ought to all go to work for O.J. Fix that jury. Fix that Congress. That is what we have on us, and you cannot get a word for anybody to represent the reality of this global competition.

There are two schools—two schools of international trade. One, of course, is Adam Smith, the market forces, fostered by David Ricardo, comparative advantage, comparative advantage. But the other school, Friedrich List, which is almost top secret in this body: The strength and the wealth of a nation is measured not by what it can consume but by what it can produce. And that is the global competition. None of them have gone down the road of Adam Smith. They have all gone down the road of mixed economies, and that is what built the United States of America. That is what built this great economic giant, the U.S.A.

The earliest day after we had won our own freedom, the Brits corresponded back to our forefathers and they said, now, as a fledgling little colony here, you have gotten your freedom. You trade back with us what you produce best and we in Great Britain will trade back what we produce best—free trade, free trade, free trade. Alexander Hamilton wrote a book that there is one copy of under lock and key over here at the Library of Congress. I will not read the booklet. We have had a copy of it in my file. But in the line, Hamilton told the Brits, Bug off. We are not going to remain your colony. We are not going to ship our natural resources, our timber, our coal, our iron, our wheat, our farm stuffs, and you ship back the finished products. We are going to make ourselves economically strong. And the second bill that ever passed this U.S. Congress in its history—the first had to do with the seal of the United States—but on July

4, 1789, the second bill to pass this Congress was a tariff bill of 50 percent on 60 different articles. We started with protectionism, protectionism, protectionism.

Later, when we were going to build a transcontinental railroad, they told President Lincoln we could get the steel from England. He said, No, we are going to build our own steel mills. And when we are finished, we will not only have the transcontinental railroad, but we will have an industrial steel capacity.

Again, in the darkest days of the Depression, when people were in food lines, Franklin Roosevelt, with his Economic Recovery Act, put in—what?—put in subsidies for America's agriculture, payments to the farmers that continue today, and protective quotas. And therein is the wonderful success story of America's agriculture.

So, we say, ''Preserve, protect, and defend.'' We have the Army to protect us from enemies without, the FBI to protect us from enemies within, we have Social Security to protect us from the ravages of old age, Medicare to protect us from ill-health—we can go right down the functions of Government. When it comes down to a competitive trade policy, we are in the hands of the Philistines, the multinationals. They are pulling our strings. They want fast track. They do not want any debate. They want to just pass the bills and, if you don't do it, we will make the agreement anyway and bag it. Bug off. That is what they are telling us. So we put in our amendment.

I have had long experience in this field. I testified during the 1950's. I came up here and testified before the old International Trade Commission, and Tom Dewey represented the Japanese. He chased me around the room for a couple of days, and he said, ''Governor, what do you expect the Third World emerging countries to make? Let them make the shoes and the clothing, the textiles. And we, in turn, in the United States, we will make the computers and the airplanes.''

Now, they do not realize it—yes, they are making the shoes: 89 percent of the shoes on the floor of this Congress are imported; two-thirds of the clothing in this Chamber is imported. They are making the shoes and the clothing, the textiles, but they are also making the cameras, the watches, the electronics, the machine tools. You can go right on down the list. And the computers and the airplanes—all of it.

Wake up, America. The majority of that Boeing 777 is made offshore, a good bit of it in China, the People's Republic of China. There are some of them who want to say Communist China, we are going to get a Communist China airplane to ride around in. That is how far we have come, but they do not want to admit to it.

So, there we are. What we have is a situation of the typical promises they make. I am prepared to get into those promises, Mr. President, but, perhaps, I see my distinguished colleagues have been very patient with me. I guess they would be glad to be heard at this time, so I yield the floor and reserve the remainder of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

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

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

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, under the unanimous-consent agreement, an hour has been provided for the chairman and ranking member of the Finance Committee for debate on the resolution. I will yield myself such time as I may take from that hour.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is recognized.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I rise to voice my strong support for Charlene Barshefsky as U.S. Trade Representative. Her nomination was favorably reported by a unanimous vote of the Finance Committee on Thursday, January 30, 1997. It is evident that the nomination of Ambassador Barshefsky has wide bipartisan support in the Senate. This is not surprising when one looks at the impressive record she has compiled as a trade negotiator at the Office of U.S. Trade Representative, first as Deputy USTR and then as acting USTR.

During her nearly 4 years at USTR, Ambassador Barshefsky has succeeded in negotiating an impressive list of multilateral and bilateral trade agreements aimed at opening foreign markets to U.S. exports. She has also distinguished herself as a vigorous advocate and defender of U.S. trade interests. For example, most recently, Ambassador Barshefsky concluded an important agreement on insurance with the Japanese—a matter I was actively involved in on behalf of the United States insurance industry. If this agreement is fully implemented by the Japanese Government, it should result in substantial new opportunities for United States insurance providers.

Similarly, at the World Trade Organization Ministerial in Singapore last December, Ambassador Barshefsky was successful in pushing other nations to conclude a landmark agreement to eliminate tariffs on information technology products. Once put into effect, this Information Technologies Agreement will result in billions of dollars in savings to U.S. companies and consumers.

However, Ambassador Barshefsky has also shown that she can reject bad agreements. She refused to enter into an agreement on trade in financial services that could have left U.S. financial service providers in a worse position than before. Similarly, during the negotiations on telecommunications services last spring, she had the resolve to walk away from the table when other countries had presented patently insufficient offers to open their telecommunications markets.

Her hard-nosed stand in the telecommunications talks forced countries to make substantial improvements in their offers, and the result was a historic agreement reached on February 15 to liberalize trade in basic telecommunications services.

The Agreement on Trade in Basic Telecommunications Services will save consumers hundreds of billions of dollars and will allow our telecommunications industry to compete in foreign markets that were previously closed to them.

Given these accomplishments and her demonstrated toughness and resolve on behalf of U.S. interests, I think there is no question but that Ambassador Barshefsky is extraordinarily well qualified for the position as U.S. Trade Representative. Indeed, her achievements, negotiating skills and professionalism remind me of another able woman USTR, Carla Hills.

We enter a time when we greatly need as U.S. Trade Representative someone with the qualifications that Ambassador Barshefsky brings to the position. The next USTR will be called upon to manage a number of difficult trade issues, including the increasingly complicated trade relationship with China.

Specifically with respect to China, we face a ballooning trade deficit and increasing tensions on trade matters with that country. Moreover, we will soon enter again into the annual debate over whether China should continue to enjoy normal trade relations with the United States, at a time when congressional views on this question will be influenced by China's action during the reversion of Hong Kong to the People's Republic this July.

Ambassador Barshefsky will also be responsible for negotiating with China to ensure that it enters the World Trade Organization on commercially viable terms, which provide for meaningful market access and a commitment from the Chinese to observe the basic rules of the WTO.

In addition, Ambassador Barshefsky will be the administration's point person with respect to the difficult issue of renewal of fast-track negotiating authority. She will also carry the responsibility to ensure that the trade liberalization initiatives through the Free Trade Area of the Americas, the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum, and the Trans-Atlantic Marketplace proceed according to schedule.

These are all important issues, and I am most confident that they will be handled appropriately working with someone like Charlene Barshefsky.

I would like to comment on the issue of the Ambassador's work for the Government of Canada and the Province of Quebec while practicing law in the private sector.

Questions have arisen whether this work may fall within the terms of section 141(b)(3) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended in 1995 by the Lobbying Disclosure Act.

That provision prohibits the President from appointing any person to serve as Deputy USTR or U.S. Trade Representative who has directly represented, aided, or advised a foreign government or foreign political party in a trade dispute or trade negotiation with the United States. In my opinion, the vagueness of this new law and the fact that there was no debate or legislative history on the provision when it was added to the Lobbying Disclosure Act, make it difficult to determine whether it covers or even should cover Ambassador Barshefsky's work in the private sector.

In order to resolve this matter, the President formally requested Congress to enact legislation waiving the law in this instance. Senator MOYNIHAN and I agreed that under these circumstances, a waiver was warranted and, therefore, we jointly introduced Senate Joint Resolution 5 to waive the prohibition.

For those who may have questions or concerns about this waiver, I want to point out that Congress has previously passed legislation to waive a statutory requirement on who may serve in a particular Government position with respect to a specific nominee. For example, in 1989, Congress passed a waiver of the law requiring that only a civilian may be appointed head of NASA, so that Rear Adm. Richard Harrison Truly could be appointed NASA Administrator. In 1991, Congress, once again, passed a waiver of the law requiring that only a civilian may be appointed head of the Federal Aviation Administration so that Maj. Gen. Jerry Ralph Curry could be appointed FAA Administrator.

I would also like to say specifically with respect to Ambassador Barshefsky that as Deputy USTR, she has been exempt from the prohibition in the Lobbying Disclosure Act. She has been forthcoming in providing information to the Committee on Finance about the nature of her work while in private practice.

Moreover, in response to a question from me at her nomination hearing, the Ambassador stated that she had never lobbied the U.S. Government on behalf of a foreign government or a foreign political party.

So under these circumstances, and in the interest of moving her nomination as expeditiously as possible, the entire Senate Committee on Finance agreed that a waiver was appropriate in this case and voted unanimously for the joint resolution. Therefore, I hope that all Members of the Senate will also agree that the waiver is in the best interest of confirming this nominee who clearly enjoys broad bipartisan support and has already demonstrated that she is eminently qualified to serve in that position.

Mr. President, I reserve the remainder of my time, and I yield the floor.

Mr. MOYNIHAN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I rise, as is so frequently and pleasantly my lot in this Congress, to support entirely the major statement made by the chairman of the Committee on Finance, our revered BILL ROTH of Delaware.

As he stated just now, this proposal for a waiver, a very technical matter, a prudent matter, comes to the floor of the Senate as a unanimous action of the Committee on Finance. Just last week, we had a revenue measure which also came to the Senate with the unanimous agreement of the Finance Committee and was duly enacted and is now, in fact, law. The President signed that measure.

We are acting today at the request of the administration, which has a very proper principled concern that if there is any question about the application of this statute, then let that question be resolved by a waiver, which is what we are doing.

In the specific instance, Mr. President, as an attorney in practice here in Washington, Ambassador Barshefsky provided legal advice to the Government of Quebec on softwood lumber countervailing measures—I do not fully claim to understand that—and to the Government of Canada itself.

As the chairman has observed and noted—was she seeking to influence actions here in the Congress? She gave legal advice. I cannot but doubt that there are any number of solicitors in Ottawa who provide advice to American firms on trade matters between the United States and Canada. We, after all, have enjoyed a free trade agreement for nearly a decade and more and have been the closest economic partners for a century and more.

The capacities that Ambassador Barshefsky brings to this job are formidable to the point of being dazzling. She is a master of the subject and has a capacity for advocacy of the American position and American interests that is surely unequaled in our time. The chairman referred to one of her predecessors, Carla Hills, who was equally distinguished in this manner.

There has not been a more dramatic example of American diplomacy—because we are talking about relations between nations—at its finest. When the much-announced, much-proclaimed agreement on telecommunications last year found the other nations unwilling to make the kind of reciprocal agreements that we required which were in our interest and where there were times when negotiators from any country, including our own, would settle for less than what might be appropriate in order to get an agreement, Ambassador Barshefsky did no such thing. Charlene Barshefsky did no such thing. She walked out of the conference, only to come back in the recent weeks with a triumphant telecommunications agreement of the very highest importance to this country.

She did it because she is a firm representative of the U.S. interests and can be someone of just a little hard edge when that seems important. Her arrival in a place like Singapore is front page news. I hope she would not mind that on certain Asian missions she is referred to as the ''Dragon Lady,'' although she has disarming, personable qualities. She is a tough negotiator.

I make this point simply because there is one overriding issue upon us right now—as a trading nation, as the world's largest trading nation, and the sponsor of the World Trade Organization—and that is, as the chairman indicated, the terms on which the People's Republic of China will be granted admission to the World Trade Organization, the terms which are going to make it be the real test of that organization. And it will be decisive to its future.

It started well. It took a long time to get going. As the chairman knows, in the Dumbarton Oaks agreements that were reached with the United Kingdom at the end of World War II, we contemplated there would be three major international institutions: The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, which we know as the World Bank; the International Monetary Fund; and the International Trade Organization—three international organizations, the latter to advance the reciprocal trade programs that had begun in 1934 under Cordell Hull and the administration of President Roosevelt after the calamity of the Smoot-Hawley tariff of 1930.

The World Bank was duly established. The International Monetary Fund was duly established. The International Trade Organization fell afoul, came to grief, if you will, in the Senate Finance Committee. And so it was a matter of some institutional satisfaction to the committee in the 103d Congress to report out the legislation in which we joined, as had been negotiated, the Uruguay Round, the World Trade Organization to succeed the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade which had a much more limited, although indispensable, role in the period that followed our rejection of the ITO. And now we have the World Trade Organization.

The terms on which you enter this agreement and have membership in this organization require an economy and economic practices very much disparate, very much at a distance, if that is the correct term, from those practices and that economy which we observe in the People's Republic of China.

The terms on which entry can be negotiated are going to be complex and crucial. And we need a negotiator who can say no. The one thing Beijing needs to understand is that they will be across the table, or at a round table, in Geneva with a negotiator who can say ''No, period.'' Other than that, I think prospects for a successful, perhaps staged, entry are good. It certainly

should not be dismissed. But it must be understood we are not going to reach agreement for agreement's sake, and to that end we have confirmed in the U.S. Senate the appointment of a U.S. Trade Representative who can say, no—will do, has done.

So, Mr. President, I have the great honor to join with our chairman in this unanimous action of the Committee on Finance in reporting to the floor this proposal for a waiver just to be on the safe side of the legal question that might arise—and will not when we are finished today—and also, of course, the nomination of the Ambassador which will follow in executive session.

I see my colleague from Iowa is on the floor. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

Mr. GRASSLEY addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I yield myself 15 minutes from the time on our side.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is recognized.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, would you please notify me when I have used 14 minutes, because I want 1 minute on the Hollings issue as well.

Mr. President, I rise today to speak on the nomination of Ms. Charlene Barshefsky as United States Trade Representative. Ms. Barshefsky has served as acting USTR since April 1996. So we are all familiar with her work. I have personally worked with her and her staff on several issues in the past year. And I had the opportunity to watch her in Singapore, at the WTO ministerial, negotiate the Information Technology Agreement. Based on her job performance and her international reputation as a strong advocate for U.S. interests, I am prepared to support her nomination today.

Mr. President, the next 4 years will be crucial for U.S. trade policy. We are beginning our fourth year under the North American Free-Trade Agreement and third year under the World Trade Organization. The U.S. Trade Representative must closely monitor the implementation of these agreements to ensure they are working to open markets to American exports.

FAST-TRACK NEGOTIATIONS

The USTR will also serve as President Clinton's point person in several key negotiations. First, she will have to negotiate with Congress on fast track authority. As you know, Mr. President, fast track means that Congress grants to the administration its authority to negotiate trade agreements. Once an agreement is reached, it must be ratified by Congress within a specified period of time and is not subject to amendment.

Fast track is necessary because Congress, alone, has the constitutional authority to enter into trade agreements. But as a practical matter, other nations are reluctant to negotiate agreements with the President, that may later be modified by Congress. So I do believe it's necessary that Congress grant fast track authority to the President.

But fast track is a significant delegation of power. So its crucial that Congress carefully tailor this delegation in order to accomplish its goals. And it's important that the President, in carrying out this delegation, negotiate within the parameters of the authority granted to him.

Herein lies the problem. Congress and the President often have different ideas of what should be included in trade agreements. This administration has made it clear that they want the authority to negotiate on labor and environmental issues under the fast track process. But most of us Republicans don't believe that these issues should be part of trade agreements.

So Congress has not given the President fast track authority since 1994. And our foreign trading partners now doubt the desire of the United States to lead on trade issues. We are being left by the wayside. For example, after 3 years of NAFTA we are beginning to see very positive results. Through the third quarter of 1996, for instance, exports to Mexico just from my State of Iowa are up over 34 percent. The three NAFTA nations are now the world's largest trading bloc. And it's time to begin looking at expanding this free trade area to other nations in the Western Hemisphere.

But this cannot happen without fast track. So I implore Ms. Barshefsky to negotiate with Congress in good faith to achieve fast track. Let's put aside our partisan differences. And let's remember that trade is the focus of these agreements. The United States cannot continue to insist on addressing other issues within the context of trade agreements.

Issues such as environmental and labor standards are very important. But there are avenues other than trade agreements that ought to be pursued to influence the behavior of other countries. And the expansion of trade, itself, with another country can be an effective inroad for making change.

So let trade agreements stand on their own. They are difficult enough to negotiate without taking on the weight of these other issues. I'll have more to say on fast track as negotiations progress with the administration.

CHINA'S ENTRY INTO THE WTO

Mr. President, I hope that Ms. Barshefsky does not have to spend all of her time negotiating with Congress. She also faces very critical negotiations on admitting China as a member of the World Trade Organization. These negotiations could affect the U.S. trade balance for decades. I am reminded of Japan's entry into the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in the 1950's. It seems that we are still paying for lowering the standards to let Japan into the GATT.

In the area of agriculture trade, which is very important to my State, these negotiations may determine whether China becomes our largest export market or our biggest competitor. The stakes are extremely high for American farmers.

That's why I'm concerned that some members of the Clinton administration want to let China into the WTO at any cost. So I took the liberty of asking both Secretary of State Albright and Ambassador Barshefsky about the terms of China's entry. I want to quote from their answers in order to get their opinions on the public record.

Secretary Albright said,

> We have requested that China make significant commitments to liberalize its agricultural trading regime, including reforming its state trading system, making substantial tariff cuts, eliminating unjustified sanitary and phytosanitary measures, and binding its subsidy levels.

She also stated:

> If China is to join the WTO, we will need to have a commercially acceptable protocol package of commitments by China to open its markets in-hand before we will agree to China's accession. That means real market access for U.S. goods and services, including agriculture.

Then I asked Ms. Barshefsky to comment on Secretary Albright's statements. She said,

> I fully agree with the two above statements. China's WTO accession can only occur on commercially meaningful terms. And, just as you quote Secretary Albright, that means market access for our goods, services and agriculture to the fastest growing economy in the world.

Mr. President, I am pleased with the way that both Ambassador Barshefsky and Secretary of State Albright responded to my questions. I hope this will continue to be the policy of their agencies.

I understand that it is very important to integrate China into these multilateral organizations. I have always believed that we can encourage change in China more effectively if we engage them economically. But we cannot sacrifice the interests of American workers and farmers by allowing China to subsidy their industries while keeping their markets closed.

So I will continue to monitor very closely the ongoing negotiations with China. And I encourage Ms. Barshefsky to continue to take a hard line on this issue. I'm reminded of a meeting that I had with Ms. Barshefsky in Singapore when we were attending the WTO ministerial meeting. Since it was reported in the local press, I don't think I'm breaching any confidences by repeating it here in the Senate.

There was a meeting of the Quad nations, which is the United States, Canada, Japan, and the European Union, concerning China's entry into the WTO. The local Singapore newspaper reported that Minister Leon Brittan of the European Union argued that bringing China into the WTO was so important that conditions of entry should be relaxed. The Japanese minister disagreed very strongly with this position. And apparently Ms. Barshefsky concurred with the Japanese minister.

I repeat this incident just to point out that there are different views on this issue. Many nations will seek to treat China with ''kids gloves.'' So it is crucial that the United States play a leadership role in assuring that our interests are protected.

NAFTA EXPANSION

A third area of negotiations that could be significant in the next 4 years is the expansion of the North American Free Trade Agreement. President Clinton promised back in 1992 that Chile would become a part of the NAFTA. But the lack of fast track authority has undermined this promise. Now, Chile has moved ahead and signed a free trade agreement with Canada. And they have also become an associate member of Mercosur.

This is a good example of what happens when Washington fails to lead. The rest of the world moves on without us. And the consequences are very real in terms of U.S. jobs and standard of living.

Let's just take Chile, for example. Chile has the potential to become a very important market for United States agricultural exports. Over the last 10 years, the Chilean economy has grown at an average rate of 6.5 percent and real per capita income is up 50 percent. And since 1984, poultry consumption has risen 60 percent, pork consumption over 45 percent and beef consumption over 30 percent.

The United States currently supplies most of the feed grain Chile uses to support their livestock production. But this market could be put in jeopardy. Chile is increasingly turning to neighboring countries with whom they have preferential trade agreements to supply agricultural products. So the United States' failure to lead on trade has a real impact in terms of lost markets and lost opportunities.

I also ask the President and Ms. Barshefsky to begin taking a hard look at other nations in the Western Hemisphere for NAFTA expansion. Brazil and Argentina have already moved ahead and formed their own customs union, the Mercosur, with Paraguay and Uruguay. And the economies of the Caribbean nations have been hard hit by the increased trade between Mexico and the United States So they would like to enjoy NAFTA status.

This administration needs to articulate its vision of how free trade should proceed in the Americas. Soon. Or it will be the United States who is left out in the cold.

AGRICULTURE

One last issue I would like to discuss, Mr. President, is agriculture. In his State of the Union Address, President Clinton mentioned that the United States is now exporting more goods and services than at any other time in its history. I am glad he did that, because those of us in Washington need to articulate the benefits of free trade. I was disappointed, however, that the President failed to acknowledge the contribution of agriculture, which is the ''shining star'' of our trade balance.

As most sectors continue to run trade deficits, our farmers continue to produce food that the entire world wants to buy; 1996 was another record year for agricultural exports, totaling over $60 billion. This resulted in a trade surplus in agriculture goods of $26.8 billion. Which is the largest surplus of any sector. Since our total trade in merchandise suffered a $187.6 billion deficit in 1996, agriculture is truly a shining star.

But that isn't to say we can't do better. The Uruguay Round agreement, ratified by Congress in 1994, was really the first step in opening up global trade for agriculture. That agreement not only lowered tariffs and quotas for ag products. It also addressed nontrade barriers, such as unjustified health and safety concerns.

The agreement's sanitary and phytosanitary provisions mandate the use of sound science when setting health and safety standards for imports. No longer is protectionist government policy or politics supposed to decide whether a certain product is allowed into a country. Sound, scientific standards must be used.

Not surprisingly, these provisions are the subject of several current disputes. The European Union's ban on U.S. beef and their failure to certify our meat packing plants for export are just two examples. And there are many more. The Clinton administration must vigorously enforce these important provisions with our trading partners. We can't continue to allow other nations to breach their trade agreements in order to keep out our agricultural goods.

The stakes have never been higher. Our farmers have become more dependent on world markets for their income. The revolutionary farm program enacted last year begins to lessen the Government's role in agriculture. The result is that, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, up to 31 percent of all farm income will come from foreign markets by the end of the decade. I don't know too many farmers who can afford to give up 31 percent of their income.

Beyond our current disputes, the next round of agricultural negotiations at the WTO are set to begin in 1999. Ms. Barshefsky will be a key player in these negotiations. That is why I was concerned about recent staffing decisions at the U.S. Trade Representative's office.

On the morning of Ms. Barshefsky's confirmation hearing at the Finance Committee, the Journal of Commerce ran a very disturbing article. The article pointed out that the top two agriculture staffers at USTR had been replaced with a political appointee with no agriculture experience.

I had a telephone conversation and an exchange of letters between Ms. Barshefsky. She is convinced that these decisions will make her office more responsive and effective on ag issues. So I am willing to defer to her judgment and her right to hire her own staff. I will, however, be overseeing her performance on these issues.

CONCLUSION

Mr. President, I have discussed several issues that I believe President Clinton and his nominee for USTR, Charlene Barshefsky, must lead on in the next 4 years. The last 2 years were a disappointment for those of us who believe in the benefits of international trade. The likes of Pat Buchanan and the AFL–CIO called the shots on trade for the 1996 Presidential candidates. The focus was on lost jobs and companies moving offshore.

The press ignored the multitude of stable, high-paying jobs that trade has created in this country. And they ignored the benefits of free trade to the consumers of this country. Let's not forget that tariffs are simply a tax imposed on goods that consumers buy.

The President and Ms. Barshefsky must use their positions as leaders to articulate the benefits of free trade. Tell the American people how workers and farmers benefit from free trade policies. Tell them how much consumers save on their groceries and clothing bills because of free trade. Articulate your vision for expanding economic opportunity in this country by selling our products overseas. Leadership is sorely needed.

President Clinton, I believe you have chosen the right person in Charlene Barshefsky. But you will ultimately be measured by your willingness or failure to lead the American people toward a brighter future in a global economy.

Mr. President, I would also like to say a brief word on the Hollings amendment. It seems to me that Senator HOLLINGS is really concerned with a fundamental question that we all must answer. That is, what is the relationship between Congress and the President in making trade policy. In other words, does the President have the authority to enter into international agreements, that change U.S. law, without congressional consent?

Despite the debate that you will hear today, the answer to this question is relatively simple. Under our Constitution, the President only has the authority that Congress has granted to him. During the fast track debate, which I hope we'll have this year, Congress will define the limits of the Presidential authority on trade matters.

But let's be clear about one thing. The President does not have the authority to change U.S. statutory law without congressional action. That is why Congress had to approve implementing legislation after the President signed the NAFTA agreement and the Uruguay round agreement in recent years. The President did not have the authority to unilaterally consent to these significant changes in U.S. law.

That is why I believe this amendment is unnecessary. But I also think it could be dangerous. The amendment

is drafted so broadly that it could subject an agreement to congressional approval every time it affects a minor regulation or administrative practice. In my opinion, this would result in very few trade agreements being consummated. Our trading partners would never have the assurance they were negotiating an agreement that would be recognized by Congress.

Look at just what we have accomplished in the last few months, negotiating the Informational Technology Agreement and the Telecommunications Agreement. These landmark agreements will result in thousands of high-paying jobs being created in the United States. I don't believe these agreements would have been possible given the chilling effect of the Hollings amendment.

So I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on the Hollings amendment and then vote to confirm Charlene Barshefsky. It's time to focus on moving this country ahead by negotiating new agreements and opening new markets to U.S. exports.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I yield 10 minutes to the distinguished Senator from Montana.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I thank my very distinguished colleague from New York. Not only the residents, citizens, and voters of the State of New York, but the rest of us in the country are very fortunate to have in the U.S. Senate the Senator from New York. He has added so much to our understanding of historical issues, cultural issues, and institutional memory. I just want to thank the Senator very much for all he has done for us.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. I thank the Senator from Montana.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I support strongly the nomination of Charlene Barshefsky as U.S. Trade Representative. Why is that? Although the Senator from South Carolina raises very important issues—and I underline that; they are extremely important—I think we can't wait. We have very important trade issues facing us at the moment. We have a superb candidate in Charlene Barshefsky, who is awaiting confirmation. I believe we have no alternative, no choice, but to do the right thing. And the right thing is to get on with it, let her get on with the job, and let's confirm her as our USTR. At the appropriate time, at a later moment, we will take up the issues raised by the Senator from South Carolina, and they are very important issues indeed.

I might remind everyone that our international trade is growing dramatically. When Congress created the position of USTR just over 20 years ago, imports and exports, together, made up only about one-eighth of the U.S. economy. Today, international trade makes up nearly a full third of our economy. That is a dramatic increase, from one-eighth to one-third, in just over 20 years. Last year, exports of goods and services reached a total of $835 billion, and in agriculture, which is the largest industry in my State of Montana, we saw exports hit $60 billion last year.

(Ms. COLLINS assumed the chair.)

Mr. BAUCUS. I might say, too, Madam President, that the people understand this. Last year they came from all over Montana to a trade conference I hosted on how we can establish better trade relationships with and engage more deeply with China. People came from all over our State. I was amazed at the success of that conference. The Chinese Ambassador was there, and also, I might add, we invited our U.S. Ambassador to China, the Honorable Jim Sasser—he very much wanted to come but was unable because of a last moment conflict.

I might also remind us that American imports also hit a record of about $949 billion last year. We imported more than we exported. That may not be so good. But the point is that we as Americans are competing more than ever before against foreign competition, whether it is in heavy industry, high technology, or agricultural services. It all underlines the importance of trade in general and also the importance of being sure that we have a top-notch trade negotiator to make sure it is all fair. And we certainly have that in Charlene Barshefsky.

What has she done? For my State of Montana, I'll mention one thing in particular. She and her predecessor, Mickey Kantor, worked vigorously to enforce agreement with Canada to restrict the deluge of grain coming down to the United States as near as 1993 and 1994. Wheat ordinarily received in the United States was about 1.35 million metric tons of Canadian grain. In those 2 years it rose to about 2.4 million metric tons. It depressed prices in the American markets and violated, frankly, a tentative, implicit agreement with the Canadians.

I must say I was very impressed with the vigor and enthusiasm with which Charlene Barshefsky helped negotiate that agreement. Because of her work, Montana farmers got some confidence that trade would be fair.

Second, exports of beef. This is the first time in American history—in 1996—when we exported more beef than we imported. A lot of beef producers in the United States are concerned and have the impression that we import more than we export. That has been true in the past.

I might say that about 5 years ago we imported about 2 million pounds of beef and we exported only about 75,000 pounds, in that magnitude. But in the last 5 years it has reversed, and for the first time, in 1996, we exported more. We exported more beef than we imported because, again, of the vigorous efforts of our trade negotiators in opening up foreign markets for American products.

I am sure other folks from around the country understand and have similar stories that they can pass on to us.

She has done a terrific job. And we need someone of her caliber on the job full time, as we enter a new era in tackling very difficult new issues.

I might remind us that for most of the 1980's and 1990's, trade policy revolved around three major areas: in the Uruguay round of GATT, NAFTA, and our market access problems with Japan. These areas still remain on our agenda. We have to monitor the WTO. We have to monitor the NAFTA closely. And our trade imbalance with Japan remains our largest bilateral deficit yet, although it is being surpassed by that of China.

It is only fair to say that after a great deal of hard work from Charlene Barshefsky and the USTR staff that our performance with Japan has improved markedly. Counting goods and services, exports are up from $75 billion to over $100 billion last year; quite an improvement.

As important as these issues are, we now must look ahead to two new strategic challenges in trade. First is whether to negotiate new trade agreements, and, if so, what should they be? For example, the administration has pledged to work toward a hemispheric trade agreement and also to pursue market access in Asia through the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum, and through bilateral agreements.

These are broad, long-term, important goals. Much about them remains to be decided. But the administration will soon ask for fast-track authority to make any serious steps forward, and it is clear that Americans have a right to expect greater market access from these countries.

I look forward, as we all do in the Senate, to hearing from the administration as to what specific agreement it envisions and how these agreements will address contentious issues like treatment of trade-related labor and environmental issues. When that is available, in principle, I believe the Congress should grant fast-track authority. And I will work with Ambassador Barshefsky and the administration as to what the terms are, of how broad the scope is, so that we have in the Congress a very good mutual agreement and partnership with the administration as we work together to develop these trade agreements.

The second is the integration of formerly Communist countries into the world trade system. China, Russia, Ukraine, Vietnam, and other post-Communist nations make up about a third of the world's population. They are large producers of manufactured products, primarily commodities, and agricultural goods. All hope to enter the WTO, the World Trade Organization.

Their reform efforts are commendable but remain incomplete. Most of these countries retain pervasive subsidies, poorly developed price systems, and close links between government and business which make them particularly challenging candidates for WTO membership. Weak accession protocols could make market access very difficult for years to come and could also

promote dumping in a wide range of areas.

China is the largest of these countries and the most immediate candidate for WTO membership—not to mention that it is the world's largest country and the fastest growing large economy. So its WTO access will have enormous consequences in its own right, and it will very likely serve as a model for others.

I will have more to say on this subject at a later date. But the USTR and Congress must be very careful and very rigorous. China and other WTO applicants must meet international standards not only on traditional tariff and quota issues but also on national treatment, trading rights, transparency, subsidies, and safeguards against import surges, and many other issues. On our side of the table, we must be willing to address the question of permanent MFN status for these countries if we are to gain the full benefit of their WTO membership.

These are difficult and complex issues, but I am confident that Ambassador Barshefsky is the right person to take them on. I can think of none better. She is terrific. She is intelligent, tough, capable, and she has proven herself one of the best public servants America has, and we need her on the job.

I support the nomination and I support the waiver to make it possible. And while the Senator from South Carolina has an amendment which raises a very serious and very important issue, that is one which we should bring through the normal committee process. It should not stop the nomination of Charlene Barshefsky. We need a tough negotiator. We have her right before us. We need her now in Geneva. During this week WTO is attempting to negotiate terms with China. We need her there to negotiate for us.

I warmly endorse her nomination. I hope my colleagues will do the same.

Thank you, Madam President.

Mr. ROTH addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I yield 7 minutes to the distinguished Senator from Rhode Island.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island is recognized.

Mr. CHAFEE. I thank the Chair, and I thank the distinguished manager of this bill.

Madam President, I wish to express my wholehearted support for Ambassador Barshefsky. In my dealings with her over the years, I have found her to be a skilled and certainly an expert trade negotiator, who has worked tirelessly on behalf of U.S. interests. I have no doubt as to her integrity and her commitment to this job. And I believe that view is shared by every single member of the Finance Committee, all of whom have worked closely with her. Thus, I urge my colleagues to support her nomination with a strong show of support in the upcoming vote.

Before we vote on the nomination, Madam President, we must first vote on the amendment to Senate Joint Resolution 5 offered by the distinguished Senator from South Carolina, Senator HOLLINGS. The amendment requires that any trade agreement that in effect amends U.S. law must be approved by Congress.

I must say that this amendment puzzles me. Trade agreements to which the United States is a party and the call for changes to U.S. law, have no force of law whatsoever until implementing legislation is passed by Congress. Congress always has the final say.

The USTR takes pains to ensure that Congress is involved in every step along the way in these trade negotiations. As a member of the Finance Committee, I can personally testify to the fact that the USTR provides regular and, indeed, frequent—indeed, in abundance, a plethora of—briefings on all of the international discussions.

During 1995 and then again in 1996, the USTR provided literally hundreds of briefings to Members and more than a dozen committees on ongoing trade issues and responded to approximately 200 congressional requests for information every month. That is what was going on in the USTR's office. The Finance Committee staff is briefed exhaustively, as are the staff involved with several other committees. Any Member who has an interest in a particular issue can request personal briefings. That has been the process, not only during this administration but during prior administrations. It is the right process. Trade, obviously, is not solely the privilege of the executive branch but a responsibility conferred by the Constitution on the Congress.

Do Congress and the administration always agree? Of course not. Indeed, if the disagreement is strong enough, the administration runs the risk of Congress flatly rejecting the arguments in question. Thus, in this process is the built-in enforcement mechanism that constantly keeps individuals in touch.

So the amendment that is being proposed puzzles me. It does seem to reiterate current process but there are two words that give me pause. The words ''in effect.'' What exactly does ''in effect amend or repeal statutory law of the U.S.'' mean? Is it a reference to regulations? Regulations are issued under statutory authority. Is it a reference to the administration officials changing the law by themselves? But the Constitution does not allow that. Only Congress can change U.S. law.

So it seems that the amendment may be aimed at the recently concluded telecommunications agreement and at certain provisions of that agreement. As I have outlined, the process of negotiating trade agreements takes into account the individual views of Members of Congress. The end results of trade agreements may include certain provisions that some of us do not like. I can clearly remember Senator Danforth of Missouri was not too pleased with the final provisions of the Uruguay Round on subsidies. He did not like it. Yet, he worked with the administration on the implementing legislation and at the end of the day chose to give the agreement his support.

Disagreement with provisions of final trade agreements is going to happen. Clearly, with 435 Members of the House and 100 Members of the Senate, there are going to be disagreements with the administration. To minimize these, we individually or in groups make sure the administration is aware of our views. We go to the STR during the negotiating sessions and say this is what I am concerned with. This is what we are concerned with in my part of the country. And at the end of the day the agreement may or may not be satisfactory. If we feel strongly enough that it is not satisfactory, we are free to express our views, that is, vote against the proposal, vote against the treaty.

So my conclusion, Madam President, is twofold. First, it simply is not clear what this amendment would do if it is enacted. Any legislation with an unclear meaning simply, in my judgment, is not wise legislation to enact.

Second, if the amendment is to express displeasure with a particular provision of, say, the telecommunications agreement, we already have in place a system that takes into account such views. I might also note that I understand from the leadership of the Finance Committee if this amendment, the Hollings amendment, is adopted, it would cause the House to reject consideration of Senate Joint Resolution 5, thus placing the Barshefsky nomination in jeopardy.

So this is a grave matter, Madam President. It is in the very clear interest of the United States to put in place as soon as possible a strong and effective special trade representative. In other words, Ms. Barshefsky. She needs to be on the job. We have a lot of trade discussions and disputes that are ongoing. Charlene Barshefsky is an absolutely superb advocate and we need to get her confirmed. So for these reasons, I am supporting the nomination and the waiver bill and cannot support the proposed amendment. So I urge my colleagues to reject the Hollings amendment and to vote for the waiver and for the nomination of Charlene Barshefsky.

I thank the Chair.

Mr. MOYNIHAN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished Senator from Florida, a member of the Committee on Finance, who is one of those who voted unanimously to report this nomination to the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GRAHAM. Thank you, Madam President, and I thank the Senator from New York.

I urge the Senate to move expeditiously to confirm Ambassador

Charlene Barshefsky as U.S. Trade Representative. She is the right person at the right time for the very difficult task she will be undertaking.

I also urge the immediate passage of Senate Joint Resolution 5, without amendment, to extend the waiver for the position which Ambassador Barshefsky currently holds as Deputy U.S. Trade Representative. This waiver as granted under Senate Joint Resolution 5 applies only to Ambassador Barshefsky. It does not change the underlying law, nor does it create a precedent for future waivers. This waiver deserves to pass without amendment. The merits of the issue which are being raised by my friend and colleague from South Carolina deserve to be heard, but I would submit that this is not the forum for the resolution of those questions. There will be other more appropriate times which will not entail endangering the expeditious confirmation of Ambassador Barshefsky to her important post.

As Senator MOYNIHAN has just stated, when Ambassador Barshefsky's nomination was presented to the Finance Committee, her record was carefully examined. The result of that examination was a unanimous vote by the committee in favor of her confirmation. Ambassador Barshefsky was referred to at the confirmation hearing as one of the most qualified, seasoned trade negotiators ever to be offered for this position. As Deputy and Acting U.S. Trade Representative, she has been an outstanding advocate of the trade interests of the United States of America. She has proven herself to be a brilliant negotiator. The Finance Committee and, I hope soon, the Senate as a whole will recognize these qualities. Ambassador Barshefsky has demonstrated a consistent focus on opening global markets, opening those markets through bilateral and multilateral trade agreements that increase export opportunities for U.S. businesses and creates jobs for U.S. workers. She has played an instrumental role in solving trade disputes with Japan, China, and numerous other nations on behalf of the United States.

Madam President, I was recently in Florida with a group of representatives of important agricultural interests who were looking forward to going to China with Ambassador Barshefsky to open markets for American agriculture in that tremendous nation of population. That is an example of the aggressive pursuit of opportunities for American industry and agriculture that has hallmarked Ambassador Barshefsky's performance in her current positions and will do likewise when she is confirmed as the U.S. Trade Representative.

It is a pleasure to give this outstanding nominee my unqualified endorsement. I have no question that Ambassador Barshefsky will be an outstanding representative and leader at the U.S. Trade Representative office. I urge my colleagues to join in voting to confirm her nomination today. We need a timely decision. We have already paid a cost for the delay that has occurred to date. The U.S. trade position is weakened when it does not have a confirmed U.S. Trade Representative representing our interests. We need to transfer that weakness into the strength of steel that will come when Charlene Barshefsky represents the United States as our Ambassador, as the U.S. Trade Representative.

I thank the Chair.

Mr. ROTH. Madam President, I yield 3 minutes to the Senator from Colorado.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado is recognized for 3 minutes.

Mr. ALLARD. I thank the Senator from Delaware for yielding me some time.

Madam President, today we must decide to vote in favor of a waiver to allow a very competent and worthy candidate to be the new U.S. Trade Representative or to vote to uphold current law. I have decided to uphold current law. It must be made clear that I do not doubt the competency and ability of Ambassador Barshefsky to faithfully serve as the next U.S. Trade Representative. She has done a tremendous job as the Deputy USTR and has proven herself to be a competent public servant.

The law we are asked to waive is not some arcane law that has been on the books for decades which may have served us well in the past but is a law that was passed only 2 years ago. The Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 was a very important piece of legislation that opened the doors to the public to see who is attempting to influence our elected officials. Section 21 of the act specifically states that no person who has represented a foreign entity may be appointed as a U.S. Trade Representative or the Deputy U.S. Trade Representative.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD section 21 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act and from the United States Code section 2171(b).

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

LOBBYING DISCLOSURE ACT OF 1995

SEC. 21. BAN ON TRADE REPRESENTATIVE REPRESENTING OR ADVISING FOREIGN ENTITIES.

(a) REPRESENTING AFTER SERVICE.—Section 207(f)(2) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by—

(1) inserting ''or Deputy United States Trade Representative'' after ''is the United States Trade Representative''; and

(2) striking ''within 3 years'' and inserting ''at any time''.

(b) LIMITATION ON APPOINTMENT AS UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE AND DEPUTY UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE.—Section 141(b) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2171(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) LIMITATION ON APPOINTMENTS.—A person who has directly represented, aided, or advised a foreign entity (as defined by section 207(f)(3) of title 18, United States Code) in any trade negotiation, or trade dispute, with the United States may not be appointed as United States Trade Representative or as a Deputy United States Trade Representative.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to an individual appointed as United States Trade Representative or as a Deputy United States Trade Representative on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) United States Trade Representative; Deputy United States Trade Representatives.

(1) The Office shall be headed by the United States Trade Representative who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. As an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate, any nomination of the United States Trade Representative submitted to the Senate for confirmation, and referred to a committee, shall be referred to the Committee on Finance. The United States Trade Representative shall hold office at the pleasure of the President, shall be entitled to receive the same allowances as a chief of mission, and shall have the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

(2) There shall be in the Office three Deputy United States Trade Representatives who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. As an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate, any nomination of a Deputy United States Trade Representative submitted to the Senate for confirmation, and referred to a committee, shall be referred to the Committee on Finance. Each Deputy United States Trade Representative shall hold office at the pleasure of the President and shall have the rank of Ambassador.

(3) Limitation of appointments.

A person who has directly represented, aided, or advised a foreign entity (as defined by section 207(f)(3) of Title 18) in any trade negotiation, or trade dispute, with the United States may not be appointed as United States Trade Representative or as a Deputy United States Trade Representative.

Mr. ALLARD. Madam President, while I regret that I have to vote against Ambassador Barshefsky's worthy nomination, I believe as lawmakers we must not only strive to enact the best laws but also to obey not only the letter of the law but also the spirit of the law. Why do we pass laws if the first time they become problematic, we decide to grant a waiver. In the last couple of months, I have heard too many politicians say that it was out of necessity that they bend the law or ignore the spirit of the law or assume that it may not be illegal, and then promise it will not happen again. My solution to this dilemma is to follow the law or repeal it.

While in the other body, I voted for the Lobbying Disclosure Act and have consistently promised my constituents that I will work hard to enact congressional reform. In this vein, I cannot turn my back on them or on the law that I fought hard to enact. I understand why many will vote for this waiver because Ambassador Barshefsky would make a tremendous USTR, but I must regretfully vote no and only hope that this waiver granting procedure doesn't start a bad precedent for the future. In conclusion, I am voting

against the Hollings amendment and the waiver.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

Mr. ROTH. Madam President, I yield myself such time as I may use on the hour for the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware is recognized.

Mr. ROTH. Madam President, on January 30, 1997, the Committee on Finance unanimously reported without amendment Senate Joint Resolution 5, the waiver resolution for Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky's appointment to serve as U.S. Trade Representative. As I said earlier, I strongly support Ambassador Barshefsky's nomination. Therefore, in order to expedite the appointment of this nominee, it is my considered opinion as chairman of the Finance Committee, that the waiver should remain clean and should not be amended.

Now, Senator HOLLINGS has introduced an amendment to the waiver. This amendment would require congressional approval of any trade agreement that ''in effect'' amends or repeals U.S. statutory law.

While I am convinced that as a general matter the Senate should not add amendments to the waiver, I have a number of concerns specifically about Senator HOLLINGS' amendment, which lead me to oppose the amendment most strongly and to urge my colleagues to vote against it.

My primary concern is that passage of the Hollings amendment will seriously jeopardize Ambassador Barshefsky's nomination. I have a letter from Chairman Archer of the House Ways and Means Committee stating that the House would view the Hollings provision as a revenue measure that, under the origination clause of the Constitution, must originate in the House of Representatives. As such, Chairman Archer informs me that he will invoke the constitutional prerogative of the House to refuse to consider the waiver resolution for Ambassador Barshefsky if the Hollings amendment is added.

I ask unanimous consent that Chairman Archer's letter be printed in the RECORD following my remarks.

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

(See exhibit 1.)

Mr. ROTH. I want to emphasize one point to those that support the Barshefsky nomination. Regardless of whether one supports the Hollings amendment on the merits, the House will blue slip it. This means that not only will the House kill the Hollings amendment, but the Barshefsky waiver along with it.

This fact alone is ample reason to vote against the Hollings amendment.

In addition to this procedural concern, I also have substantive problems with the HOLLINGS amendment. I admit this amendment may have some superficial appeal. Nonetheless, it is completely unnecessary because it is based on a false assumption, implying a problem that simply does not exist. The amendment gives the erroneous impression that the President is currently able to implement international trade agreements calling for changes in U.S. statutory law without the passage of implementing legislation by Congress. That is simply not true. If a trade agreement requires changes in U.S. statutory law, Congress must enact the legislation to implement those changes. Congress must pass that legislation in order for the agreement to have full force and effect with respect to the United States.

A good example is the OECD Shipbuilding Subsidies Agreement, a trade agreement that was negotiated in 1994. Congress has been unable to pass legislation to implement the changes in U.S. law called for under that agreement. As a result, the agreement has no force and effect with respect to the United States. Absent congressional passage of implementing legislation, there is nothing the President can do to implement the agreement on his own.

Now, what if Congress and the President have a legitimate disagreement about whether a particular trade agreement calls for a change in U.S. law? My understanding is that this issue is the basis of Senator HOLLINGS' concern—that the President can act to supersede laws passed by Congress.

First of all, this is not a situation where trade agreements are somehow deemed to be treaties, with the full force of law, but which, unlike a treaty, the President is able to implement without Congressional approval. Trade agreements are executive agreements. And the simple fact is that if there is an inconsistency between an executive agreement and a statute, the statute prevails. In other words, a law passed by Congress remains on the books in full force and effect and cannot somehow be trumped by an executive agreement or any other action by the President.

In my opinion, the language in the Hollings amendment requiring that Congress approve any trade agreement that ''would in effect amend or repeal'' U.S. statutory law also suffers from several other defects.

It is vague, subjective, leaves undefined what ''in effect'' means, and does not specify who determines whether a law is effectively changed by a trade agreement.

Trade agreements cannot effectively change or repeal U.S. law. An agreement may call for actual changes in U.S. statutory law, in which case, as I have already explained, Congress must pass implementing legislation in order for it to have force and effect with respect to the United States. Or an agreement does not call for such changes, in which case it can be implemented without congressional action. Indeed, the language in the Hollings provision is so vague and ill-defined, that it could require congressional approval of any and every trade agreement the President negotiates, even those not calling for actual changes in U.S. statutory law. This could immobilize our ability to negotiate trade agreements, even on relatively minor issues, as Congress would be required to approve tens, if not hundreds of such agreements.

All of these agreements would also be fully amendable. The result would be to shackle our capacity to conduct any trade policy.

Because the language in the amendment is so vague, I also fear that it could call into question the legal status of previous agreements that have not been fully implemented, including the recently concluded Information Technologies Agreement. This landmark agreement was completed pursuant to authority provided to the President by Congress under the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, and currently needs no further congressional action in order to be fully implemented. However, that situation could change under the Hollings amendment, which would seriously jeopardize this historic agreement to provide a market opening for U.S. companies worth $500 billion a year.

The amendment appears to be driven, in part, by Senator HOLLINGS' concerns about the telecommunications agreement recently negotiated at the World Trade Organization.

My understanding is that Senator HOLLINGS believes the commitments the administration makes in the telecommunications agreement will change current U.S. telecommunications law without Congress having the opportunity to pass implementing legislation.

I would like to point out that others disagree with Senator HOLLINGS' view that this agreement will change current U.S. law. Senator MCCAIN, chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, Senator BURNS, along with Congressman OXLEY, vice-chair of the House Telecommunications Subcommittee, wrote a letter to the President expressing their view that no implementing legislation is necessary.

I ask unanimous consent that this letter also be printed in the RECORD following my remarks.

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

(See exhibit 2.)

Mr. ROTH. In conclusion, Madam President, we must keep focused on the task at hand—fulfilling the Senate's constitutional prerogative with respect to Ambassador Barshefsky's nomination. We should not be bogging this nomination down with extraneous and controversial matters, such as the Hollings amendment. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting to table the Hollings amendment, which will be made at the appropriate time.

Madam President, I reserve the remainder of my time.

EXHIBIT 1

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 13, 1997.

Hon. WILLIAM V. ROTH, Jr., Chairman,
Committee on Finance, U.S. Senate, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROTH: I am writing in reference to legislation that would waive the application of section 141(b)(3) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended by the Lobby Disclosure Act, with respect to the nomination of Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky as United States Trade Representative. As you know, I fully support Ambassador Barshefsky's nomination and urge the Senate to pass quickly legislation permitting her confirmation so that the House may then consider it promptly.

At the same time, I am concerned that the legislation passed by the Senate may include provisions that contravene the origination clause of the U.S. Constitution, which provides that revenue measures must originate in the House. Specifically, I understand that the Senate may be asked to consider particular provisions, such as one suggested by Senator Hollings, which would change the manner in which Congress considers trade agreements and legislation having a direct effect on customs revenues. Although I strongly support Ambassador Barshefsky's nomination, I would have no choice but to insist on the House's Constitutional prerogatives and to seek the return to the Senate of any legislation including such a provision.

I look forward to working with you on this matter.

With best personal regards,

BILL ARCHER,
Chairman.

EXHIBIT 2

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, February 11, 1997.

The PRESIDENT,
The White House, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: We write regarding inaccuracies in correspondence you reportedly have received from a few of our colleagues regarding the World Trade Organization (WTO) telecommunications talks and restrictions on international investment.

As you are aware, officials of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) are hard at work negotiating a market-opening agreement in the WTO Group on Basic Telecommunications (GBT). Questions have been raised concerning the Administration's authority to negotiate an agreement lowering barriers to international investment.

It has been stated that USTR sought amendments to the Telecommunications Act of 1996 to clarify legal limits on foreign investment in U.S. telecommunications firms. This is incorrect. As the authors of the Senate and House foreign ownership provisions, we wish to state for the record that we were acting on our own initiative and that no Administration official requested that we legislate in this area. Any discussions we had with the Administration on these issues came at our request.

We firmly believe that the Administration possesses the authority to negotiate an agreement without implementing legislation. Indeed, the correct legal interpretation of the relevant statute is that private foreign firms are free to invest in American firms without restriction unless ''the [Federal Communications] Commission finds that the public interest will be served by the refusal or revocation'' of a telecommunications license. To allege that implementing legislation is necessary is to misinterpret the law. Indeed, it is the very prevalence of such misreadings that caused us to attempt to reform the ownership rules.

We wish to state our support for USTR's negotiators. We appreciate their work to promote free trade in goods and services. We believe that a freer flow of capital is a logical extension of this policy. Artificial limits on international investment only harm U.S. firms by denying them access to foreign capital and foreign markets.

Thank you for your consideration on these thoughts.

Yours truly,

JOHN MCCAIN,
Chairman, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.
MICHAEL G. OXLEY,
Vice Chairman, House Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Trade and Consumer Protection.
CONRAD BURNS,
Chairman, Senate Subcommittee on Communications.

Mr. MOYNIHAN addressed the Chair.

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

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Madam President, I rise simply to endorse, with fullest conviction, the statement of the chairman in this matter, and to emphasize, if I may be allowed, that executive agreements can never override statute. If they do, they are null and void, and the courts will so hold.

For us even to suggest that that might be possible would be to introduce into our governmental administrative arrangements matters of ambiguity and doubt and uncertainty that would have the capacity to incapacitate what has turned out to be an extraordinarily successful procedure in world trade.

It has taken us 60 years—63 from the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1934—to reach a point where we are the world's largest trading nation and leading the way in these matters in the world and hugely respected for that and known to have the capacity to negotiate when the Congress gives that authority to the President. The subsequent negotiations are executive agreements. If any part of them should, by inadvertence or intention, be contrary to present statutory law, they are null and void. That proposition must never be put into question as I fear this matter before us might do.

I yield the floor and thank the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

Mr. HOLLINGS addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. HOLLINGS. I thank the distinguished Chair.

Madam President, it is difficult to really determine the position of our distinguished leadership on the Finance Committee. In one breath, they say it is unnecessary and, in the next breath, they say it is going to really ruin $500 billion in trade. Then they come back and say the statutory law pertains and talk at length about how they have worked over the years with Ambassador-designate Barshefsky.

In fact, the point was just made by my distinguished colleague from New York, since 1934, they have been working. I have been on the Communications Subcommittee of the Commerce Committee for 30 years, and I watched it develop over that 30-year period. When we had a majority on our side of the aisle, I introduced the formative legislation to revise that 1934 Communications Act with the initiative that would allow the trade representative to negotiate an international telecommunications agreement.

I am totally familiar, during the past 3 to 4 years, with what they are talking about because this is a Senator who has been working with the White House and with the trade representative, be it Ambassador Kantor or now Ambassador Barshefsky.

It was Ambassador Kantor who said the law needed amending. I already had that letter printed in the RECORD. Now they say there is no law to be amended. Heavens above. In fact, the distinguished Senator from Iowa, Senator GRASSLEY, comes in here and says it is totally unnecessary. He said, ''Actually, my provision, which is constitutional''—that is all it does, is cite a fundamental of the Constitution that you have in order to amend or repeal a statute. It is not a regulation, as the Senator from Rhode Island tried to read into it.

It is very simple, very clear, not vague, not vague at all. It is the constitutional provision of three readings in the House, three readings in the Senate, and signed by the President.

When they say it is unnecessary, just look at the letters just inserted in the RECORD. I refer to the letter of the Senator from Arizona, Senator MCCAIN, the Senator from Montana, Senator BURNS, and Congressman OXLEY on the House side, and they say:

> We firmly believe that the administration possesses the authority to negotiate an agreement without implementing legislation.

Now, heavens above, we know Ambassador Kantor thought so and asked that it be changed. I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD section 310(a) and section 310(b) of the Communications Act of 1934.

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

SEC. 310. [47 U.S.C. 310] LIMITATION ON HOLDING AND TRANSFER OF LICENSES.

(a) The station license required under this Act shall not be granted to or held by any foreign government or the representative thereof.

(b) No broadcast or common carrier or aeronautical en route or aeronautical fixed radio station license shall be granted to or held by—

(1) any alien or the representative of any alien;

(2) any corporation organized under the laws of any foreign government;

(3) any corporation of which more than one-fifth of the capital stock is owned of record or voted by aliens or their representatives or by a foreign government or representative thereof or by any corporation organized under the laws of a foreign country;

(4) any corporation directly or indirectly controlled by any other corporation of which more than one-fourth of the capital stock is owned of record or voted by aliens, their representatives, or by a foreign government or representative thereof, or by any corporation organized under the laws of a foreign country, if the Commission finds that the public interest will be served by the refusal or revocation of such license.

Mr. HOLLINGS. Madam President, let's just read 310(a):

The station license required under this Act shall not be granted to or held by any foreign government or the representative thereof. . .

And in section (b) starting off:

No broadcast or common carrier license—

And I jump down to four:

. . . any corporation directly or indirectly controlled by any other corporation of which more than one-fourth of the capital stock is owned of record or voted by aliens, their representatives, or by a foreign government, or representative thereof, or by any corporation organized under the laws of a foreign country.

It is just as plain as can be and very simple, totally disregarded by Ms. Barshefsky. We kept telling her, we wrote the White House letters, we admonished, ''Wait a minute, your predecessor came before us, testified, asked that it be changed,'' and then we see in the letter by these three gentlemen the phrase ''as authors of the Senate and House foreign ownership provisions.'' False. Mr. OXLEY, yes, at the request of the administration. On the House side, it put in there the 100-percent ownership which could be negotiated away. That was never agreed to.

I authored the reciprocity provision with the snapback condition on the Senate side. So I have to correct the distinguished chairman of my committee and the chairman of our subcommittee, Senators MCCAIN and BURNS. As the authors, this is very misleading to the particular body here and the other Senators reading that. And then reading further, ''No administration official requested that we legislate in this area.'' These gentlemen were not intimate to the negotiations or members of the conference committee that actually did the work.

Let me refer to, on August 4, 1995, the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Page 8451 is the page. I am quoting Mr. BLILEY, the chairman of the Commerce Committee on the House side and the chief negotiator for the House membership. I quote:

Additionally, we have addressed the issue of foreign ownership or equity interest in domestic telecommunications companies. The new language reflects the hard work of Messrs. DINGELL and OXLEY, who sponsored the proposal in committee, the administration and myself. I must observe, Mr. Chairman, that the foreign ownership issue is the only matter on which the administration offered specific language to the Commerce Committee. And I believe this administration's concerns have been largely resolved.

Madam President, there it is. We made the official RECORD. The administration, after they did not get their desired result on the Senate side, went to work on the House side. And they did request, where they say no request after requesting us. We talked to them back in 1995 several times. We knew exactly what they had in mind. We tried to comply. But we did not change the law.

Now we have leading Senators, the chairman of our full committee and the chairman of our subcommittee, saying that the administration possesses the authority to give away 100 percent in violation of sections 310(a) and 310(b). That is why it is necessary. To be told now on the Senate floor that the Constitution, that we all take an oath to support and protect—it has a chilling effect that is out of the whole cloth. To come now and say it is vague is out of the whole cloth. You cannot make language any more categorical. I did not say ''regulation,'' like they tried to read and make for confusion. It is just as plain as can be.

I have talked with many of the Members, and asked if they wanted it changed in any way. And they said they did not see how you could vote against it. Well, the way they vote against it is to come up and now argue the capabilities of what I was going to hear again.

Heavens above. When we had Ambassador Carla Hills, who is now gone in representation I guess, we had to put the provision in law. I am glad to see the Senator from Colorado on the floor saying that he did not agree with that waiver. That was the Dole waiver that we are talking about. The Hollings waiver, which is on the appropriations bill, that is in relation to the special trade or U.S. Trade Representative, that you shall not engage in the representing of foreign interests in trade for a 5-year period, which applies of course to our distinguished friend, Mickey Kantor.

But when we had Carla hills, every one of these negotiators—the Finance Committee leadership comes with again the ''Dragon Lady, Dragon Lady,'' ''Oh, man, tough, tough, tough.'' He did say, the Senator from New York, that Ms. Barshefsky was formidable to the point of being dazzling. Well, I will agree. She has been dazzling. And this Senator has not. That is exactly the point I am trying to make.

I met with Ms. Barshefsky, and she did have a dazzling approach of ''I want to work with you. I want to work with you. I want to work with you.'' As I have stated earlier, ''Madam, I want you to work with the law, not me. Just adhere to this law.''

We have had this in dispute. We have had this in discussion. We have had this in negotiation with Members and Senate leadership in the Congress, leadership in the White House. And the law is the law. It has not been changed.

And they go there and can justify further that the distinguished negotiator is so tough she just walked away on the telecommunications negotiations.

Well, that is not what the Wall Street Journal stated on May 20 of last year. And I quote:

U.S. negotiators did pull back from a telecom deal at the 11th hour, but not because Clintonites were queasy about inking another market opening pact in an election year. Administration trade officials would have been delighted to trumpet a telecom deal to counter mounting U.S. skepticism about the WTO's accomplishments, but they walked away from the table after industry executives and leading Republican and Democratic Senators balked.

Madam President, that is exactly what happened on the telecom deal.

And they mention the capacity deal out there in Singapore. One would say how she worked so hard. Well, she gave away the store, without talking to the capacity manufacturers, specifically she gave away 4,000 jobs in the Carolina's.

The Japanese make these capacities, but when she did away with the 9.6-percent tariff, you have the weakness of the yen combined with the tariff phased out. The existence of Kaymet in Greenville, SC, I remember that. And I asked the officials there, and they were never contacted. Just at the last minute they agreed to it. Fine, you can get when you give away the store in capacities, when you give away your broadcast entities.

Under this agreement—I want to make it crystal clear—Nippon Telephone & Telegraph can come in here and buy CBS, ABC, NBC.

I talked earlier with one Senator. He was talking about the opportunity that Castro seems to do business with the Canadians. He could get the Canadians to come in and buy a station down in Miami and really turn the particular Senator from Florida into an upset condition. He is wanting to get into China and we have to move in a hurry. I have a good eye here today, but the Senator from Florida wants to be able to have any foreign entity come in, Castro or otherwise, Qadhafi, the whole kit and caboodle of the rascals around the world or any foreign country. They delight now in coming in and buying these that we have been trying to protect.

That is why the Members would not agree. They held fast. I am speaking on behalf of the majority of the U.S. Senate, 95 votes, if you please. We approved that. And that was in discussion up until the last minute, and they would not yield. So there it is. They do so well on these other agreements.

Let us see, Madam President, how they have done on this particular one.

If you believe the U.S. Trade Representative, world commerce would come to an end unless we continue to negotiate these one-sided agreements. But the truth of the matter here is Ambassador Barshefsky, in announcing the successful conclusion of this telecom negotiations stated—and I quote:

This agreement represents a change of profound importance.

U.S. companies now have access to nearly 100 percent of 20 telecommunications markets. Now, unfortunately, Madam President, nothing has changed. Nothing has changed at all. Once again, the trade representative has obtained inadequate concessions.

A review of those agreements—not these laudatory press releases—reveals that the market openings are limited, at best, or nonexistent, at worst.

While the United States has agreed to permit complete foreign ownership of our broadcast properties and U.S. telecommunications providers, our major trading partners have severely restricted our access to their most well-established and entrenched companies. USTR claims that Australia, Italy, Japan, France, New Zealand, and Spain have all agreed to permit ownership or control of all telecommunications providers. Yet, you take a closer look and you see there are severe foreign ownership restrictions still remaining in place for Vodafone and Telstra in Australia, with Stet in Italy, KDD and Nippon Telephone and Telegraph in Japan—you cannot own any of it—Telecom NZ in New Zealand, Telefonica in Spain, France Telecom in France that prevents U.S. providers from owning the controlling interests or no interest at all in these telecommunication giants.

U.S. companies have access so long as they are not interested in getting into the best and most sophisticated and competitive companies. They could come in and buy AT&T, not just the companies like GTE, or whatever. They can come in and buy the broadcast properties, which is most disturbing to this particular Senator.

Now, going further, Madam President, Korea, Thailand, Malaysia, India, Hong Kong, the Philippines, and Canada permit no foreign control for facility-based providers. The fastest growing and most important markets in the world are closed tight as a drum. Take the Korean market. Foreign individual shareholding in Korea Telegram is limited to 3 percent—3 percent. We gave away our most powerful negotiating tools, just for 3 percent. When you give away 100 percent, there is no more negotiations, you are through. Ask Senator Dole—been there, done that. It is over with. You got no more negotiating authority or any negotiating tools.

Or take Canada. The Canadians provide for no foreign control of facility-based providers—none. Yet, under this agreement, Bell Canada can purchase any United States-based provider it wishes. What a wonderful agreement. What a wonderful agreement they are all bragging about.

The other developing markets also include severe restrictions. Brazil has liberalized ownership restrictions only with regard to seller, satellite, and nonpublic services. Mexico has retained ownership restrictions on all types of services except seller. Poland retains foreign ownership restrictions for wireless, international, and long distance. So the total liberalization of the U.S. marketplace, what incentive was that liberalization? What incentive do these countries have to liberalize their particular markets any further? None whatever. None whatever. We have given away the store.

I told you in the very beginning about clothing, and they keep exporting the jobs faster than we can possibly create them —300,000. We were going to create 200,000, but we have exported already, lost 300,000 jobs in textiles alone. And we can go further.

The FCC recently issued an international notice of proposed rulemaking. This particular rulemaking would force foreign providers to lower their prices. However, many of the enforcement mechanisms contained in this particular rulemaking are violations of the MFN, most favored nation provisions. Different benchmarks based on the gross domestic product, denying access to providers from countries who refuse to meet the benchmarks, and granting waivers to those who restructure more quickly are all integral parts of these benchmark policies, but illegal and likely to be challenged, no doubt in the WTO.

So the agreement on telecom can have perverse effects on the price system they are trying to tell us about now, telling the competing countries we have a question there with respect to ownership and MCI, and with respect to Sprint, so they stay quiet. You do not find them all coming in here. And they are being told, ''Hush now, at the FCC we will help you with the access places in these international long-distance calls, and we are going to get something done.'' They will never get it done. Watch this MFN provision and watch the World Trade Organization.

These are the kind of promises that continually come up when we have one of these agreements. Just remember, Madam President, the promises they made with NAFTA. You have to realize, we must learn from experience. As George Santayana said, those who disregard the lessons of history are doomed to repeat them. We should see the history of this wonderful U.S. trade agreement that they had with NAFTA. At that particular time, they said if we fail to pass NAFTA, one, Mexico would face economic collapse; two, immigration would increase; three, drugs would flow freely; four, 200,000 new jobs would not be created; five, the U.S. exports surplus would disappear; six, Asian investors would move into Mexico to take advantage of the growing markets. That is why they said we had to approve NAFTA.

We have approved NAFTA, and this is exactly what happened—exactly what happened. Mexico is in economic collapse; immigration has increased; the drugs flow freely down there; 200,000 jobs have not been created; the U.S. exports surplus has disappeared. We had a $5 billion surplus. It is now a $16 billion deficit. The Asian investors who were going to be prevented from moving in are moving in like gangbusters and dumping back here under NAFTA free trade arrangements into the United States.

I could go on further. I see some here who want to talk, but I will complete this thought now, because we had the classic case for free trade with an emerging country, and the Secretary of Treasury, in particular, the Deputy Secretary of Treasury, Lawrence Summers, said, this is really it, we really are getting free trade now. And everybody is going to get, I think they said, about $1700 for everybody, and we were going to have everybody better off.

Well, Lawrence Summers, he is the one that sold this thing to the House memberships and the Senators. Since that time, he has now appeared on Thursday, January 16, in the Congress, and I quote from the Wall Street Journal of that particular date. ''By many measures, most Mexicans are worse off than they were before the financial crisis,'' Deputy U.S. Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers conceded.

The Members do not have a sense of history, understanding, or appreciation. What happened is that a million Mexicans have lost their jobs since NAFTA has passed. Wages have fallen by a third. Mexico's external debt reached $150 billion, higher than that during the debt crisis back in 1982. The bold visionary man of the year, Carlos Salinas—that is right, in December, after we voted in November, they made him the man of the year. Now he is living in exile in Ireland and you cannot catch him. He is the man of the year.

This is the kind of nonsense that we have to put up with. If we want to go through the same act, same scene, dragon lady, tough, and everything else, it makes a sorry agreement, sells out the store. And we call that progress, and we have to create jobs, and education, education, education is the solution. Well, Madam President, like I say, if they read one thing, they ought to read the book, ''One World, Ready Or Not'' by Bill Crider. They will get an education on where we are, because the author spent 2 years going around the world, as well as in the United States, talking to the various executives and quoting them at that particular time. You can't understand some of the various provisions.

I think, since I have the opportunity to present them, we ought to understand, in country after country, the precious rules of international trade. In India, for example, when General Motors wanted to sell its European-made Opal, the price of admission was a radiator cap factory. So GM moved the factory from Britain. In Korea, to sell fast trains, the French agreed to subcontract the assembly to the Koreans. In China, AT&T agreed to manufacture advanced switching equipment as a quid pro quo for wiring Chinese cities. In Australia, if your sales are above a certain threshold, you must negotiate with the Government on an agreement locating research and development in Australia. For production,

you must export 50 percent of what you import, and it must have 70 percent local content. At least 33 electronics companies from Japan, Europe, and the United States have agreed to do that.

According to an official from Motorola, ''If you don't cooperate with the Australians, they have the statutory authority to exclude you from bidders' lists and deny regulatory permits for products.''

Well, Madam President, it's not just out there in the Pacific rim, where the control—Friedrich List kind of control—trade that works, that builds them up. Right this minute, one-half of the world's savings is in the country of Japan. While they are talking about the yen and the devaluation of it and while they are talking about the banking difficulties, watch what Edmund Finkleton said in ''Blind Side.'' Come the year 2000, while they are a bigger manufacturing country, with 120 million, compared to our 260 million and the vast natural resources that we have in the United States, they already outproduce us. They will have a larger economy and gross domestic product—that little country of Japan. Why? They control it. As Friedrich List says, the wealth and strength of a nation, if you please, is measured not by what they consume, but what they produce. Akio Marita went on further—I was at a forum with him about 16 years ago up in Chicago. We were talking about the Third World emerging nations, and he commented: ''The emerging country has to develop a manufacturing capacity in order to become a nation state.'' After we talked a few minutes, he pointed to me and said, ''Senator, that world power that loses its manufacturing capacity will cease to be a world power.''

We have gone, in a 10-year period, from 26 percent of our work force in manufacturing down now to 13 percent. We are back to Henry Ford. Henry Ford said that he wanted his workers to be able to purchase the article they were producing. Madam President, today, middle-America workers, not having those manufacturing jobs, can't afford the car. They can't purchase it. We are losing our middle class, all along, if you please, competing with ourselves.

Over 50 percent of what we are importing, if you please, is U.S. multinationally generated. The U.S. multinationals are the fifth column in this trade war that we are in. They are in behind the lines gutting us here in the Congress, working through the special trade representative, trying to take away the authority under the Constitution to make laws and otherwise regulate foreign commerce. That is the authority of the Congress, and that is the reason we have that particular amendment. But we always talk, and I listened to the distinguished President when he talked about trade. He only mentioned exports.

I want to challenge anybody to go to a CPA when they do their tax return next month and say, ''Let's just talk about what we got in, not what we spent, just one side of the ledger.'' If you had a CPA that made up your return that way, you would fire him. But that is constantly, constantly, constantly the way we look at the returns with respect to international trade.

What really happens is, yes, while we in the United States are the most productive industrial workers, whereas we have improved productivity, and whereas we are, for example, in my State, an exporting State—I was just down at a Presidential Exporting Council meeting in Greenville, SC, and we are proud of it—the imports far and away outdistance the exports.

In the last 15 years, before we got to last year, there has been an average of over $100 billion a year deficit, imports, in the balance of trade. That means we have bought from the foreigners $1.5 trillion more than we have sold to them. But how do you get that through to the Finance Committee where they just casually go on and on talking about dragon ladies and what a wonderful agreement we have? What, Madam President, is the merchandise deficit—I say ''deficit''; I repeat ''deficit''—in the balance of trade last year? The merchandise deficit in merchandise trade was $187 billion.

(Mr. BROWNBACK assumed the chair.)

Mr. HOLLINGS. Now, we made some money off of loans, insurance, and services. So the overall deficit was quoted to be $114 billion. But I am looking at that industrial backbone. I am looking at that economic strength. I am looking at that world power trying to continue being a world power. I am realizing more and more every day that the 7th Fleet and the atom bomb don't count anymore. They just don't regard it. You are not going to use a nuclear attack; we all know that. I was bemused when they moved the fleet into the Taiwan Strait, because, in 1966, I was on an aircraft carrier, the *Kitty Hawk*, up in the Gulf of Tonkin, and we could not stop 20 million North Vietnamese. They didn't have planes and choppers and all this equipment that we had. But we have already tried that aircraft carrier. I wondered how an aircraft carrier or two in the Taiwan Strait was going to stop 1.2 billion Chinese when it could not stop a mere 20 million Vietnamese. Come on. Money talks. The economic strength, and in the world trade councils and otherwise in this global trade war that we are in—we are unilaterally disarming. We are giving away capacity. That capacity agreement in Singapore was where they manufacture them in Japan but Japan very cleverly got the Europeans to bring the pressure on us. And we walked away and said it was a good agreement. And I have lost 4,000 jobs in my State. I am losing thousands of jobs with NAFTA. I am looking around. Now I am seeing in telecommunications—what effect is this going to have? I guess in order to keep the Senator from South Carolina quiet they will buy the TV stations and run them because under the agreement they can. There is no question about it. They can own these broadcast properties.

Down to the basic fundamental involved, just a couple of weeks ago we had Washington's Farewell Address here. The very Founding Father talked about the fundamental of the Hollings amendment. I can almost quote word for word. He said, If, in the opinion of the people, the modification or distribution of the powers under the Constitution be in any particular wrong, then let it be changed in the way that the Constitution designates, for while usurpation in the one instance may be the instrument of good it is the customary weapon by which free governments are destroyed.

That is the line of this particular amendment. We are giving it away. We proceed by a fifth column. We are talking about jobs but we are exporting them faster. We are importing even faster the finished goods. We are weakening the democracy. The middle class is disappearing. And they are all hollering ''Whoopee. The economy is good, and let's give some millions so that politicians of one group can investigate politicians of another group about politics.'' That is the most asinine thing that you have ever seen. But that is where they give all the time. I can see some impatience. They don't want to listen about international trade, and the trade war. No. They don't want to listen about that. But they want to talk about independent prosecutors and investigators. I would give millions to the Federal Election Campaign Commission. They are bipartisan. Let them investigate, no holds barred. I would give even more millions to the Department of Justice. Let them investigate, no holds barred, for any violation of the law.

But mind you me. It seems like we have learned enough here from that Whitewater thing. We went through an exercise. We had 44 hearings, millions of dollars wasted, and time and everything, all hoping to get on TV and investigate each other. Now they want to start up this session and talk about bipartisanship, and not talking about what is eroding the democracy itself in this country. I say that because when I talk about the middle class, Chesterton wrote that the strength of this little democracy here in America was that we had developed a strong middle class.

We are headed, if you please, the way of England. That is what they told the Brits after World War II. ''Don't worry. Instead of a nation of brawn, you will be a nation of brains. Instead of producing products, you will provide services; a service economy. Instead of creating wealth, you will handle it and be a financial center.'' And England has gone to hell in an economic hand basket. You have the haves and the have-nots, London is no more than an amusement park. You go there, and the Parliament is talking the same kind of

extraneous nonsense that we are engaged in, and investigating each other and not getting on with the serious matters of truth in budgeting. Let's have it. I am going to talk to a group here in just a minute, and I hope we can get to them so that we can bring the record out about truth in budgeting.

And truth in trade negotiations agreements and trade—an agreement has been made, not a treaty. They insist that you don't have to come back to the Congress itself when they amend the law, and they are in 100-percent agreement of foreign ownership. There is no question about that. They just say it is not necessary while other Members say it is necessary. I thought that we ought to clarify once and for all our duties here, and have a clarion call, or a wake-up call, on this most important issue.

I reserve the remainder of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I yield 20 minutes to the distinguished Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I will not be able to use that time because I have to go to another meeting. I appreciate the time and the courtesy of the Senator from Delaware, Senator ROTH. But I would like to use 20 minutes because my friend from South Carolina covered a broad variety of issues, some of which I assure my colleague from South Carolina we will be addressing in hearings in the Commerce Committee—the results of NAFTA, the results of free trade; perhaps some of the reasons why unemployment is at its lowest in America. The last quarter it was just downgraded to 3.9 percent GNP growth—the reason Americans finally in the lower middle-incomes are seeing increases; why this economy is the envy of the world; why it is that free trade has played such an important role.

I had the pleasure—the distinct pleasure, I say to my friend from South Carolina—of spending some time in his State. There happened to be an important Republican primary in the last election. It was a great privilege and honor for me to get to know many of the wonderful citizens of his State. In case he has not noticed, they are doing very well. They are working at the BMW plant. They are working at the Sony plant. They are working at all these corporations and companies that have come to this terrible country of ours which is so protectionist and so outrageous. They are coming to our country, I am sure the Senator from South Carolina has noticed. And in the view of the South Carolinians that I spoke to, they think it is a lot better with the high-paying jobs at the BMW plant than at a textile mill; than standing in front of a loom in that kind of back-breaking, sweat labor that existed; where they are getting higher salaries and more benefits, thanks to the companies and corporations that have come into South Carolina; thanks to the enlightened leadership of the State of South Carolina, including the Senator from South Carolina who has attracted them.

Mr. HOLLINGS. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. MCCAIN. I would love to yield. But I just listened for the last 45 minutes to the Senator from South Carolina, and, as much was I would like to hear from him again, I have to go to another meeting. I apologize. But if the Senator from South Carolina would promise me to be brief, I will be glad to yield to him for a brief answer.

Mr. HOLLINGS. We are very proud that the Senator from Arizona has been to the showcase area up there in the Piedmont. But down there we have that situation where there is 11 percent unemployment in Richland, 14 percent in Williamsburg and Barnwell, and, 12 percent over in Marlborough. So we have the haves and have-nots.

I am very proud. I made the first trip to Europe where we have 100 German plants, 50 Japanese plants now. And I am very proud that I instituted the technical training which makes us most productive at BMW. We thank the Senator, very much, for his visit. I would be glad to show him the other parts that I am also worried about.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I would say to the Senator from South Carolina that I did travel the entire State. His point is well made that it is not a totally even economy. He can come to my State and find out that in the southern part of my State it is as high as 35 to 40 percent unemployment in the city of Nogales. But the overall economy is good. It is better, in my view, because of free trade, and again the enlightened policies of seeking and obtaining foreign corporations who come in and give high-paying jobs.

I also, by the way, have had the chance to go to Hilton Head and Charleston and some of the other areas that are doing extremely well. But there is no sense in going through a road map of the depiction of the State of South Carolina which is a lovely and beautiful State, as certainly the Senator from South Carolina well knows.

But I want to repeat to him again. We will have hearings in the Commerce Committee about the state of the American economy, about the impact of trade, where protection works and where it doesn't, and what the effects of NAFTA has been and whether we should expand NAFTA, which would be a proposal of the administration.

I will say with all respect to the Senator from South Carolina, I believe the members of the committee and the American people will be enlightened by our debate because I know that the Senator from South Carolina is well informed and holds very strong views, as do I and other members of the committee. I note the Senator from West Virginia is here, who also has his problems within his State.

So I hope the hearings we will have will not only have a legislative result but also will perform the much-needed function of enlightening the American people and our colleagues as to what free trade is all about, its effects, and, by the way, the effects of protectionism and restraint of trade.

I do oppose the amendment offered by Senator HOLLINGS, and I will at the appropriate time offer a motion to table. This amendment, in my view, jeopardizes Ms. Barshefsky's nomination. The chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, Mr. ARCHER, has conveyed to Finance Committee Chairman ROTH that the House will reject the amendment and thereby kill the nomination of a very qualified individual.

I share with my colleagues the position of the President of the United States. Mr. President, I think it is very important. I ask unanimous consent that the statement of administration policy be printed in the RECORD.

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

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY

S.J. RES. 5—WAIVER FOR USTR APPOINTMENT (ROTH (R) DE, AND MOYNIHAN (D) NY)

The Administration strongly supports the enactment of S.J. Res. 5, which would authorize the appointment of Charlene Barshefsky as the United States Trade Representative.

When the Senate Considers S.J. Res. 5, Senator Hollings' amendment relating to the President's long-standing authority to carry out trade agreements may also be considered. The Administration strongly opposes the Hollings amendment, which would effect a major change in trade agreement implementing procedures with immediate and harmful effects on U.S. consumers, firms, and workers. The Hollings amendment would hinder, delay, and, in some cases, jeopardize agreements that greatly serve the Nation's interests.

HARMFUL EFFECTS OF THE HOLLINGS AMENDMENT

The Hollings amendment could require congressional approval of every trade agreement that might be construed to require a change in U.S. law. The amendment is unnecessary to assure that the Executive Branch is conforming to congressional mandates on trade negotiations, is overly burdensome for both the President and the Congress, and could endanger the benefits to the United States of some trade agreements.

The overwhelming majority of trade agreements that the President concludes can be—and traditionally have been—implemented under existing statutes. If the authority to implement an agreement does no already exist, then the President must seek that authority. If the President were to implement an agreement in a manner that is not authorized by law, the courts can strike down such actions. If the Congress disagrees with a trade agreement, it can pass legislation directing the President to implement the agreement in a particular way or to refrain entirely from implementing that agreement. If a trade agreement requires a change in statutory law, Congress along has the authority to make such a change. The Hollings amendment is unnecessary to clarify this point.

However, the Hollings amendment goes much further, and the absence of hearings has precluded a full opportunity to determine precisely what the implications of the

amendment are. By requiring congressional action whenever a trade agreement would ''in effect'' change U.S. law, the Hollings amendment could impose long delays on implementing trade agreements that would otherwise bring immediate benefits to U.S. consumers, firms, and workers. Moreover, the vague term ''in effect'' would cause great uncertainty, since the amendment leaves undefined who determines when an agreement ''in effect'' requires a change in law and what implications arise for implementing changes in regulation or administrative practice called for in trade agreements.

The burdensome character of the amendment becomes clear when one considers that the Administration concluded approximately 200 trade agreements in the last four years. Under the Hollings amendment, any such agreement that occasioned any change in law, including technical and typically noncontroversial changes to our tariff schedule, would have to be approved by the Congress.

The prospect of nearly continuous consideration of trade agreements by the Congress also raises the possibility of delaying the entry into force of agreements beneficial to the United States. For example, the Hollings amendment could greatly delay—and perhaps jeopardize—recent agreements that:

Elminiate tariffs on 400 pharmaceutical products shipped to key markets around the world (these tariff cuts had been widely sought by our medical community because of their potential to quickly lower the costs of producing anti-AIDS drugs and other lifesaving pharmaceuticals);

Cuts $5 billion in global tariffs on semiconductors, computers, telecommunications equipment, software, and other information equipment (these are tariff cuts that directly benefit high-technology products made by some of our most highly competitive industries, and that support 1.5 million manufacturing jobs and 1.8 million related services jobs); and

Open the global market for basic telecommunication services, providing enormous benefits to our dynamic U.S. telecommunications industry.

If the Hollings amendment were applied to these agreements, they would have to be submitted to Congress for review and approval. Yet each of these agreements was negotiated under congressional authorization and in close consultation with Congress, and each enjoys overwhelming industry support.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President I will not go through the whole statement of administration policy except to say the administration strongly supports the resolution which will authorize the appointment of Charlene Barshefsky as U.S. Trade Representative. Among other things it says:

The Hollings amendment could require congressional approval of every trade agreement that might be construed to require changing U.S. law. The amendment is unnecessary to assure the executive branch is conforming to congressional mandates on trade negotiations, is overly burdensome for both the President and Congress, and could endanger the benefits to the United States of some trade agreements.

The prospect of nearly continuous consideration of trade agreements by the Congress also raises the possibility of delaying the entry into force of agreements beneficial to the United States. For example, the Hollings amendment could greatly delay—and perhaps jeopardize—recent agreements that eliminate tariffs on 400 pharmaceutical products shipped to key markets around the world * * * cut $5 billion in global tariffs on semiconductors, computers, telecommunications equipment, software * * * open the global market for basic telecommunication services, providing enormous benefits to our dynamic U.S. telecommunications industry.

Mr. President, what does the Washington Post say about it? It says:

The Telecommunications Deal. After 3 years of tough negotiations, the world's leading economies have reached a landmark agreement to liberalize trade in telecommunications services. Acting U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky, who led both sets of talks, predicted the U.S. information technology industry will now lead the growth of the U.S. economy as the car industry did 40 years ago. This wasn't a traditional agreement in which one country grudgingly agreed to accept textile imports, say, in order to gain access for its tomato exports. Instead, every nation involved acknowledged the benefit to itself of liberalization and deregulation of the model that the United States and Great Britain have pioneered. Half the world's people have never made a phone call. Poorer countries, where most of them live, will attract the investment that they need only if they play by these new rules of openness and competition.

The Washington Times:

Teleco Mania. For the second time in three months, tough minded and determined U.S. trade negotiators under the auspices of the 2-year-old World Trade Organization have hammered out a multinational high tech trade agreement that will be immensely beneficial to firms and workers based in the United States and consumers worldwide.

The list goes on and on, Mr. President, of the almost universal praise of this landmark agreement that Ms. Barshefsky has been able to achieve. Frankly, there were a lot of pessimists who believed that she could not do that. I believe she is well qualified for the job. President Clinton referred to Ambassador Barshefsky as a brilliant negotiator for our country. She is a tough and determined representative for our country, fighting to open markets to the goods and services produced by American workers and businesses.

I will not go through her qualifications, Mr. President, in the interest of time because they are illustrious.

Her foresight and depth of understanding of our country's international trade relations are essential to our Nation's continued economic growth. She is exceptionally qualified, and I am sure that the full Senate will join me in confirming her nomination to be the U.S. Trade Representative.

From financial services to Japanese insurance to global telecommunications, Ambassador Barshefsky has proven herself to be a tough negotiator. For example, in April of 1996, as one of her acts as USTR, Ambassador Barshefsky walked away from the poor efforts made under the auspices of the World Trade Organization regarding basic telecommunications services. She made everyone come back to the table and last month concluded the WTO's basic telecom agreement which represents a change of profound importance. A 60-year tradition of telecommunications monopolies and closed markets will be replaced starting in January 1998 by market opening, deregulation and competition, the principles championed here by many of us for a long time.

Senator HOLLINGS has concluded that the recently announced telecommunications agreement of the World Trade Organization would change U.S. statutory law. Not only do I disagree, but as I mentioned, the Senator finds himself on the other side of the argument with President Clinton.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that written responses to questions from Senator LOTT and Senator KERREY be printed in the RECORD.

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

WRITTEN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM SENATOR LOTT

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Could you please explain in greater detail the administration's position that no implementing legislation, or legislation of any kind, will be required for the telecommunications agreement currently under negotiation in Geneva.

The U.S. offer will reflect our statutory obligations. While at this time we do not believe its implementation will require any legislative changes, we are continuing to consult with Congress on this issue.

The offer allows market access to the local, long distance and international services markets through any means of network technology, either on a facilities-basis or through resale of existing network capacity. The U.S. offer limits direct foreign investment in companies holding common carrier radio licenses, as is required by Section 310 (a) and (b)(1), (2) and (3) of the Communications Act of 1934 (the ''Act''). The offer specifically states that foreign governments, aliens, foreign corporations and U.S. corporations more than 20% owned by foreign governments, aliens or foreign corporations may not directly hold a radio license.

Based on Section 310(b)(4) of the Act, the offer places no new restrictions on indirect foreign ownership of a U.S. corporation holding a radio license. Section 310(b)(4) allows such indirect foreign ownership unless the Federal Communications Commission finds that the public interest will be served by the refusal to grant such a license. The U.S. offer is to allow indirect foreign ownership, up to 100%, under this provision.

The U.S. offer permits a foreign government indirectly to own a radio license, unless the FCC finds that such ownership is not in the public interest. Under the public interest test, the FCC looks at many factors, such as financial and technical ability of the applicant, international agreements, national security concerns, foreign policy concerns, law enforcement concerns and the effect of entry on competition in the U.S. market. In the event of a successful conclusion to these negotiations, the U.S. offer will allow the FCC to continue to apply these public interest criteria, as long as they do not distinguish among applicants on the basis of nationality or reciprocity, consistent with the obligations of the General Agreement on Trade in Services.

The U.S. offer maintains COMSAT's monopoly on access to INTELSAT and Inmarsat, as required by the Communications Satellite Act (47 U.S.C. 721).

The offer does not contain any restrictions on licenses to land submarine cables based on the statutory authority of the President (delegated to the Federal Communications Commission in consultation with the Secretary of State) to issue landing licenses. The statute permits withholding such licenses to assist in obtaining landing rights

in other countries maintaining the rights or interests of the United States and its citizens and protecting U.S. security (47 U.S.C. 35). The United States will obtain landing rights in other WTO member countries if the negotiations conclude successfully and will retain its ability to protect its national security.

WRITTEN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM SENATOR BOB KERREY

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Last April when the parties agreed to postpone the deadline for negotiations in the GBT, the U.S. offer did not reflect the statutory language under sections 310 (a) and (b) that the foreign ownership limitations under the law apply to ''foreign governments or their representatives.'' Does USTR intend to modify the U.S. offer to adhere to the statutory language of sections 310 (a) and (b)? If not, why?

The U.S. offer will reflect our statutory obligations. While at this time we do not believe its implementation will require any legislative changes, we are continuing to consult with Congress on this issue.

The offer allows market access to the local, long distance and international services markets through any means of network technology, either on a facilities-basis or through resale of existing network capacity. The U.S. offer limits direct foreign investment in companies holding common carrier radio licenses, as is required by Section 310 (a) and (b) (1), (2) and (3) of the Communications Act of 1934 (the ''Act''). The offer specifically states that foreign governments, aliens, foreign corporations and U.S. corporations more than 20% owned by foreign governments, aliens or foreign corporations may not directly hold a radio license.

Based on Section 310(b)(4) of the Act, the offer places no new restrictions on indirect foreign ownership of a U.S. corporation holding a radio license. Section 310(b)(4) allows such indirect foreign ownership unless the Federal Communications Commission finds that the public interest will be served by the refusal to grant such a license. The U.S. offer is to allow indirect foreign ownership, up to 100%, under this provision.

The U.S. offer permits a foreign government indirectly to own a radio license, unless the FCC finds that such ownership is not in the public interest. Under the public interest test, the FCC looks at many factors, such as financial and technical ability of the applicant, international agreements, national security concerns, foreign policy concerns, law enforcement concerns and the effect of entry on competition in the U.S. market. In the event of a successful conclusion to these negotiations, the U.S. offer will allow the FCC to continue to apply these public interest criteria, as long as they do not distinguish among applicants on the basis of nationality or reciprocity, consistent with the obligations of the General Agreement on Trade in Services.

The Administration is continuing to consult with Congress and the FCC to determine whether it would be helpful to modify the U.S. offer to include any additional parts of the statute's text in the offer's text.

In the alternative, if USTR does modify its offer, please cite what precedent gives USTR the authority to hold that the exception under the public interest waiver of section 310(b)(4) vitiates the statutory limitation of control by a ''foreign government or the representative thereof'' under 310(a), which has no waiver?

Section 310(a) prohibits direct ownership of a radio license by a foreign government or its representative. Similarly, Section 310(b)(1) prohibits direct ownership of a radio license by an alien or its representative. Section (b)(2) contains the same prohibition for foreign corporations. Section 310(b)(3) prohibits direct ownership of more than 20% of a U.S. corporation holding a radio license by a foreign government, an alien or a foreign corporation. All these prohibitions on direct ownership are contained in the U.S. offer.

Section 310(b)(4) explicitly allows indirect ownership by all three—a foreign government or its representative, an alien or its representative or a foreign corporation, unless the FCC determines that such ownership is not in the public interest. This is also reflected in the U.S. offer. In preparing the offer, the Administration has consulted closely with Congress and FCC staff and is continuing to consult on the question of implementing legislation and whether to modify the offer.

If USTR successfully negotiates an agreement, would there be any change or limitation on the FCC's use of the Effective Competitive Opportunities test to examine the openness of a foreign market, which it adopted pursuant to the public interest waiver test of section 310(b)(4)?

If the GBT concludes successfully, the FCC will continue to apply the public interest test to applicants under section 214 and to applicants for radio licenses under section 310. The only change that would occur would be that the Executive Branch would advise the FCC not to consider reciprocity as a prong of the test on the basis that the U.S. would have obtained substantial market access commitments from its major trading partners and the vast majority of countries whose carriers are likely to apply for radio licenses in the U.S.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, the reason why I ask that is because there are many technical and legitimate questions that are raised by Senator LOTT, Senator KERREY, and by Senator HOLLINGS. The responses that Ambassador Barshefsky made, I think, are important to be in the RECORD. I will not take the time of the Senate to read those.

The amendment, I believe, is not only not good for America, but I believe that the amendment represents a different view of trade and how nations should treat each other in this world competitive marketplace. I believe that the American worker can compete with any worker in the world. I believe that the American worker is the finest in the world. I would rather have an American working to build a product than any other nationality, without any disrespect to any of them. With that fundamental belief that American workers can compete and do a better job, then I am in favor of reducing the barriers, which the agreement that Charlene Barshefsky has negotiated will accomplish.

Telecommunications is a $600-billion-a-year industry. The World Trade Organization's basic telecom agreement will double the size of the industry over the next 10 years. There is not a single telecommunications business in America that does not totally support this agreement. The agreement will lead to the creation of countless jobs in U.S. communications companies, in high tech equipment makers, and in a range of industries such as software, information services and electronic publishing that benefit from telecom development.

This agreement is literally unprecedented. It covers over 90 percent of world telecommunications revenue and includes 69 countries, both developed and developing. It ensures that U.S. companies can compete against and invest in all existing carriers. Before this agreement, only 17 percent of the top 20 telecommunications markets were open to U.S. companies. Now they have access to nearly 100 percent of these markets.

The range of services and technologies covered by this agreement is breathtaking—from submarine cables to satellites, from wide-band networks to cellular phones, from business internets to fixed wireless for rural and underserved regions. The market access opportunities cover the entire spectrum of innovative communications technologies pioneered by American industry and workers.

Most important, the agreement will save billions of dollars for American consumers. The average cost of international phone calls will drop by 80 percent, from approximately $1 a minute on average to 20 cents per minute over the next several years. The agreement, as I said earlier, was widely lauded by those in the telecommunications industry.

Mr. President, of equal concern is the impact this amendment would have on the ability of the President to negotiate future trade agreements. The Hollings amendment could require congressional approval of every single trade agreement that might result in any change in regulations or administrative practice, no matter how slight the change. The overwhelming majority of trade agreements that the President concludes can be—and traditionally have been—implemented under statutes that the Congress has already put on the books. If the President tries to implement an agreement in a manner that is not provided for under legislation, the courts can prohibit him from taking those steps.

The amendment is harmful to our Nation's trade interests. The approval requirement imposed by the amendment would impose long delays and could create uncertainties for lucrative trade agreements that would otherwise bring immediate benefits to American consumers, firms and workers. It is the American workers who would be hurt by this amendment.

Under Senator HOLLINGS' amendment, the President could not use the powers already granted him if he intends to make any change in regulatory or administrative practice, no matter how insignificant. This amendment would require an act of Congress every time the President allocates a new cheese or sugar quota, adds a quota on a textile or apparel product, or implements a tariff rate quota on agricultural products, such as those recently negotiated on imported goods such as tobacco. The President has traditionally made these routine changes

under proclamation authority granted by the Congress.

Finally, Ambassador Barshefsky will also have a busy coming year. It is my hope that she will move quickly to send the Congress legislation to provide for a clean reauthorization of fast-track authority so negotiations can begin immediately to expand the North American Free Trade Agreement to Chile. Pending successful expansion of NAFTA, negotiations should continue on the development of a free trade area of the Americas.

Substantial questions will also arise regarding extension of MFN status to China and the accession of China into the World Trade Organization. I am confident that Ambassador Barshefsky is up to these challenges.

Mr. President, the United States has historically been a world leader in opening markets and expanding trade. I believe leadership waned over the first term of the Clinton administration. It is my hope, and, indeed, my prediction, that under the leadership of Charlene Barshefsky, the United States will again take its place as the world leader for open and fair trade.

I urge my colleagues to oppose the Hollings amendment and support Senate Joint Resolution 5 so that Ambassador Barshefsky can be confirmed and appointed to serve as our next U.S. Trade Representative.

Mr. President, I regret there is not time, but there will be opportunities in the future to debate these issues with my friend from South Carolina, who I have said on many occasions is not only enlightening but on occasion entertaining as well, which makes for spirited and involved debate.

Mr. President, I yield the remainder of my time back to Senator ROTH.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished Senator from Maine.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to support the nomination of Charlene Barshefsky to be the next United States Trade Representative. In representing a State with a long history of trade with Canada, I have taken particular interest in President Clinton's nominee for USTR.

I have had serious concerns about this administration's lack of aggressiveness in pursuing the concerns of Maine's farmers and businesses regarding unfair trade practices by neighboring Canada. Canada is Maine's No. 1 trading partner, and Mainers value this relationship, but we want it to be a fair relationship. When evidence is found that trading practices are not fair, the United States needs to take strong and effective action.

To underscore my concern about this problem, I withheld my support for Ambassador Barshefsky until I had an opportunity to meet with her to discuss several trade issues important to the people of my State. Farmers, fishermen, and others in natural resource industries have long been concerned about unfair trade practices by the Canadian Government.

Maine potato farmers, in particular, have labored under trade practices that have threatened the very survival of some farms. Particularly troubling are apparent subsidies from the Canadian Government that allow Canadian farmers to sell their products at artificially low prices, thus enabling Canadian farmers to dump large volumes of potatoes into the American market. At the same time, there is concern that Canadians may be erecting trade barriers that make it difficult for our farmers to sell their products in Canada.

We cannot continue to tolerate Canadian trading practices that adversely affect Maine potato farmers, who have seen more than their share of hard times. However, I am encouraged by Ambassador Barshefsky's recent actions, which include asking the International Trade Commission to undertake an investigation to determine the nature and extent of Canadian potato subsidies. This is a step in the right direction and a good sign that these issues will finally get the attention they deserve. But it is only a first step. It is critical that the administration follow through and take action to assure a level playing field.

Another issue I raised with the Ambassador was the frustration of some Maine shellfish companies with newly instituted inspection fees on shellfish products exported to Canada. Maine shellfish exporters have been concerned that the Canadians are unfairly targeting their products for inspection in an attempt to make it more difficult for Maine shellfish to be shipped to Canada. On this issue I found the Ambassador to be very responsive. She has been helpful with gathering information, and I am pleased USTR officials have begun meetings with their Canadian counterparts to review these onerous fees.

Finally, I also raised the issue, which the distinguished Senator from South Carolina has talked about, and that is the issue of the U.S. tariffs on capacitors. As part of the Information Technology Agreement negotiated in Singapore last year, the administration agreed to a European proposal to eliminate the current 9 percent tariff on capacitors entering the United States. Under the agreement, the tariff would be eliminated in July of this year.

The elimination of this tariff could pose a serious hardship on several American companies, one of which is in my State of Maine. The Ambassador and I discussed this hardship, and I made the case that the industry was unaware of even the potential that this tariff could be eliminated. I asked what measures could be taken to provide some relief.

I was impressed with the Ambassador's knowledge on this issue, and I was very encouraged by a commitment she made to me to find middle ground with the Europeans that would give American manufacturers of capacitors more time to adjust to a tariff elimination.

Specifically, we talked about the possibility of having a phaseout of the tariff, rather than the abrupt elimination in July.

In closing, I would like to address the issue of the need to waive a provision passed last Congress as part of the lobbying disclosure act. This provision prohibits the appointment of any person who has represented a foreign government in a trade dispute with the United States from serving as USTR or deputy USTR. Like many of my colleagues, I was very concerned about the need to exempt someone from a law that is on the books and has been passed so recently. Since the foreign country involved is Canada, I was particularly concerned because of the contentious trading relationship that my State has had over the years with Canada on many important products. However, after addressing this issue with Ambassador Barshefsky, I learned that she was previously exempted from this provision in her capacity as deputy USTR. It, therefore, does seem reasonable to me to allow this waiver to follow her into her new duties as USTR, and I agree with the Finance Committee's unanimous recommendation to waive the law.

I am pleased to have had the opportunity to meet with Ambassador Barshefsky and her staff to discuss these important issues. They are critical issues to my constituents. I found her to be very knowledgeable and responsive. I am hopeful that her tenure as USTR will bring about renewed interest, commitment and, most of all, action on trade issues confronting the people of Maine.

I appreciate the distinguished chairman of the Finance Committee yielding me time, and I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I yield 15 minutes to the distinguished Senator from West Virginia.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia is recognized for 15 minutes.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I rise to express my extremely strong, very enthusiastic support for the nomination of Charlene Barshefsky to be our U.S. Trade Representative. This is an important vote for America, for its future. I urge my colleagues to give her the unanimous vote of confidence that she has, in fact, already earned through her record of incredible fortitude, ability, and a long list of trade accomplishments, even as acting USTR.

The President has put forward, frankly, a most unusual person—unusually skilled, highly qualified, for one of the most important jobs in the U.S. in Government, and that is being

our Nation's lead trade negotiator and keeping up with all developments all over the world all the time. It is an incredible job.

She now should have the official title to proceed with the job awaiting her in trade negotiations and efforts that offer immense opportunities and extremely high stakes for our industries, for our workers, and for our economy.

In just the last year alone, on a whole host of other things, as our acting trade representative, Charlene Barshefsky has concluded a renewal of our critical semiconductor agreement with the Japanese; seen through an agreement to remove tariffs around the world on information technology products; and won agreement of a massive telecommunications pact that promises more than $1 trillion in worldwide economic benefits through the year 2010, all of this as acting trade representative.

Beyond that, I would point to one of Charlene Barshefsky's strongest qualifications: Her masterful grasp of complicated issues surrounding China's integration into the global economy.

We have all read, hopefully, all of the writing that has come out about China since the death of Deng Xiaoping. I believe that China is the single biggest long-term macroeconomic challenge facing the United States. We cannot duck it. We must handle it intelligently.

China is the world's largest country, in terms of population, and its economy will surpass ours sometime in the not too distant future. If its accession to the World Trade Organization, in particular, is not handled properly, the ramifications for the United States could be serious and long lasting. This takes the hand of a master. That hand belongs to Charlene Barshefsky.

We are also very fortunate to count on Ambassador Barshefsky as we face the challenge of our trade relationship with Japan. This winter I took, as I always do, a delegation of West Virginia business people to Japan and Taiwan. One of the messages we heard, in a troubling fashion very frequently, was that Japan was looking much more toward turning to the World Trade Organization for the settlement of previously negotiated bilateral trade agreements, turning, therefore, away from the bilateral process which has traditionally characterized our negotiating relationship with Japan.

I don't blame them if they are trying to avoid a U.S. negotiating team headed by somebody as forceful and capable as Charlene Barshefsky. My response is that overall United States-Japan relations depend on our ability to deal with one another, on a bilateral basis, on our trading issues, and then have occasional recourse to the WTO, but none of this could we do any better than by having Ambassador Barshefsky at the helm representing our country, our people, the people from my State.

It is impossible for me to explain how strongly I feel about the nomination and the confirmation of that nomination hopefully on this day.

To turn to the amendment we are now debating, the Senator from South Carolina is one of the most forceful advocates in the Congress for American interests in the global economy. I learned a great deal about issues coming from discussions with him about the globalization of the economy. He talks about it a great deal with great erudition, and I admire and share his intense commitment to American workers and industries.

The Senator from South Carolina also has a very long-time interest in the issue of foreign ownership of American telecommunications services, which, in fact, happens to be the root cause of the Senator's amendment, although this dispute is not about broadcast rights but about telecommunications services—not about broadcast rights but about telecommunications services—like cellular or international calling.

Clearly, there is a difference of opinion about what U.S. law allows in the area of ownership of telecommunications services. This is a difference of opinion, not only between the Senator from South Carolina and USTR, but between the Senator and something called the Federal Communications Commission, which he declines to recognize on this matter.

The Senator, as the former chairman of the Commerce Committee and the ranking member now, also disagrees with the current chairman of the committee, Senator JOHN MCCAIN, who has just spoken, as well as the chairman of the House Commerce Committee, Mr. BLILEY, over this law.

As I understand it, the U.S. offer in the telecommunications agreement tracks U.S. law, meaning this dispute is really over the interpretation of current U.S. law by the FCC, which the ranking member of the Commerce Committee does not like, not the trade agreement reached by USTR.

I thoroughly agree with the Senator from South Carolina that Congress must assert its constitutional right and responsibility to oversee international trade and international commerce, and I am in full agreement Congress should act when a trade agreement makes commitments that differ from current law. But that is already the law of the land. That exists now under the current law.

If a trade agreement reached by the executive branch requires a change in law, Congress must act to implement the agreement. When the President agreed to the Uruguay round, Congress had to pass implementing legislation for us to meet its terms, which we did. However, to cite another example, when the President agreed to the shipbuilding agreement at the OECD, Congress did not agree to change American law to implement that particular agreement.

As somebody who, like the former chairman and ranking member of the Commerce Committee, opposed NAFTA as I did, I am certainly not saying that we should signal that this or any other administration has a blank check to make trade agreements that are not in America's interest. But that is not what the amendment of the Senator from South Carolina is about. This amendment would create a whole new role for Congress that could have a chilling effect—would have a chilling effect—on trade negotiations that, in fact, seek to serve and strengthen U.S. interests, which he talks about.

My problem with the Senator's amendment is that it would do much more to reaffirm Congress' role in responding to trade agreements that require a change in our laws. By using the language in the amendment which says that any trade law which would—and then the keywords are—''in effect amend or repeal statutory law,'' I am afraid it would entangle Congress in a constant, complicated, unnecessary process of acting on trade agreements that do not embody actual changes in U.S. law and don't require congressional involvement to obtain the benefits of those agreements.

I respect the fact that the Senator questions a part of the new telecommunications trade agreement negotiated in Geneva. Disagreements between members of the legislative branch and executive branch are very common, even on an intraparty basis. But we have existing procedures to resolve disputes like that when they come up. A challenge can be taken up with the courts or something called legislation can be offered to change the particular practice in dispute.

The problem with the amendment of the Senator from South Carolina is that instead of proposing a specific change of law, which addresses his interpretation of the law affecting ownership of telecommunications services, he is proposing a new, generic, far-reaching role for Congress that could affect nearly all future trade agreements.

For example, USTR recently concluded an agreement which would eliminate tariffs that were on some widely sought after anti-AIDS drugs. Under current law, this could be put into effect—under current law—in 60 days under Presidential proclamation authority. However, if the Hollings amendment were to pass, such routine and noncontroversial changes would require a new act of Congress that could mean waiting months or maybe even watching the benefits of this trade agreement never materialize.

The amendment by the Senator from South Carolina calls for a major shift in U.S. trade policy. It has not been discussed or considered in the Finance Committee, which has jurisdiction over all reciprocal trade agreements.

Finally, even if all these questions could be answered, the House has already said that they will ''blue slip'' the waiver resolution if it contains this amendment, because it goes against

the constitutional provision that all measures which affect revenues must originate in the House of Representatives. So this amendment on the waiver resolution would doom the underlying nomination, and Charlene Barshefsky is too good a nominee to see that happen.

With respect for my colleague from South Carolina, I strongly urge my colleagues to vote against his amendment. This is not the way, not the time, nor the policy to use in resolving the Senator's dispute over a specific provision of a specific trade agreement. That disagreement should be pursued through other avenues that all of us use on a very regular basis. In this case, the amendment would establish an entirely new process, a new law, a new role for Congress regarding all trade agreements. It is a role that is unnecessary and could prevent our trade negotiators from doing the kinds of work that we charge them to do in representing our best interests.

Rarely, if ever, have I seen an international agreement that has virtually no opponents in either the business community or from American workers. Usually, people point to winners and losers in international trade agreements. Sometimes people are afraid they could lose their jobs, or they feel that their business could be disadvantaged relative to their competitors. But on this Telecom agreement, notwithstanding the objections of the Senator from South Carolina and a couple of others, I've heard barely a peep.

This international telecommunications agreement truly breaks new ground. For the first time ever, an international trade agreement effectively guarantees competition. The United States put forward regulatory guidelines modeled on our own telecommunications law, and 65 countries agreed to adopt most, if not all, those procompetitive principles. That is extraordinary.

This agreement between 69 countries will open nearly 95 percent of the worldwide telecommunications services market to competition. A market which will exceed $600 billion in gross revenues this year alone. Mr. President, I'd point out that in April of last year, Charlene Barshefsky walked away from the talks when only 40 countries had made offers, representing only 60 percent of global revenues.

Included in this agreement are local, long-distance, and international calling services; submarine cables; satellite-based services; wide-band networks; cellular phones; business intranets; and fixed wireless services for rural and underserved regions. What this agreement did not cover are broadcast services.

It is believed that competition by telecom service providers is expected to lead more than $1 trillion in economic benefits for consumers around the world through 2010. While U.S. consumers have already reaped much of the benefit of deregulation and increased competition, the FCC has pointed to billions of dollars of savings from this deal for American consumers due to the eventual lowering of costs for international calling by 80 percent—from more than $1 per minute to less than 20 cents—the actual cost of placing such a call.

I'll admit that I am disappointed that some countries, such as Japan, Korea, and Canada, didn't offer to open up their markets quite as much as the United States did, but reaching this agreement doesn't in any way prevent us from further negotiations with them in this area.

I'd also point out two things. First, even though these countries, and some others, maintained limits on purchasing existing providers, in most cases, American firms can still go in to those same countries and compete on their own—and the regulatory principles will guarantee that they are not blocked from connecting to existing telecommunications networks.

Second, if it is Japan we are talking about, the idea that anyone plans to purchase more than 20 percent of NTT any time soon, is ridiculous. NTT is the world's largest company, worth well over $100 billion—I'm told that 20 percent would cost about $23 billion. Right now, 3 percent of NTT is owned by foreigners, and I haven't heard that anyone plans to buy much more than that. What American firms are talking about is the chance to start or invest in new common carriers in Japan, such as Japan Telecom, which is connected to the Japanese Railroad, and which anyone can invest in with no limitations. I'll admit that I am concerned with the 20-percent limitation on KDD, which is a much smaller company than NTT—about the size of one of our Baby Bells, but I'm hopeful we can work this out in future negotiations.

To conclude, today we have finally reached the moment to extend the title of United States Trade Representative to somebody who I think is magnificently qualified to take that job. Superb qualifications, superbly tested, and now prepared to advance America's interests even further. What we are going through today threatens to block her, which hurts her in China, which hurts her in Japan, which hurts her all over the world, and therefore through hurting her, our interests.

So I urge the unanimous vote that she deserves, that she be made Ambassador, the granting of the Dole waiver that is required, and the defeat of the amendment that does not belong here and has consequences that could truly harm, not help, American interests. I yield the floor and thank the distinguish Finance chairman.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I strongly support the adoption of the amendment introduced by the senior Senator from South Carolina [Mr. HOLLINGS]. On the face of it, it is a straightforward, simple proposition that attempts to preserve the integrity of the laws that we pass, and that are the subject of discussion and/or negotiation between the United States and other nations. It says that if our Executive branch negotiators reach an agreement which amends or repeals U.S. law, that agreement may not be implemented until the agreement is approved by the Congress. Who could dispute such an obviously valid proposition?

The case at hand, the negotiation of a new telecommunications services agreement, apparently effects changes in U.S. law dealing with access to the U.S. market in relation to the access of American companies into foreign markets. This is a matter which was very controversial in connection with the consideration of the landmark Telecommunications Act of 1996. In working with the Commerce committee on this legislation, I was involved in developing certain changes to section 310(b) of the underlying statute dealing with foreign ownership. The matter was so controversial that the conferees on that legislation were unable to reach agreement, and changes to the foreign ownership provisions were dropped from the final conference agreement.

It is all the more important that our negotiations, in the light of the controversial nature of this matter, take care not to effect what amounts to a change in the law by virtue of negotiating a provision of an international agreement without taking the role of the Congress into account. The law and an agreement should not be put into conflict on such a matter, and Senator HOLLINGS is right to insist that no such negotiated change should be implemented until the Congress has agreed by amending the law which governs the situation.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I support the joint resolution before us waiving certain provisions of the Trade Act of 1974 relating to the nomination of Ambassador Barshefsky to the position of United States Trade Representative.

Let us make no mistake as to the quality of Ambassador Barshefsky's service. We are not simply endorsing her as an exception to the act. Rather, she could not be more deserving of confirmation. Let's examine her record.

Her service has been marked by substantive accomplishments on an unprecedented scale. Over 200 trade agreements have been enacted, and she has been in the middle of the dispute process for the most difficult of all—the Chinese anti-piracy agreement—and more than 20 separate agreements with the Japanese in such areas as auto parts, telecommunications, government procurement, semiconductors, and medical equipment and technology. Many of her accomplishments have directly benefited my State of Utah which, despite its small size, is one of the Nation's leading exporters of technology and software.

Like many other members of the Senate Finance Committee, I have been inundated by letters from hundreds of Barshefsky supporters. This

outpouring of support underscores my own impression, as I expressed at the recent Finance Committee hearing, that she is a most qualified nominee for U.S. Trade Representative.

But let me draw attention to one particular comment regarding her success in the Chinese trade negotiations. I refer to a statement from the Recording Industry Association of America, a sector that has been especially hard hit by Chinese intellectual property piracy. In his recent letter to me, RIAA chairman and CEO, Jay Berman, reported, ''I personally witnessed her negotiations with China in June, 1995, that led to the immediate closing of 15 pirate CD [compact disc] plants.''

She has been repeatedly credited with breakthroughs in other sectors as well.

As my good friend from Delaware said only moments earlier, she has vastly expanded market access for American business—in Asia, Latin America, and Europe. More importantly, her work will be seen as an advent to still another American century, a century that will be marked by rising prosperity everywhere.

Mr. ROTH addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SMITH of Oregon). The Senator from Delaware.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I have a unanimous-consent request which has been cleared with the minority. I ask unanimous consent that following the allotted times for debate, the Senate proceed to a vote on or in relation to the Hollings amendment No. 19: Senator HOLLINGS 9 minutes, Senator CONRAD 5 minutes, Senator DASCHLE 10 minutes, Senator BURNS 6 minutes, Senator ROTH 5 minutes; and immediately following that vote the joint resolution be read a third time and the Senate proceed to a vote on passage of Senate Joint Resolution 5; further, if the resolution passes, the Senate then proceed to executive session and immediately vote on the confirmation for the nomination of Charlene Barshefsky. I further ask unanimous consent that prior to the second and third vote there be 2 minutes of debate equally divided in the usual form.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. CONRAD addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise to briefly address two questions: No. 1, the question of a waiver for Ambassador Barshefsky; and, No. 2, the approval of Ambassador Barshefsky as our trade representative.

Mr. President, I represent the State of North Dakota. We are right next to Canada. The question of a waiver for Ambassador Barshefsky relates to the question of her previous representation of Canada on trade issues, and that requires a waiver if she is to become our trade representative.

Mr. President, anyone who has worked with Ambassador Barshefsky understands her full commitment and dedication to the trade interests of the United States.

My State has been involved in a longstanding dispute with Canada with respect to unfairly traded Canadian grain coming into this country at below their cost and having a devastating effect on the farmers of my State, not only the producers in North Dakota but farmers in Montana, farmers in South Dakota, Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska. Charlene Barshefsky has stood with us shoulder to shoulder to get a fair result.

Mr. President, this issue first came up when she was approved as the Deputy USTR 4 years ago. She has done a superb job in her position at the trade representative's office. I think anybody who has followed her career and watched the job she did in negotiating to open up Pacific rim countries to our trade, the job that she has done fighting for U.S. interests in trade disputes with Canada, that she represented for a brief time on limited issues when she was in the private sector, would understand there is no reason—none—to deny a waiver to allow Charlene Barshefsky to become our trade representative.

Mr. President, Charlene Barshefsky is superb. I have dealt with many trade representatives. Rarely does one find someone of her background, her intelligence, her talent and her commitment. Those are qualities that we want working for the United States in these very difficult trade negotiations. And she has shown her mettle over and over and over. I urge my colleagues to vote for the waiver and to vote for Charlene Barshefsky to be our next trade representative. I thank the Chair and yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

Mr. BURNS addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. BURNS. I thank the Chair and I thank my friend from Delaware.

I rise today with some concerns about the new trade representative, Charlene Barshefsky. But I also rise to support her nomination. She has proven herself to be a tough negotiator as the acting trade representative. She recently played a major role in the opening of foreign markets in telecommunications, an agreement which we hope will decrease the costs of international calls and likely to have similar impact on domestic rates as well as U.S. companies competing on a worldwide basis.

But on the other hand, Ms. Barshefsky's bidding on the administration's behalf of NAFTA to expand into some South American countries has me somewhat concerned.

There is nobody in this body who fights harder for his people than the Senator from South Carolina. And I think I know why, because I visited that State one time, and he walks among those people who have lost their jobs in textile mills and understands those people's pain.

We are now suffering that kind of a pain because of the border wars with Canada in the State of Montana. Whenever you start talking about fast tracking authority to expand NAFTA, and you understand the effect NAFTA has had on us in the beef industry and the grain industry—and that is what I am; I am not anything else fancy—then I say we have to approach that very cautiously, because I am not going to lower the living standards of my farmers for the sake of so-called free trade unless it is fair trade. If left unchecked, it will also contribute to the devastation of other sectors in our Nation's economy as well, if we do not just look at some of these things.

We live in a free economy, we live in a global economy. I admit while Canadian livestock producers reap the benefits of new profit markets, Montana producers are hit with a flood of imports at the same time that the cattle market is already at the bottom of its scale. So we cannot afford any more of this. To stem that, we will have to do it through enabling legislation.

I say that the pending amendment is one that has to be discussed among the FCC, keeping in mind that the final rule of last year's telecom bill has not been written yet. So, I have some very strong concerns about the expansion that this President and this administration want to take. We see loaded trucks with cattle going through Montana, and we say, are they stopping here? And they say, no, they are going south. We lost the Mexican market, plus we lost some of our own markets through the last little deal. We got snookered a little bit talking about NAFTA.

I oppose any kind of fast track as far as the expansion of NAFTA is concerned because I think it has to be done the right way. I voted against it the first time, understanding where the Senator from South Carolina and the Senator from Montana were coming from, and I will probably, unless we have a mechanism we can work out these troubles that we have, playing on a level playing field, I am saying right now that if you want to ship cattle into the United States, I want you to have the same rules and regulations, the same environmental laws as we have to comply with in this country. That is only fair.

If Ms. Barshefsky is a tough negotiator, I will stand beside her, but do not use agriculture as a pawn and then sell it out like we have in times past. One has to remember that agriculture is still the largest contributor to the GDP in this country. I will support her in the upcoming confirmation vote and hope that she works with us in Congress whenever negotiations of expansion get under way.

I yield back the remainder of my time.

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, let me acknowledge the one kind word we got this afternoon in this debate. The Senator from Montana is on target. He is right. We go home and we see the jobs not only created at the BMW's but we see the jobs that have been lost, and that retraining out of Washington will not suffice. I do appreciate it very much, and I agree with him. He brings it right to the fore, the straw man they have put up.

They talk fast track, they talk regulations, they talk the differences between broadcast and common carrier under the statute, as there being a distinction, and, of course, the most serious one they bring is the character of the lady herself, which I never would suggest anything otherwise, and is of the finest character as an individual, Ms. Barshefsky. That is not a debate.

She happens to say that you do not need any approval of Congress. Well, then, I ask, why did the previous man of character, and just as dazzling as Ms. Barshefsky, Mickey Kantor—and I inserted in the RECORD his request that we amend the law so he could agree on foreign ownership. Now she is saying there is not any agreement, and there are all kinds of straw men.

The junior Senator from West Virginia was saying there is a distinction here. I am talking about broadcast rights and television services. I put these two sessions in there, and it can be read, ''No broadcast or common carrier license shall be granted to the foreign government'' and on and on and on. It is crystal clear that there is no distinction. That is why none other than the Chairman of the FCC asked that it be changed.

So we really come to the floor after 2 to 3 years of asking for a change, not effecting the change, the 95 Members of the U.S. Senate voting and saying, all right, we agree that there be no change, and now they are all coming and saying, ''Well, this is going to have a chilling effect,'' when the special trade representatives change the law and give away the store, the 100 percent ownership.

Heavens above, we cannot make it more clear to everyone. We read section 8, article 1, of the Constitution: ''The Congress shall have power'' and it goes on ''to lay and collect taxes'' and No. 2, to borrow money, and No. 3 ''to regulate commerce with foreign nations.'' It does not say regulate foreign nations on a fast track. It does not say regulate commerce regulation laws. It says regulate commerce. These fellows could not have voted for the Constitution if they had been a forefather back in the founding days.

I never said anything about regulations. The Senator from Rhode Island came in and brought that up, and they keep on bringing up these straw men and talking about a complicated process. You could not make an agreement or anything else of that kind, having a chilling effect. The language is just as simple and constitutionally clear as you can possibly make it: ''No international trade agreement,'' which is what we have in the telecommunications agreement ''which would in effect remand or repeal statutory law''—I put the two statutes in that have been amended or repealed; not regulations or anything else or fast track and all the other things—''of the United States may be implemented by or in the United States until the agreement is approved by Congress.'' It says that is approved by Congress under its constitutional duty.

Now, there is absolutely a terrible misunderstanding about this so-called free trade. It is just like the crowd running around acting like they have revenues—the doubletalk on the budget. Everybody wants to cut the revenues, cut the revenues, taxes are too burdensome, cut the revenues, but ''I want to balance the budget and I have a plan to balance it.'' How can they pay the bill by cutting the revenues? How can we possibly have free trade when we restrict the trade?

We say to that U.S. corporation, ''Before you can do business, you have to have a minimum wage. You have to comply with the Social Security requirements for pension and retirement rights. You have to have Medicare requirements by the Finance Committee. You have to have clean air. You have to have clean water, plant closing notice, parental leave,'' and on down the list of all these requirements—OSHA, safety workplace, safe machinery. All these requirements that Congress put on and then say, ''I have free trade.'' Well, you can go to Mexico and you do not have to have any of that. That is why we immediately ipso facto with that NAFTA agreement went from a plus balance of trade to a whooping negative, which they promised otherwise, losing all the jobs and wrecking Mexico and the United States.

Some question was raised about the Pacific rim. We have a deficit in the balance of trade with Indonesia of $4.1 billion. We have a deficit in the balance of trade with Japan of $47.5 billion. We have a deficit in the balance of trade with China of $39.4 billion. A deficit in the balance of trade with Malaysia, $9.4 billion. Taiwan is $11.4 billion. A deficit in the Philippines of $1.7 billion. A deficit in Thailand of $4.9 billion. A deficit in Singapore of $3.2 billion. And we can cite the European ones. I had them here on a list a minute ago. We know there is a deficit in Canada, and, yet, they talk about everything so magnificent. Let's rush over to China and get another agreement—quick. Heavens above, don't they understand that we are losing, we are not winning? This crowd around here act like they are accomplishing something.

Well, we have the Federal Republic of Germany, minus $15.4 billion; Venezuela, minus $8.1 billion; Italy, deficit and a balance, minus $9.4 billion. We can go right on down the list. It is all in all in all—I said the sum total of merchandise trade in deficit. That is, we bought manufactured goods. There is the great productive United States—not the workers. We know the workers are the most productive. That is why we got 100 German industries. That is why we have 50 Japanese industries. That is why we have, companies Michelin—I called on them 35 years ago, and now we got 11,600 jobs from France in my State. We are not talking about productivity. We are talking about the productivity of this Congress, this Government up here. We are the ones that are not producing. We are the ones that are not producing, chasing our tail around the mulberry bush, with independent prosecutors and investigations.

We know the problem is too much money in the game. Everyone has to skirt around this, twist this, turn that, and along goes the Supreme Court saying, soft money, you can do this and that and the next thing. So there we are. We are not producing here. We have $187 billion more than we bought in merchandise than what we sold. They keep on talking about exports, exports. So we are going out of business and nobody wants to talk about it. They bring up all these straw men about the complicated process, the chilling effect, new role for Congress—there is no new role. It is the only role that we have, a constitutional role. I think that we ought to just retain the balance of the time.

I ask for the yeas and nays, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. HOLLINGS. I retain the balance of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Mr. ROTH addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, we have had a great deal of debate on the Hollings amendment. So, in closing, I will be brief, but I want to make two simple points. First, no trade agreement—I emphasize ''no trade agreement''—has the stature to supersede U.S. statutory law. If a trade agreement seeks to accomplish a result not in conformity with U.S. statutory law, the Congress must enact legislation to achieve that result.

Second, the amendment, whatever its merits, will cause Senate Joint Resolution 5 to be blue-slipped in the House if the amendment is agreed to. The only result that the amendment can accomplish is to derail the Barshefsky nomination. Make no mistake, I have a letter from BILL ARCHER, chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means. He says that, ''Specifically, I understand that the Senate maybe asked to consider particular provisions, such as one suggested by Senator HOLLINGS, which would change the manner in which Congress considers trade agreements

and legislation having a direct affect on customs revenue. Although I strongly support Ambassador Barshefsky's nomination, I would have no choice but to insist on the House constitutional prerogative and to seek the return to the Senate of any legislation including such a provision.''

So I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on the Hollings amendment. I yield whatever time I have to my distinguished colleague from New York.

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

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, the chairman and I have a letter we have just received from Charles F.C. Ruff, counsel to the President, and after the upcoming vote, we will vote on the resolution itself. He states:

Because the President strongly desires to appoint Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky as USTR, and in order to ensure the absolute propriety, without question, of her appointment, President Clinton will not appoint Ambassador Barshefsky until S.J. Res. 5 has been enacted.

I ask unanimous consent that the full text of the letter be printed in the RECORD at this point.

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

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, DC, March 5, 1997.

Hon. WILLIAM ROTH, *Chairman,*
Hon. DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN, *Ranking Member,*
Senate Finance Committee,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROTH AND SENATOR MOYNIHAN: I write to urge you to pass S.J. Res. 5 as quickly as possible without amendment. As you know, Section 21(b) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 prohibits the President from appointing anyone to serve as United States Trade Representative (USTR) or Deputy USTR if that person had in the past directly represented, aided or advised a foreign government in a trade dispute or trade negotiation with the United States. Because the President strongly desires to appoint Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky as USTR and in order to ensure the absolute propriety, without question, of her appointment, President Clinton will not appoint Ambassador Barshefsky until S.J. Res. 5 has been enacted.

Sincerely,

CHARLES F.C. RUFF,
Counsel to the President.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

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

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

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I have had the opportunity to listen to the debate this afternoon, and I appreciate and commend the participation of the distinguished Senator from Arizona and our ranking member on the Finance Committee, and certainly the chair of the Finance Committee, the Senator from Delaware, for their leadership on this issue.

I think it has been shown this afternoon that, as a representative of the United States in trade negotiations around the world, Ambassador Barshefsky has proven herself to be a tough and effective advocate of American interests. Her solid record of achievement has done much to level the playing field for American producers. She understands the challenges facing the United States in the world trading system. Her negotiating style combines careful preparation, great stamina, determination, and a willingness to exercise the leverage provided by U.S. trade laws when circumstances warrant it.

For example, as a key architect of the United States-Japan Framework Agreements, she used the leverage provided by tariffs on Japanese luxury car imports to gain better market access in Japan for American car manufacturers without penalizing consumers back home. Thanks, in part, to her efforts, exports of foreign vehicles to Japan have increased by 30 percent last year, and the number of American franchise dealer outlets reached near 20. American companies are making substantial investments in Japan and forging important new partnerships with Japanese business.

Ambassador Barshefsky has also demonstrated she appreciates the crucial role agriculture trade plays in the American economy. Last year, the trade surplus in agricultural products reached $28.5 billion, the largest of any industry. Still, as she has acknowledged to me, we could do far better. Annual surveys compiled by the Office of U.S. Trade Representative indicate that roughly half of the foreign trade barriers facing U.S. products are in the agricultural sector.

Persistent market access barriers and other unfair trade practices continue to be a source of concern, and although agricultural exports, as a whole, have risen, problems remain in many areas, including beef and cattle prices.

In my view, liberalizing world trade is part of the answer to problems in the agricultural economy. However, our negotiators must be prepared not only to seek new global agreements but also to ensure that individual trading partners comply with their market access commitments from previous ones.

Thankfully, in Charlene Barshefsky, we have found someone who understands this challenge. In recent years, she has worked to increase beef exports to Korea, increase the availability of fresh produce in Japan and China, and thwart European trade barriers that could have devastated American soybean and corn exports. There has been a 30 percent increase in the value of agricultural exports since 1994, and I am confident that we will continue to build on this progress under her leadership.

Ambassador Barshefsky has been widely praised and supported by industry leader in many sectors of the economy. Alfred J. Stein, chairman of the Semiconductor Industry Association and VLSI Technology Inc., has stated that ''the President could not have found a more talented and dedicated envoy to represent the U.S. trade interest.'' John E. Pepper, Chairman of Procter and Gamble Company, has said that ''Ambassador Barshefshy . . . represents U.S. trade interests in an aggressive yet diplomatic manner. The nation is fortunate to have [her] as our U.S. Trade Representative.'' Gary Hufbauer, a scholar at the Institute for International Economics, has described her as ''easily the most qualified, most knowledgeable person on trade law ever nominated to this post.''

In my opinion, Ambassador Barshefsky's experience, knowledge and tenacity make her the best person for the job. She has my full support, and I urge my colleagues to support her nomination and the proposed waiver from the Lobbying Disclosure Act.

The waiver is necessary because she performed a limited amount of work for Canadian interests while she was an international trade lawyer in private practice. Effective January 1, 1996, the Lobbying Disclosure Act bars anyone who previously represented a foreign government from being nominated for a senior USTR post. The Ambassador was exempted from this requirement during her service as Deputy USTR, and it is appropriate to ''grandfather'' her tenure as U.S. Trade Representative as well.

The distinguished ranking member of the Commerce Committee, Senator HOLLINGS, is proposing an amendment to the waiver that I must reluctantly oppose. I have sympathy for the issue he raises and might well support his efforts under different circumstances. However, the leadership of the body has expressed its firm opposition to Senator HOLLINGS' legislation, and House Ways and Means Committee Chairman ARCHER has indicated that he will seek to have any bill including the language ''blue-slipped'', or sent back to the Senate, on the grounds that it would constitute a revenue measure that must originate in the House.

For these reasons, adoption by the Senate of the Hollings amendment would almost certainly delay Ambassador Barshefsky's nomination for an unacceptably long time. The Senate has a responsibility to approve the President's Cabinet nominees as expeditiously as possible. Ambassador Barshefsky is a particularly fine choice, and, in my view, the Senate should not take any action that would delay her confirmation further. Accordingly, I must ask my colleagues to vote no on the amendment of the distinguished Senator from South Carolina.

Again, Mr. President, let me urge all Senators who support the nomination

to support the joint resolution waiver to give Ambassador Barshefsky the kind of bipartisan support that her record, that her ability, that her intellect, and that her potential demand.

With that, I yield the floor.

Mr. MCCAIN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I move to table the Hollings amendment, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion of the Senator from Arizona to lay on the table the amendment of the Senator from South Carolina. On this question, the yeas and nays have been ordered, and the clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SANTORUM). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber who desire to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 84, nays 16, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 25 Leg.]

YEAS—84

Abraham	Glenn	McConnell
Akaka	Gorton	Mikulski
Allard	Graham	Moseley-Braun
Baucus	Gramm	Moynihan
Bennett	Grams	Murkowski
Bingaman	Grassley	Murray
Bond	Gregg	Nickles
Boxer	Hagel	Reed
Breaux	Harkin	Reid
Brownback	Hatch	Robb
Bryan	Hutchinson	Roberts
Bumpers	Hutchison	Rockefeller
Burns	Inhofe	Roth
Campbell	Jeffords	Santorum
Chafee	Johnson	Sarbanes
Cleland	Kennedy	Sessions
Coats	Kerrey	Shelby
Cochran	Kerry	Smith, Gordon H.
Collins	Kohl	Specter
Coverdell	Kyl	Stevens
D'Amato	Landrieu	Thomas
Daschle	Lautenberg	Thompson
DeWine	Leahy	Thurmond
Dodd	Levin	Torricelli
Domenici	Lieberman	Warner
Durbin	Lott	Wyden
Enzi	Lugar	
Feinstein	Mack	
Frist	McCain	

NAYS—16

Ashcroft	Faircloth	Kempthorne
Biden	Feingold	Smith, Bob
Byrd	Ford	Snowe
Conrad	Helms	Wellstone
Craig	Hollings	
Dorgan	Inouye	

The motion to lay on the table the amendment (No. 19) was agreed to.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the joint resolution for the third time.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will please come to order. There are 2 minutes equally divided.

The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, before the Senate votes on Senate Joint Resolution 5, I want to reiterate the importance of passing this waiver. The waiver is essential.

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, may we have order?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky is correct. Senators will take their conversations to the cloakroom.

The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. ROTH. The waiver is essential to ensure that the President is able to appoint this capable nominee to the post of USTR.

I want to make just two points. First, when the Lobbying Disclosure Act was passed, Ambassador Barshefsky was serving as Deputy USTR. As such, the act expressly did not apply to her in that position.

Second, the Ambassador never lobbied the U.S. Government on behalf of a foreign government or foreign political party.

Under these circumstances, I strongly feel that passage of the waiver is appropriate to assure the appointment of Ambassador Barshefsky as USTR.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York will suspend. The Senate will please come to order.

The Senator from New York.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, just to supplement the chairman's remarks, I would like to point out that he and I have received a letter today from Charles F.C. Ruff, Counsel to the President, stating:

Because the President strongly desires to appoint Charlene Barshefsky as USTR and in order to ensure the absolute propriety, without question, of her appointment, President Clinton will not appoint Ambassador Barshefsky until S.J. Res. 5 has been enacted.

I yield the floor and thank the Chair.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the passage of the joint resolution.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

The result was announced, yeas 98, nays 2, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 26 Leg.]

YEAS—98

Abraham	Cleland	Feinstein
Akaka	Coats	Ford
Ashcroft	Cochran	Frist
Baucus	Collins	Glenn
Bennett	Conrad	Gorton
Biden	Coverdell	Graham
Bingaman	Craig	Gramm
Bond	D'Amato	Grams
Boxer	Daschle	Grassley
Breaux	DeWine	Gregg
Brownback	Dodd	Hagel
Bryan	Domenici	Harkin
Bumpers	Dorgan	Hatch
Burns	Durbin	Helms
Byrd	Enzi	Hollings
Campbell	Faircloth	Hutchinson
Chafee	Feingold	Hutchison
Inhofe	Mack	Sarbanes
Inouye	McCain	Sessions
Jeffords	McConnell	Shelby
Johnson	Mikulski	Smith, Bob
Kempthorne	Moseley-Braun	Smith, Gordon H.
Kennedy	Moynihan	Snowe
Kerrey	Murkowski	Specter
Kerry	Murray	Stevens
Kohl	Nickles	Thomas
Kyl	Reed	Thompson
Landrieu	Reid	Thurmond
Lautenberg	Robb	Torricelli
Leahy	Roberts	Warner
Levin	Rockefeller	Wellstone
Lieberman	Roth	Wyden
Lugar	Santorum	

NAYS—2

Allard	Lott

The joint resolution (S. J. Res. 5) was passed.

The preamble was agreed to.

The joint resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S.J. RES. 5

Whereas paragraph (3) of section 141(b) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2171(b)(3)) became effective on January 1, 1996, and provides certain limitations with respect to the appointment of the United States Trade Representative and Deputy United States Trade Representatives;

Whereas paragraph (3) of section 141(b) of the Trade Act of 1974 does not apply to any individual who was serving as the United States Trade Representative or Deputy United States Trade Representative on the effective date of such paragraph (3) and who continued to serve in that position;

Whereas Charlene Barshefsky was appointed Deputy United States Trade Representative on May 28, 1993, with the advice and consent of the Senate, and was serving in that position on January 1, 1996;

Whereas paragraph (3) of section 141(b) of the Trade Act of 1974 does not apply to Charlene Barshefsky in her capacity as Deputy United States Trade Representative; and

Whereas in light of the foregoing, it is appropriate to continue to waive the provisions of paragraph (3) of section 141(b) of the Trade Act of 1974 with respect to the appointment of Charlene Barshefsky as the United States Trade Representative: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (3) of section 141(b) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2171(b)(3)) or any other advice and consent of the Senate, is authorized to appoint Charlene Barshefsky as the United States Trade Representative.

Mr. ROTH. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the nomination of Charlene Barshefsky, of the District of Columbia, to be the U.S. Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, vice Michael Kantor.

NOMINATION OF CHARLENE BARSHEFSKY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TO BE U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Charlene Barshefsky of the District of Columbia to be U.S. Trade Representative with the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

The Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise in support of Charlene Barshefsky's nomination as the United States Trade Representative.

I have scrutinized Ms. Barshefsky's nomination very carefully. During the time of her confirmation hearing before the Finance Committee, I submitted a list of 10 specific questions concerning her past work on behalf of the Canadian Government, her commitment to aggressively defending and advocating United States trade interests before all foreign parties, and her commitment to raising issues of interest to Maine before the Canadian Government, particularly with regard to Maine's long-running problems on potato trade. I ask unanimous consent that these questions and her responses be printed in the RECORD after my statement.

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

(See exhibit 1.)

Ms. SNOWE. My reason for investigating this nomination was simple: to make certain that this nominee could be counted on to defend United States. interests in the trade arena, and to ensure that her past legal work for Canadian entities would not in any way influence the exercise of her duties as United States Trade Representative.

Ms. Barshefsky's written responses to my questions, and on her responses to the questions of other senators and the Finance Committee, indicate that her nomination does not pose any such problems.

As has been widely reported, Ms. Barshefsky worked, while an attorney for a Washington, DC, law firm, for several Canadian entities. But as her responses to the Senate detail, this work amounted to a tiny fraction of the total over the course of her 18-year career as a trade attorney in private practice. In fact, Ms. Barshefsky has certified to me and to the Finance Committee that her work for all Canadian Government entities represents less than 1 percent of the total hours that she spent working while in private practice. Furthermore, Ms. Barshefsky states in her responses to me that she never lobbied the U.S. Government on behalf of any foreign government or political party.

I also questioned Ms. Barshefsky closely regarding her commitment to defend American interests in the arena of international trade. Ms. Barshefsky's responses are unequivocal. She states that she will forcefully defend and advocate American business interests in all international trade disputes, negotiations, and discussions involving the United States. She states that she will aggressively pursue all effective remedies to unfair trade practices committed by other countries against American businesses. And she states that she will pursue the strict adherence to, and vigorous enforcement of, all United States trade laws.

Ms. Barshefsky also specifically says that, if confirmed, she will ensure that the USTR's office raises the issues of concern to the U.S. potato industry during our bilateral meetings with Canada.

In addition to her words on paper, we also have Ms. Barshefsky's track record. She served as Deputy U.S. Trade Representative from 1993 to 1996, and as Acting U.S. Trade Representative for the past year. Her experience in these positions has given us a body of work to evaluate, and a record upon which to judge whether Ms. Barshefsky means what she says. And from what I have seen in her performance of her duties in these positions, through my own dealings with her, and from what other Senators have said, I believe that her deeds will be consistent with her words after she is confirmed.

I have spoken with and sought the assistance of Ms. Barshefsky on several occasions over the past year. In each instance, I have found Ms. Barshefsky to be responsive and cooperative. She displayed a genuine interest in the problems facing my constituents, and offered a number of options through which the administration could be of assistance.

I think it is also instructive to look at the Canadian softwood lumber issue. Although Ms. Barshefsky had, while in private practice, represented Canadian interests on the countervailing duty case that the United States filed against Canada in 1991, she later served as the second-highest ranking trade negotiator in the United States Government and participated in the negotiation of a bilateral agreement approved in 1996 that curtails subsidized Canadian softwood imports into the United States. That agreement has restored a measure of fairness to the lumber trade between the United States and Canada. And we would not have successfully concluded the agreement without the strong support of our senior trade officials like Ms. Barshefsky because the Canadians were under no legal obligations to sign an agreement with us. The United States had lost a succession of binational dispute resolution panel decisions on the issue up to that point, and had no way to legally require Canada to negotiate.

Mr. President, I was concerned when I first learned about some of Ms. Barshefsky's past work, but upon investigating this matter and questioning Ms. Barshefsky, I accept her assurances that this work will not influence her decisions and actions as the U.S. Trade Representative. And I am confident that she will defend and advocate American interests in the international trade arena, consistent with the policies of the Clinton administration. I cannot find anything in the record that compels opposition to Ms. Barshefsky's nomination, and I believe that she has earned the support of the Senate.

EXHIBIT 1

WRITTEN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM SENATOR SNOWE

CANADA/JOURNAL OF COMMERCE

The Journal of Commerce reported on November 15, 1996, that, as a lawyer in private practice, you were retained by the Canadian federal government and the Government of Quebec on issues involving trade with the U.S. in lumber and pork. What was the specific nature of the services that you provided on these governments on these issues, and at what times did you provide these services?

Following is the verbatim response provided to the Senate Finance Committee Questionnaire Statement of Information for Potential Nominees, Question C.6 on Potential Conflicts of Interest:

''Before becoming the Deputy United States Trade Representative in May of 1993, I worked for 18 years as a lawyer with the Washington law form if Steptoe & Johnson. The vast majority of my work during those 18 years was in the international trade area, particularly in the area of trade litigation, including antidumping, countervailing duty, escape clause, and similar on-the-record litigations arising under the U.S. trade laws. My representation of foreign governments or foreign political parties was limited to Canada, viz, the Government of Quebec and the Embassy of Canada, which were disclosed at the time that I was confirmed in 1993 to serve as Deputy United States Trade Representative. At no time during the 18 years that I practiced law did I ever lobby on behalf of any foreign government or foreign political party.''

With respect to the Government of Quebec, my work involved providing guidance and legal drafting assistance to the Steptoe & Johnson lawyers responsible for the client in connection with on-the-record litigation in two trade cases: 1) the administrative reviews of countervailing duty orders on Fresh, Chilled and Frozen Pork from Canada (hereinafter Canadian Pork) and the appeal thereof to an FTA panel; and 2) the petition filed under Section 302 of the Trade Act of 1974 by the G. Heilman Brewing Company (later jointed by Stroh's Brewing Company) concerning Canadian beer practices (hereinafter Canadian Beer). I did not meet with any U.S. government officials or appear on behalf of Quebec in any proceeding, nor did my name appear on any of the briefs or submissions in any of the proceedings. With respect to Canadian Beer, neither I nor the firm were involved in the GATT Panel proceeding.

My work related to the Government of Quebec began in October of 1989 and ended in March 1991, almost six years ago. My time on the Canadian Pork and Canadian Beer matters totaled approximately 240 hours, which represented just over 0.50 percent of my work while in private practice.

With respect to the Embassy of Canada, my former law firm and I were retained by the Embassy to monitor developments in the United States concerning a broad range of substantive areas, including international trade. The contract with the Embassy of Canada for this monitoring work stated that

Steptoe & Johnson was ''to provide legal advice to the Canadian Embassy, in Washington, D.C., on political, legislative and regulatory developments in the United States relating to trade and economic issues.'' The Embassy explicitly prohibited lobbying on its behalf and I did not lobby.

We routinely reviewed developments in the international trade area, which included administrative, legislative and judicial actions on issues of relevance to the Embassy, ranging from changes in U.S. trade law to investment restrictions in various countries. I coordinated the work of other lawyers and paralegals in the firm as well, and routed to them pertinent materials for their use.

Pursuant to the monitoring contract, the Embassy requested that I also provide advice with respect to two specific trade matters. First, I directed the preparation of memoranda on the options and legal consequences if Canada were to terminate its settlement agreement with the United States involving softwood lumber, as well as the implications of judicial, administrative and legislative developments in U.S. trade law on possible future trade litigation in the event that Canada decided to terminate the settlement agreement. I did not recommend to the Embassy what course of action Canada should take with respect to the lumber matter. At the time that I directed this work, the settlement agreement was in force; there was no pending trade litigation and there were no negotiations on softwood lumber between the United States and Canada. In fact, my work on the settlement agreement ended several months before the countervailing duty litigation on *Softwood Lumber from Canada* began.2

Second, I reviewed certain draft composite texts prepared by the Chairmen of the GATT working groups on antidumping and countervailing duty law for circulation to all of the approximately 117 countries that participated in the Uruguay Round MTN. The Chairmen's drafts that I commented on were prepared by the GATT Chairmen as an attempt to reflect the consensus of GATT members. They were not U.S. texts. My review of these draft texts involved comparative analyses of the Chairmen's drafts with past GATT provisions, GATT practice, prior Chairmen's drafts, and U.S. law, as appropriate, and an evaluation of the potential impact of these and alternative texts on U.S. law.

My time spent on the MOU settlement agreement and MTN matters totaled approximately 145 hours, or slightly more than 0.30 percent of my work while in private practice. My work on these two matters was done intermittently from May 1990 to December 1991, and ended more than five years ago.

What other Canadian governments, business, industry groups, or organizations have you represented on matters related to trade with the United States? What was the specific nature of the services that you provided to these entities, and at what times did you provide these services?

As indicated in response to question 1, I represented the Canadian Forest Industries Council (''CFIC'') in the countervailing duty litigation on *Softwood Lumber from Canada*. CFIC is an unincorporated association comprised of trade associations in the Canadian forest products sector, private Canadian softwood lumber producers, Canadian exporters of softwood lumber, and U.S. importers of softwood lumber. The services provided included those required in an on-the-record trade litigation, such as brief writing, assistance with preparation of responses to Department of Commerce questionnaires, and oral advocacy. I was retained in October, 1991, and my involvement ended when I left my former law firm, Steptoe & Johnson, in April, 1993.

Were you ever retained by a Canadian entity to work on a particular issue at a time when that entity was engaged in a formal dispute resolution proceeding with the United States related to that issue under trade agreements signed by the United States and Canada? If so, what was the specific nature of the work that you performed for that entity on that issue?

See question 1 which describes all my work relating to foreign governments. As indicated above, I was retained by CFIC in the countervailing duty litigation on *Softwood Lumber from Canada*.

Were you ever retained by a Canadian entity at a time when that entity was involved, either directly as a government, or indirectly as an interest lobbying a Canadian Federal or provincial government, in negotiations on bilateral and multilateral trade agreements to which the United States was a party? If so, can you please describe the specific nature of that work?

With respect to being retained directly by the Canadian government, see response to question 1. I was never retained by any client to lobby Canadian Federal or provincial governments.

Were you ever retained by the Canadian federal government, a provincial government, or any other Canadian entity to perform work related to the Uruguay Round negotiations of the GATT, particularly as these negotiations related to the United States? If so, can you please describe the specific nature of this work?

See response to question 1.

(a) Do you think your past work in the private sector on behalf of Canadian entities will in any way hamper your ability to perform your duties as the U.S. Trade Representative as those duties relate to Canada? (b) Do you feel compelled to recuse yourself on any matters that come before the U.S. Trade Representative's office on issues related to Canada?

(a). No.

(b) No. However, I have recused myself from any particular matter involving specific parties in which I served as counsel on that matter while in private practice, unless I have been authorized to participate in that matter under the provisions of 5 C.F.R. 2635, Subpart E.

Can you assure me and other senators that your past work on behalf of any Canadian entity will not have any bearing on the performance of your duties as the U.S. Trade Representative?

Yes, unequivocally.

American businesses need a forceful, aggressive, and indefatigable advocate in the position of U.S. Trade Representative, particularly when dealing with intransigent and unscrupulous governments like Canada's. (a) Do you intend to forcefully defend and advocate American business interests in all international trade disputes, negotiations, and discussions involving the United States? (b) Will you aggressively pursue all effective remedies to unfair trade practices committed by other countries against American businesses? (c) Will you, to the extent authorized in the position of Trade Representative, pursue the strict adherence to and vigorous enforcement of all U.S. trade laws?

(a) Yes

(b) Yes

(c) Yes

Do you intend to make full use of Sections 201, 202, and 203 of the Trade Act to assist American industries that are suffering from injurious import surges?

Sections 201, 202 and 203 are the so-called escape clause or safeguards sections of our trade laws. These provisions are administered primarily by the International Trade Commission (ITC), not the USTR. The law permits an entity that is representative of an industry, including a trade association, firm, union or group of workers to petition the ITC for relief. Alternatively, the President, USTR or House Committee on Ways and Means or Senate Committee on Finance may request the ITC to conduct an investigation. the ITC's investigation is to ''determine whether an article is being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury, or the threat thereof, to the domestic industry producing an article like or directly competitive with the imported article.'' Once the ITC makes an affirmative injury determination, the ITC then recommends to the President certain actions to address the injury to the domestic industry. USTR is also involved in providing a recommendation to the President as to what course of action would best assist an industry in adjusting to a serge in imports. If confirmed as USTR, I would intend to review all recommendations by the ITC to grant relief to an injured industry in order to ensure that USTR provides the President with the most considered recommendation possible regarding remedy actions that might be taken.

Based on our past discussions, I know that you are aware of the long-running trade problems that the potato industry in Maine and other states has had with Canada. If confirmed, do you intend to make the satisfactory resolution of potato-related trade disputes with Canada a high-ranking and continuous priority of the United States? Will you take steps to ensure that this issue is prominently featured on the agenda of any major bilateral trade discussions with Canada?

As you know, in close consultation with the Maine potato industry, I sent a formal request to Marcia Miller, Chairman of the ITC, requesting a formal 332 investigation on conditions of competition in the fresh and processed potato industry. This investigation will focus on the factors affecting trade between the United States and Canada. I expect to receive this report by July 15. The report will provide information on Canadian prices and costs of production which may be useful to the Maine potato industry and the U.S. government.

I have become very familiar with this issue and will work closely with you over the months ahead on finding ways to address the concerns of this important industry. You can be assured that we will continue to raise the issues of concern for the Maine potato industry at our bilateral meetings with Canada.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, it is my pleasure to support the nomination of Charlene Barshefsky to become the U.S. Trade Representative.

Mr. President, one of the things I find most interesting about Charlene Barshefsky is that in many ways she is a study in contradiction. On the one hand, she is a tough-as-nails trade negotiator who has developed a reputation for bringing the most experienced and determined of opponents to their knees. On the other hand, she is a loving and supportive wife and mother who recognizes the importance of family and, despite having very important responsibilities, makes time for her children.

Mrs. Barshefsky's tough negotiating strategy has earned her the nickname ''Stonewall'' from her colleagues, and ''Dragon Lady'' from the Japanese.

This reputation, however, was not gained at the expense of attention to her children. It has been reported that she has been known to help her children with homework while on the telephone to Hong Kong and other far off places.

Mr. President, I have had an opportunity to witness Mrs. Barshefsky's abilities first hand in the 1980's. At that time, a number of my colleagues and I fought to stop Chile from dumping Government subsidized copper on the world copper market potentially putting thousands of people in New Mexico and throughout the United States out of work. Although U.S. copper producers ran the most competitive mining operations in the world, Americans were loosing jobs because the Chilean Government was subsidizing its industry with Government revenues and development funds from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. Charlene Barshefsky was one of the primary people who worked to rectify this situation.

Mrs. Barshefsky has successfully worked on numerous other trade related issues since then. She became the Deputy U.S. Trade Representative in May, 1993, and Acting Trade Representative in April, 1996. She marshaled support for the Global Information Technology Agreement and successfully concluded negotiations on the Basic Telecommunications Services Agreement to expand telecommunications trade and facilitate the building of a global information infrastructure. She played a vital role in solving trade disputes with Japan and China. She fought to open markets for the U.S. agricultural industry, and is leading efforts to expand trade with Europe. In fact, its hard to find an area of trade where Mrs. Barshefsky has not been involved.

Charlene Barshefsky's tenacity and skill as a trade negotiator is well know the world over. Her demonstrated ability to do an exceptional job, her reputation for being a supreme tactician and tough negotiator, and her ability to do all of this and still make time for her family makes her an ideal choice for this post. For these reasons and others, it gives me great pleasure to support Charlene Barshefsky's nomination.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I am pleased to voice my strong support for the nomination of Charlene Barshefsky as U.S. Trade Representative. Ambassador Barshefsky has done an outstanding job as acting USTR since her appointment last April.

I believe Ambassador Barshefsky is one of the best nominations President Clinton has made and am honored to have the opportunity to speak on her behalf. Charlene Barshefsky is an aggressive and articulate advocate of U.S. trade interests and has been very successful in defending U.S. business and agriculture throughout the world. The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative is vital to opening up trade markets to U.S. goods, and Charlene Barshefsky has proven herself to be very effective at doing just that.

Ambassador Barshefsky understands that U.S. agriculture and industry can compete very effectively in the international market, but only if trade barriers are torn down. She has been relentless in her efforts to expand market access for U.S. exports and to promote U.S. trade interests abroad.

I am particularly impressed with Ambassador Barshefsky's work on intellectual property rights. My State is home to the Nation's largest software producer and to many smaller software and video game companies. These businesses have faced devastating problems with the counterfeiting of their products overseas. Ambassador Barshefsky has been a leader in the fight to end such violations of U.S. intellectual property rights. Last year, she negotiated a tough deal with China. By threatening sanctions against $2 billion in Chinese exports to the United States, she was successful in forcing Beijing to crackdown on software counterfeiters. While intellectual property theft still occurs, Ambassador Barshefsky has made great strides in defending United States interests in Asia.

She has also worked as a tough negotiator on Pacific Northwest wheat exports to China. As many of my colleagues know, China has, for the past 25 years, imposed arbitrary restrictions on the importation of wheat from the United States. The Chinese Government claims that Washington State wheat is infected by TCK Smut disease and therefore forbids its import into China for fear that the disease will spread to Chinese wheat. Unfortunately, their claim has no scientific basis. Ambassador Barshefsky has worked diligently to eliminate trade restrictions based on unsound science. Although her efforts have not yet been successful, she has been the strongest voice Washington state wheat growers have had in the administration for several years.

Mr. President, I strongly support the nomination of Charlene Barshefsky, and I urge my colleagues to join me in voting to confirm her as U.S. Trade Representative.

Mr. ROTH addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, once more, I strongly endorse the nomination of Ambassador Barshefsky. I urge my colleagues to vote for her. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I do want to assert that she is extraordinary and will be plenipotentiary.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Charlene Barshefsky, of the District of Columbia, to be U.S. Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary? On this question the yeas and nays have been ordered, and the clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 99, nays 1, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 27 Ex.]

YEAS—99

Abraham	Feinstein	Mack
Akaka	Ford	McCain
Ashcroft	Frist	McConnell
Baucus	Glenn	Mikulski
Bennett	Gorton	Moseley-Braun
Biden	Graham	Moynihan
Bingaman	Gramm	Murkowski
Bond	Grams	Murray
Boxer	Grassley	Nickles
Breaux	Gregg	Reed
Brownback	Hagel	Reid
Bryan	Harkin	Robb
Bumpers	Hatch	Roberts
Burns	Helms	Rockefeller
Byrd	Hollings	Roth
Campbell	Hutchinson	Santorum
Chafee	Hutchison	Sarbanes
Cleland	Inhofe	Sessions
Coats	Inouye	Shelby
Cochran	Jeffords	Smith, Bob
Collins	Johnson	Smith, Gordon H.
Conrad	Kempthorne	Snowe
Coverdell	Kennedy	Specter
Craig	Kerrey	Stevens
D'Amato	Kerry	Thomas
Daschle	Kohl	Thompson
DeWine	Kyl	Thurmond
Dodd	Landrieu	Torricelli
Domenici	Lautenberg	Warner
Dorgan	Leahy	Wellstone
Durbin	Levin	Wyden
Enzi	Lieberman	
Faircloth	Lott	
Feingold	Lugar	

NAYS—1

Allard

The nomination was confirmed.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now return to legislative session.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each, with the exception of 20 minutes under the control of Senator SHELBY.

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

HERE'S WEEKLY BOX SCORE ON U.S. FOREIGN OIL CONSUMPTION

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, the American Petroleum Institute reports that for the week ending February 28, the United States imported 7,105,000 barrels of oil each day, 776,000 barrels more than the 6,329,000 imported during the same week a year ago.

Americans relied on foreign oil for 52.5 percent of their needs last week,

and there are no signs that the upward spiral will abate. Before the Persian Gulf war, the United States obtained approximately 45 percent of its oil supply from foreign countries. During the Arab oil embargo in the 1970's, foreign oil accounted for only 35 percent of America's oil supply.

Anybody else interested in restoring domestic production of oil—by U.S. producers using American workers? Politicians had better ponder the economic calamity sure to occur in America if and when foreign producers shut off our supply—or double the already enormous cost of imported oil flowing into the United States—now 7,105,000 barrels a day.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, March 4, the Federal debt stood at $5,363,582,891,993.50.

One year ago, March 4, the Federal debt stood at $5,016,596,000,000.

Five years ago, March 4, 1992, the Federal debt stood at $3,845,731,000,000.

Ten years ago, March 4, 1987, the Federal debt stood at $2,260,529,000,000.

Fifteen years ago, March 4, 1982, the Federal debt stood at $1,052,613,000,000 which reflects a debt increase of more than $4 trillion—$4,310,969,891,993.50—during the past 15 years.

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE SCOTCH-IRISH IN AMERICA

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, as we approach St. Patrick's Day, the thoughts of many turn to Ireland. More than 44 million Americans are of Irish ancestry. It is often erroneously assumed that the vast majority of Irish-Americans are Catholics. But at least half of the 44 million are Protestants, many of which are descendants of the ancestors of the present-day Protestant communities in Northern Ireland and Ireland.

In the 1990 census, nearly 6 million Irish-Americans defined themselves as ''Scotch-Irish''—an American term which did not begin to be used widely until the mid-19th century. Most of Protestant immigration from Ireland occurred in the 18th and early 19th centuries, whereas the majority of the large number of Irish who arrived in the United States beginning in the mid-19th century at the time of the potato famine in Ireland were Catholic.

The Scotch-Irish in America are descendants of the approximately 200,000 Scottish Presbyterians who settled in Ireland in the early 17th century. The modern Protestant majority in Northern Ireland are descendants of that Ulster Plantation.

In the late 1600's, religious persecution of Scottish Presbyterians by England led some to leave Ulster and seek religious freedom in the American colonies. Many of these immigrants settled in the Chesapeake Bay area. One such immigrant, Francis Makemie, is the father of American Presbyterianism.

The largest numbers of Scotch-Irish immigrants, about 250,000, left for the American colonies in the 18th century in the decades leading up to the Revolutionary War. They left Ulster less for religious than economic reasons, because of the decline in the linen industry, failed harvests, and high rents for tenant farmers. Many of these immigrants were so poor that they made their way to the colonies only by becoming indentured servants. The destination of the earliest of these immigrants was New England although many of these subsequently moved inland to the frontier. In ''The Scotch-Irish and Ulster,'' Eric Montgomery writes of these immigrants:

> Ideally suited for the new life by reason of their experience as pioneers in Ulster, their qualities of character and their Ulster-Scottish background, they made a unique contribution to the land of their adoption. They became the frontiersmen of colonial America, clearing the forests to make their farms and, as one would expect, they had the defects as well as the qualities of pioneers. President Theodore Roosevelt described them as ''a grim, stern people, strong and simple, powerful for good and evil, swayed by gusts of stormy passion, the love of freedom rooted in their very hearts' core.''

The Scotch-Irish were staunch Calvinists and their religious differences with New England's Congregationalists led, after 1725, to a shift in their immigration from New England to Pennsylvania. These immigrants first settled near Philadelphia, but soon spread west throughout the entire State. Others went south to the Carolinas and Georgia, always extending the frontiers.

The Log College was established to train Presbyterian ministers near Philadelphia in 1726 or 1727 by Scotch-Irish minister Rev. William Tennent, Sr. It developed close ties with the College of New Jersey, which was founded in 1746, and later became Princeton University.

The impact of Scotch-Irish settlers on America was significant. Arthur Dobbs, a member of the Irish Parliament and a landowner from County Antrim, became Governor of North Carolina in 1753. Five signed the Declaration of Independence—Thomas McKean, Edward Rutledge, James Smith, George Taylor and Matthew Thornton. John Dunlap of Strabane printed the Declaration and also founded the Pennsylvania Packet, the first daily newspaper in America.

Large numbers of Scotch-Irish immigrants joined the fight for American independence. Irish volunteers performed so courageously in the Revolutionary Army that Lord Mountjoy told the British Parliament, ''We have lost America through the Irish.''

Charles Thomson came to Pennsylvania as an indentured servant, and went on to serve as the Secretary of the Continental Congress from 1774 to 1789.

Scotch-Irishman Henry Knox was one of four members of President George Washington's first Cabinet. John Rutledge was the first Governor of South Carolina. Thomas McKean was the first Governor of Pennsylvania, and William Livingstone was the first Governor of New Jersey.

The Scotch-Irish were strong supporters of the Jeffersonians in the early years of American independence. The Harvard Encyclopedia notes:

> The Scotch-Irish turned out in strength to vote for Thomas Jefferson in the election of 1800, and their influence, along with that of other immigrant groups, may well have been decisive in New York and thus the nation at large.

Twelve Americans of Scotch-Irish ancestry became President of the United States. The fathers of Andrew Jackson, James Buchanan and Chester Alan Arthur were each born in Northern Ireland. And James Polk, Andrew Johnson, Ulysses Grant, Grover Cleveland, Benjamin Harrison, William McKinley, Woodrow Wilson, and Richard Nixon were all of Scotch-Irish ancestry. President Clinton's family tree has several Irish branches, and undoubtedly contains both Scotch-Irish and Catholic roots.

The Scotch-Irish parents of John C. Calhoun emigrated to Pennsylvania and then moved to South Carolina. Born in 1782, he was elected to the House of Representatives from South Carolina at the age of 29, and went on to become Senator, Secretary of War, Secretary of State, and Vice President. As chairman of the Senate House Foreign Relations Committee in 1812, he introduced the declaration of war against Britain. His portrait is on the wall of the reception room adjacent to the Senate Chamber today, as one of the five greatest Senators in our history.

Many other famous Americans are of Scotch-Irish descent. Sam Houston served as Governor of Tennessee before moving to Texas and leading the fight for Texas' independence from Mexico. Before Texas joined the Union, he served as the first President of the Republic of Texas and, after, as Governor. He was a staunch defender of the Union, but his efforts to keep Texas from seceding prior to the Civil War failed, and he was removed as Governor when he refused to take Texas out of the Union after the vote to secede.

Stonewall Jackson was a descendent of Scotch-Irish immigrants from County Armagh. Davy Crockett was Scotch-Irish. Cyrus McCormick, inventor of the mechanical reaper, was given the French Legion of Honour by Napoleon, who described McCormick as ''having done more for the cause of agriculture than any other living man.'' A successful businessman, active Democrat, and Presbyterian, he founded the McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago.

The Mellon family emigrated to Pennsylvania from County Tyrone in 1818. Thomas Mellon, a young boy at the time, became a successful lawyer, banker, and businessman in Pittsburgh. He founded what became the

Mellon Bank, and was instrumental in the growth and development of Pittsburgh. His son, Andrew Mellon, served as Secretary of the Treasury for Presidents Harding and Coolidge. He helped found Gulf Oil, Alcoa, and the Union Steel Co., which later merged into the U.S. Steel Corp. He assembled one of the world's greatest art collections, established the National Gallery of Art, and donated his collection to the gallery where vast numbers of Americans enjoy it every year. Andrew's son, Paul, and other members of the Mellon family have carried on the family's business success and extraordinary philanthropy.

The Scotch-Irish have also been well-represented in the arts. Edgar Allen Poe, Stephen Foster, Horace Greeley, founder of the New York Tribune, and Harold Ross, founder of the New Yorker, were all Scotch-Irish.

The majority of Irish-American Protestants today define themselves as ''Irish,'' not ''Scotch-Irish.'' By and large, the term ''Scotch-Irish'' fell into disuse over the years as discrimination against Catholics in this country declined.

Immigrants to America from all parts of Ireland, whether Catholic or Protestant, have made brilliant contributions to the success of America. Those of us who are committed to a just and peaceful resolution of the conflict in Northern Ireland know that peace will only be achieved there when both traditions are treated equally and fairly, and when mutual respect and a good-faith political process replace bombs and bullets as the means for settling disputes.

Ireland's extraordinary contributions to America reflect Ireland's two great traditions—Protestant and Catholic—and America honors them both on St. Patrick's Day 1997.

Mr. BOND addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

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

(The remarks of Mr. BOND and Mr. CHAFEE pertaining to the introduction of S. 404 are located in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to proceed for 3 minutes, if I may, as in morning business.

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

HUNGARY'S PROGRESS TOWARD NATO MEMBERSHIP

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, today I will deliver the first in a series of statements on the theme of NATO enlargement. In the next 4 months leading up to the Madrid Summit in July, I will examine the rationale for NATO's admitting new members, which countries appear to be leading candidates for admittance to the alliance, how NATO and Russia can define a new relationship, the responsibilities of our European allies in the process, and how to share the costs of enlargement fairly.

Mr. President, as many of our colleagues are aware, the distinguished foreign Minister of the Republic of Hungary, Laszlo Kovacs is in Washington this week for a series of meetings. I would like to take the occasion of the foreign Minister's visit to note the progress that Hungary has made toward meeting the criteria for membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and to thank his government for the assistance it has provided to our forces involved in the Bosnia mission.

Mr. President, the foreign Ministers from the 16 NATO members will meet in Madrid in early July to decide which Central European democracies should be invited to begin accession negotiations with the Alliance.

In the NATO Enlargement Facilitation Act of 1996, Congress named Hungary—along with Poland, Slovenia, and the Czech Republic—as a leading candidate for NATO membership and, therefore, eligible for transition assistance. I plan to travel to the region over the Easter recess to assess the progress that these countries have made toward meeting the criteria set out in the NATO enlargement study. Today, however, I can already point to several things that indicate to me that Hungary is well on its way toward assuming the responsibilities of NATO membership.

The first is the successful effort by Hungary to conclude bilateral treaties with its neighbors, Romania, Slovakia, and Ukraine. Students of Central European history know how truly important these treaties are for the security of the region. Many had predicted that the end of the cold war would bring with it a resurrection of Hungary's territorial claims against its neighbors, and they predicted an era of instability that would make us wish the cold war had never ended.

Events, and the concerted effort of the Hungarian Government, have proven the pessimists wrong. First, Hungary has succeeded in establishing a stable, open democracy that has allowed the Hungarian people to enjoy the fruits of political and economic freedom.

Equally important, Hungary has recognized that its security and prosperity are dependent upon a resolution of the territorial claims that poisoned relations with its neighbors in the decades after World War I.

For those of my colleagues who have asked: ''Why should NATO admit new members?'' I ask you to look closely at the Hungarian example. One of the criteria for new members of NATO is that they must resolve all territorial disputes with their neighbors.

Just as common membership in NATO has allowed France and Germany to overcome the enmity and territorial disputes that had resulted in three wars in 80 years, so too has the prospect of NATO membership led to reconciliation in Central Europe. The Hungarian Government is to be commended for its forward-thinking policies that recognize that cooperation is the key to stability in Europe in the 21st century. I particularly want to recognize the political courage of Hungarian Prime Minister Horn in disregarding the criticism of ultranationalists in his country and signing these treaties.

In exchange for renouncing territorial claims, Hungary has secured pledges that its neighbors will respect the rights of the large ethnic Hungarian communities in those countries. As the European Union also begins to expand its membership eastward, I hope that national boundaries in Central and Eastern Europe will matter less and less, and the free exchange of people, products, and ideas will help ensure peace and prosperity for all.

Romania and Slovakia are home to the largest Hungarian communities outside Hungary, and ideally we would like to see them join NATO as well. I am pleased by the recent progress made by Romania, which through free and fair elections has peacefully changed its government. The new ruling coalition, incidentally, includes a party representing the interests of the Hungarian minority.

Slovakia, unfortunately, for the past several years has seemed to be heading in the wrong direction. I must question the commitment of Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar to democracy, particularly to minority rights and a free press. The treaty with Hungary is a step forward, but if Slovakia is to join the community of Western democracies, it must show that it will not water down its commitments to respect the cultural and linguistic rights of its ethnic Hungarian citizens.

The other theme I want to focus on today is the cooperation that Hungary has extended to us and our allies in connection with the ongoing peacekeeping mission in Bosnia. An essential part of that mission has been a staging base in Taszar, Hungary, which the Hungarian Government has leased to the U.S. military. It is from that base that we have deployed our forces to Bosnia to prevent a return to Europe's worst fighting since World War II. As former Secretary of Defense Perry has stated, without the cooperation of Hungary, the IFOR and SFOR missions would have been immeasurably more difficult.

At Taszar 1,200 Hungarian troops are working with 3,200 Americans. This cooperation has allowed Hungarian officers and enlisted men to understand how a NATO military functions and what Hungary must do to allow its forces to operate jointly with those of the NATO countries. By all accounts, the work at Taszar has been a rousing success, both in supporting the IFOR and SFOR missions and in helping the Hungarian military.

The threat to the security of Europe today no longer comes from an easily identifiable Soviet adversary; it comes from the prospect of instability. It comes from the prospect of future Bosnias. NATO must adapt to this new reality and prepare itself to undertake missions outside the territory of its member states.

Our experience at Taszar shows that Hungarian membership in NATO will help us and our allies to carry out these new missions and will enable us together to help maintain the security and stability of the continent as a whole.

Moreover, the Taszar experience shows how NATO enlargement can help reduce costs that we and our allies would face without enlargement. Enlargement will allow us and our allies access to bases like Taszar in times of crisis, and it will allow the central European democracies to rely on others for part of their security, thereby reducing the cost to them of restructuring their militaries.

Let me reiterate that the prospective new members of NATO must agree to make the financial sacrifice necessary to modernize their militaries. We will, of course, do our fair share to help. In that regard, the 15 percent of the direct enlargement costs that last month's Pentagon cost study envisages the United States will assume seems an equitable proposal. But the prospective new members and the non-U.S. current NATO members must shoulder the largest share of the costs.

My meeting with Mr. Kovacs today to discuss Hungary's progress toward NATO membership was extremely fruitful, and, as I mentioned earlier, I will visit Budapest later this month to help me ascertain for myself if Hungary is ready to join the Atlantic alliance.

I commend the Hungarian people on the progress they have made in creating a successful democracy and free-market economy over the past 8 years and for their determination to ensure their security through cooperation with their neighbors and other democracies.

I hope that Hungary will continue in this direction and will meet the criteria for membership in NATO so that in July it will be in the group of prospective members invited to begin accession negotiations with the alliance.

I thank the chair and yield the floor.

I thank my colleague from Alabama for giving me the opportunity to take the floor.

Mr. SHELBY addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SMITH of Oregon). The Senator from Alabama.

NOMINATION OF MR. ANTHONY LAKE

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise tonight to give to the Senate the status on the confirmation process in the Intelligence Committee of Anthony Lake, who has been nominated by President Clinton to be the next Director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

As I have said on many occasions, I intend to treat the confirmation of Anthony Lake, President Clinton's nominee to be Director of Central Intelligence in a serious, thorough and fair manner.

The Central Intelligence Agency and the intelligence community deserve a strong and independent leader to carry them into the 21st century. I believe that everyone in the Senate recognizes that.

This leader must be able to guide the fine men and women that serve our country and keep watch on our adversaries, sometimes under the most trying and dangerous of circumstances.

And, this leader must be deserving of the confidence of the President, the Congress, and the American people.

This is a controversial nomination, we have known this from the beginning. And it is essential that we address all of the issues associated with Mr. Lake's fitness to lead the intelligence community, and his ability to make the transition from White House insider to apolitical provider of intelligence information.

I'd like to comment on the six areas in which the committee has considerable work to complete as we proceed with Mr. Lake's confirmation hearings which will begin on Tuesday. We want to get the process moving, but it is important that we have the fullest cooperation from the White House.

These six areas are, among others: First, investigation of the role the National Security Council, under Mr. Lake's leadership, had in questionable DNC fund-raising practices, as well as any knowledge Mr. Lake may have had, if any.

Second, Mr. Lake's use and interpretation of intelligence provided to him as National Security Advisor, including how he helped translate this intelligence into administration policy.

Third, the Justice Department's settlement of Mr. Lake's ethics violations and the potential irregularities in this settlement.

Fourth, the way in which Mr. Lake handled the ''no instructions'' policy toward Iranian arms shipments through Croatia to Bosnia.

Fifth, review of Mr. Lake's FBI background investigation.

Sixth, review of written answers Mr. Lake provided to the committee's questions for the record, many of which require further explanation than was provided.

NSC INTERACTIONS WITH DNC CONTACTS

We will continue our investigation into the role of the NSC staff, under Mr. Lake's direction, in the expanding controversy over foreign campaign contributions.

At issue is the extent to which Mr. Lake knew of the ties the White House was building with questionable fundraisers and foreign contributors and what effect this might have had on administration foreign policy.

It is apparent that his staff had knowledge of the involvement, and although on many occasions advised against it for either political or foreign policy reasons, never seemed to raise the flag of illegality.

And if Mr. Lake was fully informed, did he participate in decisions to continue this involvement or were any admonitions he might have given regarding the nature of these meetings completely ignored?

This question goes to the heart of Mr. Lake's ability to be an effective Director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

The committee must consider this issue in great detail and determine if Mr. Lake could become embroiled in a potential independent counsel investigation into these matters, as we read in the press.

The intelligence community deserves a leader that will not be distracted by such an investigation, if it occurs.

The information supplied by Mr. Lake could be the tip of an iceberg, and more inquiry is required. For example, Mr. Lake does not appear to shed any light as to why his staff met with Pauline Kanchanalak, the Thai businesswoman and lobbyist whose contributions to the DNC were eventually returned.

New allegations about Ms. Kanchanalak appear in the press every day all over America, and perhaps the world.

For example, last Tuesday, the New York Times reported, and I quote: ''One Justice Department official said subpoenas also were served on the United States-Thai Business Council, a trade-promotion group formed in part by Pauline Kanchanalak, a lobbyist who helped raise $250,000 in political donations that have since been returned by the Democratic National Committee.''

The article goes on to say: ''Government officials said the Justice Department two weeks ago subpoenaed records from the Export-Import Bank concerning Ms. Kanchanalak's efforts to help Thai investors * * *''

I ask for unanimous consent that this and other articles about Ms. Kanchanalak be entered into the RECORD at this point in their entirety.

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

[From the New York Times, Feb. 25, 1997]

INQUIRY INTO GIFTS TO DEMOCRATS WIDENS

(By Christopher Drew)

The Justice Department today subpoenaed the records of Johnny Chung, a California businessman who gave $391,000 to the Democratic Party, and others who made large donations while seeking access to the White House, Government officials said.

One Justice Department official said subpoenas also were served on the United States-Thai Business Council, a trade-promotion group formed in part by Pauline Kanchanalak, a lobbyist who helped raise $250,000 in political donations that have since been returned by the Democratic National Committee.

The subpoenas show that a Justice Department task force is continuing to widen its investigation into alleged improprieties in the Democrats' drive to raise huge sums for last year's elections.

The committee also is reviewing the donations made by Mr. Chung and others. It has already returned nearly $1.5 million in questionable donations. And one Democrat familiar with that review said today that the party is likely to return an additional $1 million, either because it could not verify the sources of the money or because the donations seemed improper.

Mr. Chung and Ms. Kanchanalak have declined to speak to reporters, and their lawyers could not be reached for comment last night.

Mr. Chung, an engineer who was born in Taiwan and is now an American citizen, has captured attention for his intense efforts to exploit his donations for commercial gains. Since mid-1994, he has visited the White House at least 50 times, sometimes bringing business associates from China and other Far East places that he wanted to impress.

Mr. Chung took two Chinese beer executives to a White House Christmas party in 1994, where they were photographed with President and Mrs. Clinton. The beer company later placed the photo in a glass display case promoting its product in one of Beijing's main shopping districts.

It could not be learned exactly what records were sought in the subpoenas issued today. But Justice Department officials have said they were examining whether any foreign money might have been improperly funneled into Democratic Party coffers.

Mr. Chung's lawyer, Brian A. Sun, told The New York Times last week that his client, who runs a fax-services business in Torrance, Calif., had received more than $3 million from investors over the last three years. Mr. Sun estimated that nearly $1.5 million of that total had come from foreigners as Mr. Chung expanded into consulting for foreign businessmen who wanted to make deals in the United States.

Mr. Sun said that Mr. Chung had done nothing wrong, and that Mr. Chung's foreign partners were not involved in his decisions to make the contributions. But it also is likely that the Justice Department investigators would want to trace the flow of money into Mr. Chung's accounts.

California records show that Mr. Chung incorporated seven companies with investors from China and Hong Kong over the last two years, and Federal election records show that several of his largest political donations were made at about the same time as the incorporations.

Mr. Chung also donated $50,000 to the Democratic Party in March 1995, shortly after he took high-level Chinese businessmen to watch Mr. Clinton give a radio address. Aides to Donald L. Fowler, then the national chairman of the Democratic Party, have said they arranged that White House visit at Mr. Chung's request. Mr. Fowler has said he was not personally involved and did not solicit a donation from Mr. Chung in return for the favor.

Ms. Kanchanalak, a Thai citizen who lives in Virginia, got help from John Huang, the former Democratic fund-raiser who is at the center of the Federal inquiry, in setting up the United States Thai-Business Council.

Government officials said the Justice Department two weeks ago subpoenaed records from the Export-Import Bank concerning Ms. Kanchanalak's efforts to help Thai investors win financing to build 105 Blockbuster video stores in Thailand. Ms. Kanchanalak has denied doing anything wrong.

[From the Wall Street Journal, Feb. 27, 1997]

FBI INQUIRY ON FUNDING IS WIDENING

(By David Rogers and Edward Felsenthal)

WASHINGTON.—A Federal Bureau of Investigation inquiry into foreign influence in Democratic fund raising could lead Director Louis Freeh to ask Attorney General Janet Reno to seek appointment of an independent counsel for the case.

Mr. Freeh briefed senior senators yesterday on the investigation, and officials later described the continuing FBI investigation as larger than previously reported and carried on outside the purview of the White House.

Serious evidence has been found of China's potential involvement in steering money to Democrats. That involvement appears to have been driven largely by business interests seeking influence and following the model of rival Taiwanese.

Pauline Kanchanalak, a major Democratic fundraiser who has represented Thai companies with large investments in China, has emerged as a key figure in the probe, officials said. While refusing to comment on details of the briefing, senate Intelligence Committee Chairman Richard Shelby said the evidence of foreign influence was ''deep and disturbing.''

''We need an independent counsel if we ever needed an independent counsel,'' the Alabama Republican said.

The Justice Department last night painted a less dire picture of Mr. Freeh's briefing, and Attorney General Reno continued to say that career prosecutors in the department can handle the fund investigation. Neither Sen. Shelby nor other officials familiar with the briefing were prepared to say what Mr. Freeh's final recommendations would be. But lawmakers of both parties said the investigation is regarded very seriously by the director, who has committed substantial resources to it.

FBI spokesman John Collingwood last night would say only that it is ''a matter that is entirely within the purview of the attorney general.''

Ms. Kanchanalak's role is important both because of her foreign clients and past access to National Security Council staff at the White House. As such, her prominence could pose additional problems for former NSC adviser Anthony Lake, whose nomination to direct the Central Intelligence Agency already faces opposition in the Senate. Ms. Kanchanalak couldn't be reached for comment.

Critics of the Clinton administration have recently stepped up their demands for an independent counsel, particularly with the disclosure this week that the president himself played a role in encouraging the use of the White House as a fundraising vehicle. Federal law requires the attorney general to ask the federal appeals court here to appoint an independent counsel when there are ''credible'' and ''specific'' allegations of criminal wrongdoing against an official. The law explicitly applies to the president, cabinet members and some campaign officials; the attorney general has the discretion to apply it to others as well.

Some say that threshold has clearly been crossed. ''I thought [Ms. Reno] had gotten past the point where she didn't have much choice under the statute some time ago,'' said Theodore Olson, a Washington lawyer who was assistant attorney general during the Reagan administration. Several lawmakers—including Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott of Mississippi, GOP Sen. John McCain of Arizona and Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York—have called for an independent counsel.

Ms. Reno said yesterday in a hearing before a House committee that she still hasn't seen enough evidence to justify such an appointment. She added that she is still open to the idea if sufficient evidence emerges ''as we proceed with the very comprehensive investigation that we now have under way.'' Ms. Reno has appointed a task force of career prosecutors to monitor the matter and to alert her if they conclude an independent counsel is necessary.

Lawyers agree that the independent-counsel law is fairly straightforward, requiring only a barebones determination by the attorney general of whether further investigation is necessary. But the question of what makes up a ''credible'' allegation is obviously a judgment call. In addition, given the complexities of the campaign-finance laws, it isn't always clear what constitutes a violation.

Some lawyers believe that the attorney general should err on the side of naming an independent counsel and leave it to the appointee to decipher the law.

But Justice Department officials maintain that Ms. Reno has very little discretion. People think that ''whenever there's a mess, there's [supposed to be] an independent counsel,'' said a spokesman for Ms. Reno. ''Congress could have written the law that way, but they didn't.''

At a news conference yesterday, President Clinton reiterated his position that the decision was up to Ms. Reno. ''It's a legal decision the attorney general has to make,'' he said. ''I'm not going to comment.''

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, these allegations about Ms. Kanchanalak, coupled with her interactions with the National Security Council, are very troubling to me and other members of the Committee. We must fully understand what part, if any, Mr. Lake played.

And while Mr. Lake has said that the NSC involvement with the individuals in question was ''from a foreign policy rather than a domestic political point of view,'' the material he provided to the committee gives some indications otherwise.

For example, Mr. Lake advised the President against a meeting with Chinese nationals set up by Charlie (Tree) Trie, a major DNC fundraiser, based on the recommendation of his staff that it not take place for political reasons.

And when asked about providing photos of the President with Chinese nationals identified as major DNC contributors, a member of Mr. Lake's staff commented on balancing foreign policy considerations against domestic politics. He did not seem to be bothered by the fact that Chinese nationals were identified as major DNC contributors. Clearly, this is an indication of possible illegal activity.

Before questioning Mr. Lake about his leadership in these areas, we intend to question his staff further as to the role the NSC played in interactions with and vetting of these DNC contributors and foreign nationals.

Senator KERREY, vice chairman of the Intelligence Committee, and I have requested that the NSC staff be available for the interviews on the record prior to the formal hearings, which will begin, as I have said earlier, next Tuesday. We reserve the right to call NSC staff members to testify under oath, if we deem that in order.

The use of intelligence is another area.

One of the key responsibilities of the Director of Central Intelligence is to provide unbiased intelligence to the President and to the Congress. Thus, it is very critical that we examine Mr. Lake's record as a consumer of such intelligence.

How did he translate intelligence into policy at the NSC? Did he ignore intelligence estimates, spin them to fit administration policy, or raise the standards of evidence?

We have concluded our investigation surrounding the administration's use of intelligence in shaping policy toward China, and there are some serious inconsistencies. We are prepared to discuss these with Mr. Lake in the closed session of the committee.

Mr. President, given the allegations mentioned in every newspaper about Chinese involvement in DNC fundraising, this is an area for some serious questioning about potential influences on policy, and it should be.

For example, there are still documents we wish to review as to the role intelligence played in our policy toward the Government of Haiti. The administration has consistently refused to transmit this information to Congress. Senator KERREY and I have requested these documents, and we are still awaiting the National Security Council's response.

We are also reviewing United States knowledge and assessment of recent events in Iraq and their impact on our policy there and how Mr. Lake used this knowledge in formulating that policy. We are pursuing similar questions in areas relating to Cuba, Somalia, Bosnia, and Pakistan.

Ethics violations is another area we are pursuing.

While the Justice Department has reached a settlement with Mr. Lake regarding his failure to sell energy stocks that were deemed to create a conflict of interest for him, resulting in a payment of a $5,000 fine by Mr. Lake, the Committee on Intelligence has been investigating this matter further.

Although Mr. Lake claims that the failure to sell stocks was a simple oversight, Justice Department investigators interviewed by the committee documented 14 occasions over a 2-year period on which Mr. Lake was reminded that he still owned the stocks. It was only after a White House ethics officer discovered the stocks on his financial disclosure form for a third time that Mr. Lake did divest himself of the investments. Thus, a key question is whether this violation represents financial mismanagement on the part of Mr. Lake or a complete disregard for the seriousness of the ethics standards applied to all Federal employees.

Additionally, what example does this set for the intelligence community professionals who must be held to the highest standards of personal conduct?

The Intelligence Committee is also investigating the thoroughness of the Justice Department's investigation into Mr. Lake's stocks, particularly those energy-related stocks which created a conflict of interest and subsequent fine. Given that Mr. Lake garnered a profit of over $25,000 on these investments, I have trouble, as other members of the committee do, understanding the Justice Department's arbitrary fine of $5,000, which is the maximum allowed, I understand, for a potential misdemeanor offense.

If the case, on the other hand, had been referred to the Justice Department's civil division, a much greater fine of up to $50,000 per offense could have been imposed. Why wasn't this course taken? We do not know, but we will pursue it.

Iran-Bosnia and the ''no instructions'' policy.

A key criterion for a Director of Central Intelligence is the extent to which he or she can gain the confidence of the Congress in keeping Members fully and currently informed of intelligence community actions. Mr. Lake's role in the execution of the secret ''no instructions'' policy toward Croatia allowing Iranian arms to flow into Bosnia and the decision, Mr. President, not to inform Congress of this action has called into question Mr. Lake's ability to be forthright with the Congress.

The distinguished former chairman of the Intelligence Committee, my colleague and an expert in the area, Senator SPECTER, has raised serious questions regarding this matter which we intend to explore fully during our hearings.

While Mr. Lake has admitted that it was wrong not to inform Congress of the ''no instructions'' policy, there remains a number of inconsistencies in testimony before both Houses of Congress as to the extent of the policy decision and its implementation. The Intelligence Committee is working with other congressional committees to review pertinent testimony and decide on an appropriate panel of witnesses to pursue this matter during Mr. Lake's confirmation hearings. The Senate confirmation hearings will represent the first time that Mr. Lake will testify under oath on his role in the development and execution of this policy.

As to the FBI background investigation, there has been no resolution regarding requests made by me and a large number of my colleagues to review Mr. Lake's complete FBI background file. Negotiations between White House Counsel Charles Ruff, Senator KERREY, and I are continuing.

A significant number of my colleagues have written the distinguished majority leader stating that they need to review the complete background investigation before they would be prepared to vote on this nomination. Our thorough review of Mr. Lake's background investigation, I believe, is key to a fundamental understanding of Mr. Lake's character and integrity, as it would be for anyone else.

Finally, the committee is reviewing information provided by Mr. Lake in response to questions propounded by the committee earlier. We require some clarifications to Mr. Lake's answers, and therefore additional questions have been put forward that must be addressed.

There are some areas where we are requesting additional supporting documentation to Mr. Lake's answers, such as his financial disclosures and issues associated with a potential conflict of interest, and we will request for the committee a review of material that was redacted for various reasons.

I thank you, Mr. President, for this opportunity to provide the Senate with a status of the Lake confirmation process and an opportunity for me to lay out some of the concerns that I and some of my colleagues have about this nomination. We intend to work through each of these issues in a fair and a thorough manner and look forward to questioning Mr. Lake and others beginning next Tuesday, March 11.

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 submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

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

REPORT OF THE NOTICE OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE IRAN EMERGENCY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 20

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the Iran emergency declared on March 15, 1995, pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701–1706) is to continue in effect beyond March 15, 1997, to the *Federal Register* for publication. This emergency is separate from that declared on November 14,

1979, in connection with the Iranian hostage crisis and therefore requires separate renewal of emergency authorities.

The factors that led me to declare a national emergency with respect to Iran on March 15, 1995, have not been resolved. The actions and policies of the Government of Iran, including its support for international terrorism, efforts to undermine the Middle East peace process, and its acquisition of weapons of mass destruction and the means to deliver them, continue to threaten the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. Accordingly, I have determined that it is necessary to maintain in force the broad authorities that are in place by virtue of the March 15, 1995, declaration of emergency.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 5, 1997.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

S.J. Res. 22. Joint resolution to express the sense of the Congress concerning the application by the Attorney General for the appointment of an independent counsel to investigate allegations of illegal fundraising in the 1996 presidential election campaign.

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–1310. A communication from the Office of Regulatory Management and Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, four rules including a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans'' (FRL5696–8, 5696–6, 5697–7, 5697–3) received on March 3, 1997; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1311. A communication from the Chairman of the Prospective Payment Assessment Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of recommendations concerning Medicare payment policies; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–1312. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans' Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled ''Veterans' Education'' (RIN2900–AI53) received on March 4, 1997; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC–1313. A communication from the Director of the U.S. Trade and Development Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–1314. A communication from the Executive Director of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–1315. A communication from the U.S. Office of Special Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–1316. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–1317. A communication from the Assistant Secretary (Management) and Chief Financial Officer, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following report of committee was submitted on March 4, 1997:

By Mr. HELMS, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 19: A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding United States opposition to the prison sentence of Tibetan ethnomusicologist Ngawang Choephel by the Government of the People's Republic of China.

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 Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 392. A bill to provide an exception to the restrictions on eligibility for public benefits for certain legal aliens; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 393. A bill to clarify the tax treatment of certain disability benefits received by former police officers or firefighters; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. SPECTER, and Mr. FAIRCLOTH) (by request):

S. 394. A bill to partially restore compensation levels to their past equivalent in terms of real income and establish the procedure for adjusting future compensation of justices and judges of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BREAUX (for himself and Mr. BRYAN):

S. 395. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to simplify the method of payment of taxes on distilled spirits; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. SARBANES):

S. 396. A bill to amend titles 5 and 37, United States Code, to provide for the continuance of pay and the authority to make certain expenditures and obligations during lapses in appropriations; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 397. A bill to amend chapters 83 and 84 of title 5, United States Code, to extend the civil service retirement provisions of such chapter which are applicable to law enforcement officers, to inspectors of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, inspectors and canine enforcement officers of the United States Customs Service, and revenue officers of the Internal Revenue Service; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. MURRAY:

S. 398. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the use of child restraint systems approved by the Secretary of Transportation on commercial aircraft, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MCCAIN:

S. 399. A bill to amend the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental and Native American Public Policy Act of 1992 to establish the United States Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to conduct environmental conflict resolution and training, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 400. A bill to amend rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, relating to representations in court and sanctions for violating such rule, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. JEFFORDS:

S. 401. A bill to improve the control of outdoor advertising in areas adjacent to the Interstate System, the National Highway System, and certain other federally assisted highways, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GORTON (for himself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 402. A bill to approve a settlement agreement between the Bureau of Reclamation and the Oroville-Tonasket Irrigation District; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. FEINGOLD:

S. 403. A bill to expand the definition of limited tax benefit for purposes of the Line Item Veto Act; to the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Governmental Affairs, jointly, pursuant to the order of August 4, 1977, as modified by the order of April 11, 1986, with instructions that if one Committee reports, the other Committees have thirty days to report or be discharged.

By Mr. BOND (for himself, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. GREGG, and Mr. SMITH):

S. 404. A bill to modify the budget process to provide for seperate budget treatment of the dedicated tax revenues deposited in the Highway Trust Fund; to the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Governmental Affairs, jointly, pursuant to the order of August 4, 1977, as modified by the order of April 11, 1986, with instructions that if one Committee reports, the other Committees have thirty days to report or be discharged.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DORGAN, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 405. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the research credit and to allow greater opportunity to elect the alternative incremental credit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. BOND, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. BURNS):

S. 406. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide clarification for the deductibility of expenses incurred by a taxpayer in connection with the business use of the home; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. BURNS):

S. 407. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to clarify the authority of the Federal Communications Commission to authorize foreign investment in United States broadcast and common carrier radio licenses; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. 408. A bill to establish sources of funding for certain transportation infrastructure projects in the vicinity of the border between the United States and Mexico that are necessary to accommodate increased traffic resulting from the implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement, including construction of new Federal border crossing facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 392. A bill to provide an exception to the restrictions on eligibility for public benefits for certain legal aliens; to the Committee on Finance.

THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED LEGAL IMMIGRANT SUPPORT ACT OF 1997

• Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, last year we approved the most comprehensive welfare reform this Nation has ever known. Because the changes were so comprehensive, this body approved the bill with much reservation, particularly on the provision for the elderly and disabled legal immigrants.

Today, I correct one of the major challenges left over from the welfare reform last year that if uncorrected, will have a devastating impact on the States and counties by shifting the cost of caring for the seriously ill and destitute disabled and elderly legal immigrants who have absolutely no other means of support.

I am here to offer the Elderly and Disabled Legal Immigrant Support Act with Senator BOXER as the cosponsor in the Senate, and Congressman CAMPBELL and Congresswoman LOFGREN as sponsors in the House of Representatives.

The Elderly and Disabled Legal Immigrant Support Act of 1997 would exempt from the current ban on SSI, those elderly, disabled and/or blind legal immigrants, who came to this country prior to passage of the welfare bill—August 22, 1996, who can demonstrate that they have no family and have no other source of support. This legislation prohibits SSI for all legal immigrants coming to this country following the date of enactment of the welfare reform bill, August 22, 1996.

This legislation corrects what I believe is a grave mistake in the Federal welfare reform law—a blanket denial of SSI to all legal noncitizens, no matter how elderly, disabled, destitute and ill they may be.

Over 20 California county supervisors, both Republican and Democrat, have spoken out, in one voice, that the legal immigrant provisions of the welfare law will be disastrous for California counties and this legislation is critical for the Counties and for the country.

In California alone, 200,000 to 326,000 people may lose SSI by August 22, 1997.

Los Angeles County estimates that eliminating benefits for 93,000 legal immigrants in its county could cost up to $236 million a year.

San Francisco estimates that 20,000 legal noncitizens may turn to the county's general assistance program, at a total cost of up to $74 million.

Many top immigrant States and counties will also bear the burden of caring for the elderly, disabled, and blind legal immigrants who are banned from SSI.

New York—126,860 legal immigrants may lose their SSI, costing the State approximately $240 million annually.

Florida—77,920 legal immigrants may lose their SSI, costing the State approximately $300 million annually.

Texas—59,160 legal immigrants may lose their SSI.

Illinois—25,960 legal immigrants may lose their SSI.

New Jersey—25,500 legal immigrants may lose their SSI.

Massachusetts—25,140 legal immigrants may lose their SSI.

The Republican Governors who supported the welfare reform bill now realize that the new law, as written, will result in a huge financial cost-shift to their states.

President Clinton has also recognized that legal immigrants who become disabled after entry should not be banned from SSI and food stamps and has allocated $13.7 billion in the 1998 budget for this population who have nowhere else to turn.

As we speak, 125,000 SSI cancellation notices are going out to elderly, disabled, and blind legal immigrants every week. Many elderly and disabled legal immigrants have absolutely no family or friends to turn to for support and will be destitute. They have no one to turn to, except county relief programs or, at worst, homeless shelters. Effective August 22 of this year, all legal immigrants currently receiving SSI will be cut from the rolls regardless of their circumstances.

I know that prior to welfare reform, the door was open for sponsors to bring in their parents and then neglect to support them or, if they are unable to support them, to know that legal immigrants were eligible for SSI. The number of noncitizens collecting SSI had increased by 477 percent in the 14 years from 1980 to 1994, while for citizens the numbers increased by 33 percent during the same period. Clearly, one can extrapolate from these statistics that legal immigrants were using SSI at 15 times the rate of citizens.

I hold the sponsors accountable for the support of legal immigrants they bring into the country who they have pledged to support. But the Federal welfare reform banning SSI for virtually all legal immigrants—even those whose sponsors cannot afford to support them, or those refugees who have no sponsors at all—will create extreme hardship for those elderly, blind, and disabled legal immigrants who are unable to support themselves.

Let me tell you the story about a 73-year-old legal immigrant in San Francisco on SSI. She was welcomed to this county from Vietnam in 1980. She was a refugee from Communism with no family in the United States. She speaks no English and she is suffering from kidney failure. She requires dialysis three times a week. Under this new law, this 73-year-old woman will lose SSI, her only source of support. Her well-being will become the responsibility of the county.

I urge my colleagues to seriously consider and support this limited exemption from the current ban on SSI by allowing those elderly, blind, or disabled individuals, who were in the country prior to August 22, 1996, and who have no other means of support, to continue on SSI. The ban on SSI would apply to those coming into the country after August 22, 1996.

Mr. President, I ask for unanimous consent that the text of the bill and a chart on number of aliens receiving SSI payments by legal status and State be included in the RECORD.

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

S. 392

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EXCEPTION TO ELIGIBILITY RESTRICTIONS FOR PUBLIC BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN LEGAL ALIENS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of title V of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–208; 110 Stat. 3009–1772) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 511. EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN LEGAL ALIENS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an alien who was lawfully present in the United States on August 22, 1996, and who lawfully resides in a State, is age 65 or older, is disabled and/or blind, as determined under paragraph (2) and/or (3) of section 1614(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1382c(a)), whose family is incapable of support, and who can demonstrate that he or she has no other sufficient means of support other than that provided under the program described in subsection (b), shall be eligible to receive benefits under such program.

''(b) PROGRAM DESCRIBED.—The program described in this subsection is the program described in section 402(a)(3)(A) of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1612(a)(3)(A)).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) takes effect as if included in the enactment of subtitle A of title V of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–208; 110 Stat. 3009–1772).

(c) NOTICE AND REDETERMINATION.—The Commissioner of Social Security shall, not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, notify an individual described in section 511(a) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (as added by this Act) and who, as of such date, has been redetermined to be ineligible for the program described in section 511(b) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (as so added), that the individual's eligibility for such program shall be redetermined again, and shall conduct such redetermination in a timely manner.

Number of Aliens Receiving SSI Payments by Legal Status and State, October 1996

State	Total	Color of law	Lawfully admitted
Total	803,030	206,600	596,430
Alabama	600	110	490
Alaska	820	(1)	(1)
Arizona	7,930	1,450	6,480
Arkansas	380	100	280
California	326,080	86,880	239,200
Colorado	5,660	1,810	3,850
Connecticut	4,870	1,120	3,750
Delaware	400	(1)	(1)
District of Columbia	960	150	810
Florida	77,920	17,890	60,030
Georgia	4,860	1,350	3,510
Hawaii	4,440	640	3,800
Idaho	430	(1)	(1)
Illinois	25,960	7,180	18,820
Indiana	1,150	280	870
Iowa	1,220	500	720
Kansas	1,640	400	1,240
Kentucky	790	390	400
Louisiana	2,860	490	2,370
Maine	610	240	370
Maryland	9,040	2,330	6,710
Massachusetts	25,140	7,630	17,510
Michigan	8,220	1,770	6,450
Minnesota	7,180	3,340	3,840
Mississippi	510	120	390
Missouri	1,960	860	1,100
Montana	170	(1)	(1)
Nebraska	760	320	440
Nevada	2,710	530	2,180
New Hampshire	320	90	230
New Jersey	25,500	3,730	21,770
New Mexico	3,500	350	3,150
New York	126,860	35,180	91,680
North Carolina	2,760	790	1,970
North Dakota	200	100	100
Ohio	5,970	2,480	3,490
Oklahoma	1,360	310	1,050
Oregon	4,640	1,940	2,700
Pennsylvania	12,540	5,270	7,270
Rhode Island	3,720	760	2,960
South Carolina	620	100	520
South Dakota	220	(1)	(1)
Tennessee	1,400	370	1,030
Texas	59,160	5,930	53,230
Utah	1,550	460	1,090
Vermont	180	(1)	(1)
Virginia	8,000	1,720	6,280
Washington	14,100	6,370	7,730
West Virginia	210	(1)	(1)
Wisconsin	4,900	2,250	2,650
Wyoming	(1)	(1)	(1)

[1] Relative sampling error too large for presentation of estimates.
Source: SSI 10-Percent Sample File, October 1996.●

By Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. LIEBERMAN:)

S. 393. A bill to clarify the tax treatment of certain disability benefits received by former police officers or firefighters; to the Committee on Finance.

THE POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS TAX CLARIFICATION ACT

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, today I am introducing legislation that would provide a measure of tax fairness for more than 1,000 police officers, firefighters, and their families in my home State of Connecticut. I am pleased to be joined in this effort by Senator LIEBERMAN.

This bill clarifies the tax treatment of heart and hypertension benefits awarded to Connecticut's police officers and firefighters prior to 1992. The clarification is necessary because of an error made in the original version of Connecticut's heart and hypertension law. Under that law, Connecticut intended to treat heart and hypertension benefits as workmen's compensation for tax purposes. Unfortunately, because of the language used in the State statute, the heart and hypertension benefits became taxable under a ruling by the Internal Revenue Service [IRS] in 1991.

Since the IRS ruling, Connecticut has amended its law. But that change does not help those police officers, firefighters, and their families, who received benefits prior to the amendment. These law-abiding citizens accepted the benefits with the understanding that they were not taxable. Now, as a result of the problem with the State law, and through no fault of their own, they have been charged with back taxes, interest, and penalties by the IRS. This has created serious financial difficulties for a number of families.

I hope that my colleagues will join with me in remedying this problem. Across this Nation, our firefighters and police officers work hard to protect our homes and businesses. They face incredible danger, and sometimes risk their lives, to help keep our communities safe. The hazards they face make their jobs particularly stressful. They need the security provided by heart and hypertension benefits. They should not have to contend with back taxes and penalties assessed due to an error in State law.

Under this legislation, which would remove their liability for heart and hypertension benefits for the years affected by the IRS ruling—1989–91, we can treat these public servants and their families more fairly. This bill is narrowly drafted to accomplish that limited purpose and would not affect the tax treatment of heart and hypertension benefits awarded after January 1, 1992.

Mr. President, my efforts to pass this legislation date back to the 102d Congress. During that Congress, Senator LIEBERMAN and I worked with Representatives BARBARA KENNELLY and ROSA DELAURO and this bill became a part of the Revenue Act of 1992. Although the Revenue Act was passed by Congress, it was vetoed by President Bush 1 day after he lost the election. We tried again during the 103d Congress, but we were unable to move the bill through the relevant committees. Last year, we hoped to move the bill as part of a broader tax and pension package, but that legislation was also stalled.

I urge my colleagues to help pass this legislation quickly this year. We must provide relief to the Connecticut police officers, firefighters, and their families, who are facing severe financial hardship even though they have tried to follow the rules. Through no fault of their own, they have been hit with significant back taxes and penalties. We should remedy this problem and help them move on with their lives.

Mr. President, 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. 393

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN DISABILITY BENEFITS RECEIVED BY FORMER POLICE OFFICERS OR FIREFIGHTERS.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—For purposes of determing whether any amount to which this section applies is excludable from gross income under section 104(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the following conditions shall be treated as personal injuries or sickness in the course of employment:

(1) Heart disease.

(2) Hypertension.

(b) AMOUNTS TO WHICH SECTION APPLIES.—This section shall apply to any amount—

(1) which is payable—

(A) to an individual (or to the survivors of an individual) who was a full-time employee of any police department or fire department which is organized and operated by a State, by any political subdivision thereof, or by any agency or instrumentality of a State or political subdivision thereof, and

(B) under a State law (as in existence on July 1, 1992) which irrebuttably presumed that heart disease and hypertension are work-related illnesses but only for employees separating from service before such date; and

(2) which is received in calendar year 1989, 1990, or 1191.

For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term ''State'' includes the District of Columbia.

(c) WAIVER OF STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—If, on the date of the enactment of this Act (or at any time within the 1-year period beginning on such date of enactment) credit or refund of any overpayment of tax resulting from the provisions of this section is barred by any law or rule of law, credit or refund of such overpayment shall, nevertheless, be allowed or made if claim therefore is filed before the date 1 year after such date of enactment.●

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. SPECTER, and Mr. FAIRCLOTH) (by request):

S. 394. A bill to partially restore compensation levels to their past equivalent in terms of real income and establish the procedure for adjusting future compensation of justices and judges of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

FEDERAL JUDICIAL COMPENSATION LEGISLATION

● Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, at the request of the Judicial Conference of the United States, I am introducing a bill to increase the current salaries of Federal judges and to establish a procedure for future cost-of-living increases in judicial compensation.

This legislation was prepared by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts. I believe that, out of comity to the judicial branch, the Senate should have on record the judiciary's specific proposals with respect to judicial compensation, so that we can give those suggestions a full and fair hearing. These proposals deserve fair consideration.

Federal judges have not received a cost-of-living salary adjustment since January 1994. This bill would amend United States Code title 28, sections 5, 44(d), 135, and 252, to provide an immediate, one-time 9.6 percent adjustment in the compensation of Justices of the Supreme Court and Federal circuit court, district court, and international trade court judges appointed under article III of the Constitution. The bill would also have the effect of increasing, by the same percentage, the salaries of Federal court of claims and

bankruptcy judges and full-time U.S. magistrate judges, since their salaries are, by statute, fixed based on the salaries of Federal district court judges.

With respect to future judicial salary adjustments, the bill would amend section 461 of title 28 to end the current linkage between the judicial, congressional, and Executive Schedule compensation. Instead, judicial salaries would be adjusted automatically on an annual basis, in the same percentage amount as the rate of pay of Federal employees under the General Schedule.

Finally, the bill would repeal section 140 of Public Law No. 97–92, thereby removing the current requirement that Congress affirmatively vote for cost-of-living increases for Federal judges.

If we are to attract and retain the most capable lawyers to serve as Federal judges, it is vitally important that we ensure that those responsible for the effective functioning of the judicial branch receive fair compensation, including reasonable adjustments which allow judicial salaries to keep pace with increases in the cost of living. As Chief Justice Rehnquist stated in his ''1996 Year-End Report on the Federal Judiciary,'' ''We must insure that judges, who make a lifetime commitment to public service, are able to plan their financial futures based on reasonable expectations.'' This bill, which I am introducing at the request of the Judicial Conference, proposes changes viewed by the Judicial Conference as advancing this objective—an objective with which I believe most Senators would agree. The bill merits serious consideration by the Senate.

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. 394

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. JUDICIAL SALARIES.

(a) INCREASE IN JUDICIAL SALARIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding sections 5, 44(d), 135, and 252 of title 28, United States Code, the annual salary rates of the Chief Justice of the United States, Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, judges of the United States Courts of Appeals, judges of the United States District Courts, and judges of the United States Court of International Trade, are increased in the amount of 9.6 percent of each applicable rate in effect on the date immediately preceding the effective date of this subsection rounded to the nearest multiple of $100 (or if midway between multiples of $100, to the next higher multiple of $100).

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall take effect on the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) JUDICIAL COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS.—Section 461(a) of title 28, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''(a) Effective on the same date that the rates of basic pay under the General Schedule are adjusted pursuant to section 5303 of title 5, each salary rate which is subject to adjustment under this section shall be adjusted by the same percentage amount as provided for under section 5303 of title 5, rounded to the nearest multiple of $100 (or if midway between multiples of $100, to the next higher multiple of $100).''.

(c) AUTOMATIC ADJUSTMENTS WITHOUT CONGRESSIONAL ACTION.—Section 140 of the resolution entitled ''A Joint Resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1982, and for other purposes,'', approved December 15, 1981 (Public Law 97–92; 95 Stat. 1200; 28 U.S.C. 461 note) is repealed.●

By Mr. BREAUX (for himself and Mr. BRYAN):

S. 395. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to simplify the method of payment of taxes on distilled spirits; to the Committee on Finance.

THE DISTILLED SPIRITS TAX PAYMENT SIMPLIFICATION ACT OF 1997

Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President, today I introduce the ''Distilled Spirits Tax Payment Simplification Act of 1997,'' a bill more readily known as All-In-Bond. This bill would streamline the way in which the Government collects Federal excise tax on distilled spirits by extending the current system of collection now applicable only to imported products to domestic products as well.

Today wholesalers purchase foreign-bottled distilled spirits in bond—tax free—paying the Federal excise tax directly after sale to a retailer. In contrast, when the wholesaler buys domestically bottled spirits—nearly 86 percent of total inventory—the price includes the Federal excise tax, prepaid by the distiller. This means that hundreds of U.S. family-owned wholesale businesses increase their inventory carrying costs by 40 percent when buying U.S. products, which often have to be financed through borrowing.

Under my bill, wholesalers would be allowed to purchase domestically bottled distilled spirits in bond from distillers just as they are now permitted to purchase foreign-produced spirits. Products would become subject to tax on removal from wholesale premises. This legislation is designed to be revenue neutral and includes the requirement that any wholesaler electing to purchase spirits in bond must make certain estimated tax payments to Treasury before the end of the fiscal year.

All-In-Bond is an equitable and sound way to streamline our tax collection system. I hope my colleagues will join me in cosponsoring this important legislation.

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. 395

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Distilled Spirits Tax Payment Simplification Act of 1997''.

(b) REFERENCE TO 1986 CODE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

SEC. 2. TRANSFER OF DISTILLED SPIRITS BETWEEN BONDED PREMISES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5212 is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 5212. TRANSFER OF DISTILLED SPIRITS BETWEEN BONDED PREMISES.

''Distilled spirits on which the internal revenue tax has not been paid as authorized by law may, under such regulations as the Secretary shall prescribe, be transferred in bond between bonded premises in any approved container. For the purposes of this chapter, except in the case of any transfer from a premise of a bonded dealer, the removal of distilled spirits for transfer in bond between bonded premises shall not be construed to be a withdrawal from bonded premises.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The first sentence of section 5232(a) (relating to transfer to distilled spirits plant without payment of tax) is amended to read as follows: ''Distilled spirits imported or brought into the United States, under such regulations as the Secretary shall prescribe, may be withdrawn from customs custody and transferred to the bonded premises of a distilled spirits plant without payment of the internal revenue tax imposed on such distilled spirits.''.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF DISTILLED SPIRITS PLANT.

Section 5171 (relating to establishment) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''or processor'' and inserting ''processor, or bonded dealer'';

(2) in subsection (b), by striking ''or as both'' and inserting ''as a bonded dealer, or as any combination thereof'';

(3) in subsection (e)(1), by inserting '', bonded dealer,'' before ''processor''; and

(4) in subsection (e)(2), by inserting ''bonded dealer,'' before ''or processor''.

SEC. 4. DISTILLED SPIRITS PLANTS.

Section 5178(a) (relating to location, construction, and arrangement) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) BONDED DEALER OPERATIONS.—Any person establishing a distilled spirits plant to conduct operations as a bonded dealer may, as described in the application for registration—

''(A) store distilled spirits in any approved container on the bonded premises of such plant, and

''(B) under such regulations as the Secretary shall prescribe, store taxpaid distilled spirits, beer, and wine, and such other beverages and items (products) not subject to tax or regulation under this title on such bonded premises.''.

SEC. 5. BONDED DEALERS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 5002(a) (relating to definitions) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(16) BONDED DEALER.—The term 'bonded dealer' means any person who has elected under section 5011 to be treated as a bonded dealer.

''(17) CONTROL STATE ENTITY.—The term 'control State entity' means a State, a political subdivision of a State, or any instrumentality of such a State or political subdivision, in which only the State, political subdivision, or instrumentality is allowed under applicable law to perform distilled spirit operations.''.

(b) ELECTION TO BE TREATED AS A BONDED DEALER.—Subpart A of part I of subchapter A of chapter 51 (relating to distilled spirits)

is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 5011. ELECTION TO BE TREATED AS BONDED DEALER.

''(a) ELECTION.—Any wholesale dealer or any control State entity may elect, at such time and in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe, to be treated as a bonded dealer if such wholesale dealer or entity sells bottled distilled spirits exclusively to a wholesale dealer in liquor, to an independent retail dealer subject to the limitation set forth in subsection (b), or to another bonded dealer.

''(b) LIMITATION IN CASE OF SALES TO RETAIL DEALERS.—

''(1) BY BONDED DEALER.—Any person, other than a control State entity, who is a bonded dealer shall not be considered as selling to an independent retail dealer if—

''(A) the bonded dealer has a greater than 10 percent ownership interest in, or control of, the retail dealer;

''(B) the retail dealer has a greater than 10 percent ownership interest in, or control of, the bonded dealer; or

''(C) any person has a greater than 10 percent ownership interest in, or control of, both the bonded and retail dealer.

For purposes of this paragraph, ownership interest, not limited to stock ownership, shall be attributed to other persons in the manner prescribed by section 318.

''(2) BY CONTROL STATE ENTITY.—In the case of any control State entity, subsection (a) shall be applied by substituting 'retail dealer' for 'independent retail dealer'.

''(c) INVENTORY OWNED AT TIME OF ELECTION.—Any bottled distilled spirits in the inventory of any person electing under this section to be treated as a bonded dealer shall, to the extent that the tax under this chapter has been previously determined and paid at the time the election becomes effective, not be subject to such additional tax on such spirits as a result of the election being in effect.

''(d) REVOCATION OF ELECTION.—The election made under this section may be revoked by the bonded dealer at any time, but once revoked shall not be made again without the consent of the Secretary. When the election is revoked, the bonded dealer shall immediately withdraw the distilled spirits on determination of tax in accordance with a tax payment procedure established by the Secretary.

''(e) EQUITABLE TREATMENT OF BONDED DEALERS USING LIFO INVENTORY.—The Secretary shall provide such rules as may be necessary to assure that taxpayers using the last-in, first-out method of inventory valuation do not suffer a recapture of their LIFO reserve by reason of making the election under this section or by reason of operating a bonded wine cellar as permitted by section 5351.

''(f) APPROVAL OF APPLICATION.—Any person submitting an application under section 5171(c) and electing under this section to be treated as a bonded dealer shall be entitled to approval of such application to the same extent such person would be entitled to approval of an application for a basic permit under section 104(a)(2) of the Federal Alcohol Administration Act (27 U.S.C 204(a)(2)), and shall be accorded notice and hearing as described in section 104(b) of such Act (27 U.S.C. 204(b)).''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The tables of sections of subpart A of part I of subchapter A of chapter 51 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''Sec. 5011. Election to be treated as bonded dealer.''.

SEC. 6. DETERMINATION OF TAX.

The first sentence of section 5006(a)(1) (relating to requirements) is amended to read as follows: ''Except as otherwise provided in this section, the tax on distilled spirits shall be determined when the spirits are transferred from a distilled spirits plant to a bonded dealer or are withdrawn from bond.''.

SEC. 7. LOSS OR DESTRUCTION OF DISTILLED SPIRITS.

Section 5008 (relating to abatement, remission, refund, and allowance for loss or destruction of distilled spirits) is amended—

(1) in subsections (a)(1)(A) and (a)(2), by inserting ''bonded dealer,'' after ''distilled spirits plant,'' both places it appears;

(2) in subsection (c)(1), by striking ''of a distilled spirits plant''; and

(3) in subsection (c)(2), by striking ''distilled spirits plant'' and inserting ''bonded premises''.

SEC. 8. TIME FOR COLLECTING TAX ON DISTILLED SPIRITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5061(d) (relating to time for collecting tax on distilled spirits, wines, and beer) is amended by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (6) and by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

''(5) ADVANCED PAYMENT OF DISTILLED SPIRITS TAX.—Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this subsection, in the case of any tax imposed by section 5001 with respect to a bonded dealer who has an election in effect on September 20 of any year, any payment of which would, but for this paragraph, be due in October or November of that year, such payment shall be made on such September 20. No penalty or interest shall be imposed for the period from such September 20 until the due date determined without regard to this paragraph to the extent that tax due exceeds the tax which would have been due with respect to distilled spirits in the preceding October and November had the election under section 5011 been in effect.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 5061(e)(1) (relating to payment by electronic fund transfer) is amended by inserting ''or any bonded dealer,'' after ''respectively,''.

SEC. 9. EXEMPTION FROM OCCUPATIONAL TAX NOT APPLICABLE.

Section 5113(a) (relating to sales by proprietors of controlled premises) is amended by adding at the end the following: ''This subsection shall not apply to a proprietor of a distilled spirits plant whose premises are used for operations of a bonded dealer.''.

SEC. 10. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(1) Section 5003(3) is amended by striking ''certain''.

(2) Section 5214 is amended by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c) and by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

''(b) EXCEPTION.—Paragraphs (1), (2), (3), (5), (10), (11), and (12) of subsection (a) shall not apply to distilled spirits withdrawn from premises used for operations as a bonded dealer.''.

(3) Section 5215 is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking ''the bonded premises'' and all that follows through the period and inserting ''bonded premises.'';

(B) in the heading of subsection (b), by striking ''A DISTILLED SPIRITS PLANT'' and inserting ''BONDED PREMISES''; and

(C) in subsection (d), by striking ''a distilled spirits plant'' and inserting ''bonded premises''.

(4) Section 5362(b)(5) is amended by adding at the end the following: ''The term does not mean premises used for operations as a bonded dealer.''.

(5) Section 5551(a) is amended by inserting ''bonded dealer,'' after ''processor'' both places it appears.

(6) Subsections (a)(2) and (b) of section 5601 are each amended by inserting '', bonded dealer,'' before ''or processor'' .

(7) Paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) of section 5601(a) are each amended by inserting ''bonded dealer,'' before ''or processor'' .

(8) Section 5602 is amended—

(A) by inserting '', warehouseman, processor, or bonded dealer'' after ''distiller''; and

(B) in the heading, by striking ''**by distiller**''.

(9) Sections 5115, 5180, and 5681 are repealed.

(10) The table of sections for part II of subchapter A of chapter 51 is amended by striking the item relating to section 5115.

(11) The table of sections for subchapter B of chapter 51 is amended by striking the item relating to section 5180.

(12) The item relating to section 5602 in the table of sections for part I of subchapter J of chapter 51 is amended by striking ''by distiller''.

(13) The table of sections for part IV of subchapter J of chapter 51 is amended by striking the item relating to section 5681.

SEC. 11. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), the amendments made by this Act take effect on the date which is 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF DISTILLED SPIRITS PLANT.—The amendments made by section 3 take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) SPECIAL RULE.—Each wholesale dealer who is required to file an application for registration under section 5171(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 whose operations are required to be covered by a basic permit under sections 103 and 104 of the Federal Alcohol Administration Act (27 U.S.C. 203, 204) and who has received such basic permits as an importer, wholesaler, or as both, and has obtained a bond required under subchapter B of chapter 51 of subtitle E of such Code before the close of the fourth month following the date of enactment of this Act, shall be qualified to operate bonded premises until such time as the Secretary of the Treasury takes final action on the application. Any control State entity (as defined in section 5002(a)(17) of such Code, as added by section 5(a)) that has obtained a bond required under such subchapter shall be qualified to operate bonded premises until such time as the Secretary of the Treasury takes final action on the application for registration under section 5171(c) of such Code.●

By Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. SARBANES):

S. 396. A bill to amend titles 5 and 37, United States Code, to provide for the continuance of pay and the authority to make certain expenditures and obligations during lapses in appropriations; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

THE FEDERAL EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION PROTECTION ACT

● Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, today I am introducing an important piece of legislation called the Federal Employee Compensation Protection Act.

With the 1995 to 1996 Government shutdown fresh in our minds, I think it is crucial that we take steps in this Congress to keep faith with our Federal employees and make sure they are never again sent home without pay. My bill will keep that faith by protecting Federal employee pay and benefits during a future Government shutdown. This bill ensures that Federal employees in Maryland and across the Nation

will be able to make their mortgage payments, put food on the table, and provide for their families during a shutdown.

The last shutdown of the Federal Government severely disrupted the lives of thousands of Federal employees and their families. In my State of Maryland alone, there are more than 280,000 Federal employees. They are some of the most dedicated and hard-working people in America today. These employees have devoted their careers and lives to public service, and they should not have been used as pawns in a game of political brinkmanship.

During the last several years, Federal employees have endured their fair share of hardship. Downsizing, diet COLA's, delayed COLA's, and attacks on pensions and health benefits have damaged morale at nearly every Federal agency. These assaults must stop. We cannot continue to denigrate and downgrade Federal employees and at the same time expect Government to work more efficiently.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and also work to prevent any future shutdowns of our Government. We have a contract with our Federal employees, and we should encourage their dedication by ensuring that the contract is honored and their pay and benefits are not put in jeopardy.●

● Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I am pleased to join my colleague from Maryland, Senator MIKULSKI, in introducing this important legislation to ensure the protection of Federal employee pay and benefits in the event of a furlough.

We have a responsibility to the men and women who have dedicated themselves to public service and I would hope that my colleagues would join Senator MIKULSKI and me in our ongoing effort to maintain the Federal Government's commitment to its dedicated work force.

Federal workers have just experienced the most difficult Congress in recent history. Federal employees became hostages in the budget battle which resulted in two successive Government shutdowns. At this time last year, Federal employees were in a constant state of anxiety—concerned about the future of their jobs, whether they would be laid off or have to work without pay, all as their workloads continued to accumulate. Despite this tremendous pressure and the constant attacks on their pay and earned benefits, Federal workers continue to provide consistent, quality service on behalf of all Americans.

As I have stated many times before, Federal employees have already made significant sacrifices in past years in the form of downsizing efforts, delayed and reduced cost of living adjustments, and other reductions in Federal employee pay and benefits. It is, in my view, critical that we protect Federal employees from the type of senseless abuse they endured during the Government shutdowns last Congress. Federal workers should never again find themselves in a situation where, through no fault of their own, they may have to either work without pay or be prohibited from coming to work at all.

Mr. President, Federal employees have made a choice to serve their country and we should respect and reward that choice by supporting these hard-working, dedicated individuals. Through the legislation Senator MIKULSKI and I are reintroducing today, we will continue to send the message to the Federal work force and to all American citizens that Congress honors and values the commitment those who work for the Government have made.

By Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 397. A bill to amend chapters 83 and 84 of title 5, United States Code, to extend the civil service retirement provisions of such chapter which are applicable to law enforcement officers, to inspectors of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, inspectors and canine enforcement officers of the U.S. Customs Service, and revenue officers of the Internal Revenue Service; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

THE HAZARDOUS OCCUPATIONS RETIREMENT BENEFITS ACT OF 1997

● Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, today I introduce the Hazardous Occupations Retirement Benefits Act of 1997.

This legislation will grant an early retirement package for revenue officers of the Internal Revenue Service, customs inspectors of the U.S. Customs Service, and immigration inspectors of the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Under current law, with the exception of the groups listed in this legislation, all Federal law enforcement officers and firefighters are eligible to retire at age 50 with 20 years of Federal service. This legislation will amend the current law and finally grant the same 20-year retirement to these members of the Internal Revenue Service, Customs Service, and Immigration and Naturalization Service. The employees under this bill have very hazardous, physically taxing occupations, and it is in the public's interest to tenure a young and competent work force in these jobs.

The need for a 20-year retirement benefit for inspectors of the Customs Service is easily apparent. These employees are the country's first line of defense against terrorism and the smuggling of illegal drugs at our borders. They have the authority to apprehend those engaged in such activities and carry a firearm on the job. They are responsible for the majority of arrests performed by Customs Service employees. In 1994, inspectors of the Customs Service seized 204,000 pounds of cocaine, 2,600 pounds of heroin, and 559,000 pounds of marijuana. They are required to undergo the same law enforcement training as all other law enforcement personnel. These employees face multiple challenges. They confront leading criminals in the drug war, organized crime figures, and increasingly sophisticated white-collar criminals.

Revenue officers struggle with heavy workloads and a high rate of job stress, resulting in a variety of physical and mental symptoms. Many IRS employees must employ pseudonyms to hide their identity because of the great threat to their personal safety. The Internal Revenue Service has put out a manual for their employees entitled: ''Assaults and Threats: A Guide to Your Personal Safety'' to help employees respond to hostile situations. The document advises IRS employees how to handle on-the-job assaults, abuse, threatening telephone calls, and other menacing situations.

Mr. President, this legislation is cost effective. Any cost that is created by this act is more than offset by savings in training costs and increased revenue collection. A 20-year retirement bill for these employees will reduce turnover, increase yield, decrease employee recruitment and development costs, and enhance the retention of a well-trained and experienced work force.

I urge my colleagues to join me again in this Congress in expressing support for this bill and finally getting it enacted. This bill will improve the effectiveness of our inspector and revenue officer work force to ensure the integrity of our borders and proper collection of the taxes and duties owed to the Federal Government.

By Mrs. MURRAY:

S. 398. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the use of child restraint systems approved by the Secretary of Transportation on commercial aircraft, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

AIRLINE CHILDREN'S SAFETY LEGISLATION

● Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President I introduce legislation that would protect our Nation's small children as they travel on aircraft. We currently have Federal regulations that require the safety of passengers on commercial flights. However, neither flight attendants nor an infant's parents can protect unrestrained infants in the event of an airline accident or severe turbulence. A child on a parent's lap will likely break free from the adult's arms as a plane takes emergency action or encounters extreme turbulence.

This child then faces two serious hazards. First, the child may be injured as they strike the aircraft interior. Second, the parents may not be able to find the infant after a crash. The United Sioux City, IA, crash provides one dark example. On impact, no parent was able to hold on to her-his child. One child was killed when he flew from his mother's hold. Another child was rescued from an overhead compartment by a stranger.

In July 1994, during the fatal crash of a USAir plane in Charlotte, NC, another unrestrained infant was killed when her mother could not hold onto her on impact. The available seat next to the mother survived the crash intact. The National Transportation Safety Board believes that had the baby been secured in the seat, she would have been alive today. In fact, in a FAA study on accident survivability, the agency found that of the last nine infant deaths, five could have survived had they been in child restraint devices.

Turbulence creates very serious problems for unrestrained infants. In four separate incidences during the month of June, passengers and flight attendants were injured when their flights hit sudden and violent turbulence. In one of these, a flight attendant reported that a baby seated on a passenger's lap went flying through the air during turbulence and was caught by another passenger. This measure is endorsed by the National Transportation Safety Board and the Aviation Consumer Action Project.

We must protect those unable to protect themselves. Just as we require seatbelts, motorcycle helmets, and car seats, we must mandate restraint devices that protect our youngest citizens. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation that ensures our kids remain passengers and not victims.

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. 398

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CHILD SAFETY RESTRAINT SYSTEMS ON COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 447 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''§ 44725. Child safety restraint systems

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary of Transportation shall issue regulations requiring the use of child safety restraint systems that have been approved by the Secretary on any aircraft operated by an air carrier in providing interstate air transportation, intrastate air transportation, or foreign air transportation.

''(b) AGE OR WEIGHT LIMITS.—The regulations issued under this section shall establish age or weight limits for children who use the child safety restraint systems.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 447 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''44725. Child safety restraint systems.''.

SEC. 2. INTERNATIONAL STANDARD.

It is the sense of Congress that the United States representative to the International Civil Aviation Organization should seek an international standard to require that passengers on a civil aviation aircraft be restrained—

(1) on takeoff and landing; and

(2) when directed by the captain of such aircraft.●

By Mr. MCCAIN:

S. 399. A bill to amend the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental and Native American Public Policy Act of 1992 to establish the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to conduct environmental conflict resolution and training, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION ACT OF 1997

● Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I introduce legislation to promote fair, timely and efficient resolution of our Nation's environmental disputes.

This bill would establish, within the Morris K. Udall Foundation, the United States Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution. The institute would offer alternative dispute resolution services, including assessment, mediation, and other related services, to facilitate parties in resolving environmental disputes without resorting to protracted and costly litigation in the courts. I ask unanimous consent that a summary of the legislation be included in the RECORD at the conclusion of my statement.

This legislation simply gives the Udall Foundation the means to do what Congress asked it to do 5 years ago. When the Udall Foundation was established in 1992, it was charged with the task of establishing a program for environmental dispute resolution. Since then, the foundation has sponsored seminars and workshops on conflict resolution. But it has lacked the funding and explicit direction that would enable it to run a program that could provide conflict resolution services. This bill provides both the direction and the authorization for funding.

It is particularly fitting that an institute devoted to environmental conflict resolution would operate under the auspices of the Udall Foundation. Morris K. Udall's career was distinguished by his integrity, service, and commitment to consensus-building.

I had the distinct pleasure of working with Mo Udall on one of his greatest legislative achievements—the Arizona Wilderness Act. That act protects 2.5 million acres in the Arizona wilderness in perpetuity and was passed thanks, in large part, to Mo Udall's efforts to achieve consensus within the Arizona delegation.

Using Mo Udall's success in passing the Arizona Wilderness Act as its model, the U.S. Environmental Conflict Resolution Institute at the Udall Foundation would seek to promote our nation's environmental policy objectives by reaching out to achieve consensus rather than pursuing resolution through adversarial processes.

Mr. President, over 5,000 Federal court decisions on environmental litigation have been handed down in the past two decades. Today, some 400 to 500 environmental lawsuits are filed each year in Federal courts. In its 16th annual report, the Council on Environmental Quality estimated that fully 85 percent of Environmental Protection Agency regulations are challenged at some time in the courts, either by groups that find the rules too stringent or by groups that believe them to be too lax. In short, resorting to the courts is all too common in disputes over environmental issues.

This bill seeks to move our Nation away from this litigious trend by providing an alternative conflict resolution process. This process is intended to preclude the need for lawsuits by engaging the parties in professionally mediated discussions. It could also be used as a solution of last resort, if the parties agreed to put aside litigation already filed in the courts and instead utilize the services of the institute.

The benefits to be gained by the Federal Government through a national environmental dispute resolution program include more than litigation cost savings. Delay associated with litigation can also prevent the timely enforcement of our environmental laws.

For more than ten years, I have been working to promote safety and quiet in Grand Canyon National Park. This issue, as well as any other, exemplifies how alternative dispute resolution could perhaps help us achieve national environmental policy objectives far better than litigation.

In 1987, legislation I authored to promote safety and provide for the substantial restoration of natural quiet in the Grand Canyon was signed into law. Ten years later, the Federal Aviation Administration [FAA] this year issued a final rule on overflights over the Grand Canyon. This rule was scheduled to go into effect on May 1, 1997. However, despite the substantial time and effort that both the FAA and the National Park Service have put into this rulemaking, including consultations with many outside interests, lawsuits have now been filed challenging the rule and delaying its implementation.

Mr. President, I do not mention this to criticize those who have exercised their right to file suit in the Grand Canyon overflights matter. I refer to this situation because it concerns me that protecting the Grand Canyon could be significantly delayed through litigation, when the parties might reach a more timely and mutually acceptable resolution if they were provided an opportunity to work through their differences in a nonadversarial forum. The institute created by this legislation would provide an alternative to litigation in this and similar situations and create an opportunity for more constructive problem-solving and effective policymaking.

One hundred twenty-six years ago, Abraham Lincoln wisely counseled:

> Discourage litigation, persuade your neighbor to compromise whenever you can. Point out to them how the nominal winner is often the real loser in fees, expenses, and waste of time.

That advice could not be more sound today as we seek to resolve our Nation's environmental conflicts and to

promote timely and effective implementation of laws and regulations to protect and preserve our natural environment.

I am pleased that the Council on Environmental Quality has registered their support for the goals and concepts in this bill. In addition, the Udall Foundation, the Grand Canyon Trust, the National Parks and Conservation Association, Friends of the Earth, and Trout Unlimited have given their support to this effort. I ask unanimous consent that copies of support letters from these groups be included in the RECORD.

I urge my colleagues to join me and support this legislation that would bring common sense and efficiency to the resolution of our Nation's environmental disputes.

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

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION ACT OF 1997

Purpose: To establish, within the Morris K. Udall Foundation, the United States Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to assist in implementing national environmental policy. The Institute would provide alternative dispute resolution services, including assessment, mediation, and other services, to facilitate resolving environmental disputes without litigation.

Bill authorizes use of the Institute by Federal agencies:

Federal agencies could use the Institute's conflict resolution services for a fee.

Bill creates a revolving fund to:

Fund operations and fully support the Institute through a one-time $3 million appropriation.

Receive fees from parties using the Institute's services.

Supplement an annual appropriation for a five-year period beginning in 1998.

The Council on Environmental Quality would:

Receive notification when a federal agency requests to use the Institute's services.

Concur in any request to use the Institute's services for interagency dispute resolution.

The Institute would be under the Udall Foundation because:

One purpose for which the Udall Foundation was established in 1992 was to establish a program for environmental conflict resolution.

The Udall Foundation has hosted seminars, workshops and research related to environmental dispute resolution but, has lacked funding to provide mediation services.

Conflict resolution and consensus building were major themes of Udall's thirty year public career as a member of the House of Representatives.

S. 399—SECTION-BY-SECTION SUMMARY

Section 1: Short title—''The Environmental Policy and Conflict Resolution Act of 1997''.

Section 2: Definition of Terms.

Section 3: Adds the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality as an ex officio nonvoting member of the Udall Foundation Board.

Section 4: Bill Purpose: To establish as part of the Udall Foundation the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution (Institute) to assist the Federal Government in implementing national environmental policy.

The Institute would provide assessment, mediation and other related services to resolve environmental disputes involving agencies and instrumentalities of the United States.

Section 5: Authorizes the Udall Foundation to establish the Institute and provide assessment, mediation, and other alternative dispute resolution services.

Section 6: Revolving Fund:

Creates a Revolving Fund for the Institute to operate. The revolving fund would be administered by the Udall Foundation and would be maintained separately from the Trust Fund established for scholarships awarded by the Udall Foundation.

Section 7: Use of the Institute by a Federal Agency:

Authorizes use of the Institute by a federal agency which may enter into a contract to expend funds for the use of the Institute's services. Any funds spent by an agency on the Institute would go into the Revolving Fund.

Requires concurrence by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) for two agencies to seek to resolve a dispute at the Institute. CEQ would be notified of any agency request to use the Institute's services.

Section 8: Authorization of Appropriations:

Authorizes a one-time appropriation of $3 million to the Revolving Fund for fiscal year 1998 and $2.1 million in appropriations over a 5 year period beginning in 1998 to fully operate the Institute.

The Revolving Fund would be replenished by fees from parties using the Institute's services.

Section 9: Conforming amendments.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Washington, DC, March 5, 1997.

Hon. JOHN MCCAIN,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR MCCAIN: Thank you for requesting the Administration's views on your draft legislation entitled the ''Environmental Policy and Conflict Resolution Act of 1997.''

The legislation represents a commendable effort to assist private entities and government in resolving environmental and natural resource conflicts by expanding the range of services available from the Morris K. Udall Foundation to include resolution of disputes involving federal agencies. The Administration supports the concepts and goals embodied in your legislation. However, the Administration needs to complete its review of the bill language prior to providing a comprehensive Administration position. We expect to provide additional comments on the bill in the near future.

As you know, last September, the President awarded the Medal of Freedom to Congressman Udall. The President's remarks at the time bear repeating:

''During a remarkable 30-year career, Morris Udall was a quiet giant of the Congress. Warm, funny, and intelligent, he was truly a man of the center, who forged consensus by listening to others and by reasoned argument. His landmark achievements—such as reforming campaign finance, preserving our forests, safeguarding the Alaskan wilderness, and defending the rights of Native Americans—were important indeed. But he distinguished himself above all as a man to whom others—leaders—would turn for judgment, skill, and wisdom. Mo Udall is truly a man for all seasons and a role model for what is best in American democracy.''

It is entirely fitting to ask the institution established by Congress in Congressman Udall's name to help with the hard job of helping people solve their disagreements over the lands, waters, and resources we all share and must steward responsibly. This Administration has made every effort to break down the barriers between government and citizens. Voluntary mechanisms to enhance communication and understanding within government and between agencies and the people they serve can assist meaningfully in this regard.

I appreciate your willingness to incorporate provisions that recognize the important dispute resolution purposes of the National Environmental Policy Act and the inter-agency coordination function of the President's Council on Environmental Quality.

The Administration would be pleased to work with you as your legislation proceeds.

Sincerely,

KATHLEEN A. MCGINTY,
Chair.

NATIONAL PARKS AND CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION, FRIENDS OF THE EARTH,

March 5, 1997.

Hon. JOHN MCCAIN,
U.S. Senate, Russell Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR MCCAIN: The National Parks and Conservation Association and Friends of the Earth are pleased to endorse the concept of a U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution, the subject of legislation you intend to introduce on March 5.

Resolving environmental disputes before they reach the litigation stage is a goal we strongly support. Your legislation would enable federal agencies to solve disputes among themselves or with other non-federal parties by using the institute's staff for mediation and other services.

In general, we believe litigation should be the last resort in enforcing or upholding our environmental laws, provided that negotiated agreements clearly adhere to statutory mandates. We also believe negotiated solutions, in general, allow disputants more creativity and flexibility to solve problems and issues in cost effective ways.

Many environmental disputes, including those involving our national parks, could be resolved by good-faith negotiations led by an honest broker. The unfolding case of buffalo management in Yellowstone is a case in point. Here, a lawsuit filed by Montana against two federal agencies has precipitated the killing of almost one third of Yellowstone's buffalo herd. A court order is driving the slaughter. Although this wildlife tragedy is abhorred by all of the parties involved, collectively they did nothing effective to prevent it. In retrospect, it is clear that the slaughter might have been avoided had the parties committed themselves to good faith negotiations years ago when the issue first emerged.

Thank you for your leadership on environmental issues generally and for your constructive approach to conflict resolution.

Sincerely,

PAUL C. PRITCHARD,
President, National Parks and Conservation Association.
BRENT BLACKWELDER,
President, Friends of the Earth.

TROUT UNLIMITED,

Washington, DC, March 5, 1997.

Hon. JOHN MCCAIN,
U.S. Senate, Russell,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR MCCAIN: On behalf of Trout Unlimited's 95,000 members nationwide, I am

writing to support the bill that you intend to introduce today. The bill would amend the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental and Native American Public Policy Act of 1992 by establishing a new environmental conflict resolution program within the Morris K. Udall Foundation. We believe the new conflict resolution program holds great promise for resolving the intractable environmental disputes that continue to plague federal natural resources agencies and other interests involved with federal environmental laws.

The mission of Trout Unlimited is to conserve, protect and restore North America's trout and salmon resources and the watersheds on which they depend. Our work often takes us into difficult environmental conflicts involving many federal agencies. Over the past two decades, we have been deeply involved in disputes regarding implementation of the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, and the federal land management laws, in which federal agencies have had very difficult conflicts. Failure to resolve these conflicts in a timely fashion has adversely affected trout and salmon resources. We are particularly hopeful that the new interagency conflict resolution mechanism proposed by your bill will yield a new and better way of resolving these disputes.

We salute your authorship of the bill and look forward to working with you to get it enacted.

Sincerely,

STEVE MOYER,
Director, Government Affairs.

MORRIS K. UDALL FOUNDATION,
Tucson, AZ, March 3, 1997.

Hon. JOHN MCCAIN,
U.S. Senate, Senate Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR MCCAIN: It gives me great pleasure as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation to inform you that the trustees unanimously and enthusiastically endorse your unique concept for the creation of the United States Institute for Environmental Dispute Resolution as part of the Udall Foundation.

As you know, federal agencies have been increasingly involved in environmental disputes as parties to lawsuits based upon their regulatory actions. Continuing to wage these conflicts in the costly and time-consuming arena of the courts drains federal resources and can serve to delay federal actions to protect the environment. Alternative forms of environmental conflict resolution for federal agencies are needed to prevent these and other adverse effects associated with protracted litigation.

Since it began in May 1995, the Udall Foundation has worked to create a national environmental conflict resolution program, as directed in its authorizing legislation. The Foundation has sponsored workshops and seminars on environmental conflict resolution and has begun funding several research projects.

On April 4–5, 1997, the Foundation will host ''Environmental Conflict Resolution in the West'' in Tucson, Arizona. This will be the largest gathering of its kind. Several hundred people from around the country, including professional mediators, facilitators, researchers, and federal, state and local agency officials are expected to attend this conference to discuss alternative approaches to environmental dispute resolution and collaborative problem solving.

Despite these efforts, the Foundation has lacked the funding to directly pursue conflict resolution by providing mediation and other services to resolve environmental disputes. The legislation you are introducing will finally enable the Foundation to provide a program to conduct environmental conflict resolution at the national level.

We believe that your legislation will allow the Foundation, through the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution, to make a positive impact on the cost and pace of environmental dispute resolution for years to come. The Foundation is prepared to do all it can to establish a program committed to helping to resolve these conflicts fairly and as efficiently as possible.

Sincerely,

TERRENCE L. BRACY,
Chairman.

GRAND CANYON TRUST,
Washington, DC, March 4, 1997.

Hon. JOHN MCCAIN,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR MCCAIN: On behalf of the Trustees of the Grand Canyon Trust, a conservation organization dedicated to the conservation of the Grand Canyon and Colorado Plateau, I am pleased to endorse and offer our support for your bill creating the United States Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution.

The Trust has long held that many conflicts that arise from differences between parties regarding environmental policy and regulation could best be solved through mediation and alternative dispute resolution rather than in courts of law. Too often the will of the American public to protect our natural resources and ecological treasures is lost amid posturing and polarization by parties embroiled in conflict over environmental issues. We believe that your legislation will enable the United States Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to actively mediate and conduct environmental conflict resolution in a positive, constructive manner.

The Grand Canyon Trust pledges to work in concert with the Morris K. Udall Foundation and the United States Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution in every possible way to support and ensure its success. Thank you again for your vision and leadership on this difficult issue.

Sincerely,

GEOFFREY S. BARNARD,
President.

MORRIS K. UDALL FOUNDATION,
Tucson, AZ, January 17, 1997.

Hon. JOHN MCCAIN,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR MCCAIN: I am pleased to report that the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Foundation has unanimously endorsed your proposal to create an institution for environmental conflict resolution within our jurisdiction. The board reviewed in detail both the concept and the financials and is in agreement with the draft bill provided by your staff.

The board expressed tremendous enthusiasm for your concept and we look foward to helping in any way that you wish.

Attached is the resolution that was passed.

Sincerely,

TERRENCE L. BRACY,
Chairman.

Enclosure.

RESOLUTION

The Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation commends Arizona Senator John McCain for his originality and initiative in introducing a bill to establish the United States Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution as part of the Udall Foundation.

The Trustees enthusiastically endorse this unique concept to contract with other Federal agencies to resolve disputes or conflicts related to the environment, public lands or natural resources and congratulate Senator McCain for recognizing the need for such an entity.●

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 400. A bill to amend rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, relating to representations in court and sanctions for violating such rule, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

THE FRIVOLOUS LAWSUIT PREVENTION ACT OF 1997

● Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce important tort reform legislation. Tort reform is needed for many reasons—one of which is to free our courts of frivolous lawsuits. Frivolous lawsuits take the courts' time away from trying legitimate lawsuits, and deprive the truly injured of timely resolution of their claims.

Mr. President, our courts are supposed to be venues for resolving disputes. Lawsuits are supposed to be the means by which injured parties seek relief—they are not intended to be used as weapons to harass, delay, or increase the cost to the other party. Too often entire lawsuits, or claims within ongoing lawsuits, are used as weapons. The bill that I introduce today takes a stab at these lawsuits. It toughens the penalties for filing frivolous lawsuits and insures that if someone files a frivolous lawsuit, that someone will pay.

Our front-line defense against this misuse of the legal system is rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. This rule is intended to deter frivolous lawsuits by sanctioning the offending party. The power of rule 11 was diluted in 1993. This weakening is unacceptable to those of us who want to preserve courts as neutral forums for dispute resolution and who believe that lawsuits are not weapons of revenge, but a means for an injured party to gain relief.

Senator Brown introduced a bill very similar to this legislation in the last Congress. The Senate adopted the text of his bill as an amendment to the Common Sense Product Liability and Legal Reform Act. His amendment passed by a vote of 56 to 37.

The bill that I am introducing today is similar, but not identical to Senator Brown's bill. The civil rights community raised some concerns with his bill, and my version of the legislation is responsive to these concerns. The provision that was opposed reinstated the rule 11 requirement that allegations contained in motions and other court papers be well grounded in fact when filed, rather than allowing a ''reasonable opportunity for further investigation or discovery.'' Unlike Senator Brown's bill, my bill does not change this subsection of rule 11.

My bill does take strong steps to thwart frivolous lawsuits. First, my bill makes sanctions for the violation of this rule mandatory. One of the

most harmful changes that took effect in 1993 was to make sanctions for proven violations of this rule permissive. This means that if a party files a lawsuit simply to harass another party, and the court decides that this is in fact the case, the offending party still might not be sanctioned. This is unacceptable. The offending party might not be punished at all, which provides no deterrence for this offending party or anyone else who wants to misuse the courts. My bill reinstates the requirement that if there is a violation of this rule, there are sanctions.

My bill also removes the limitation on sanctions, and allows sanctions to be paid to the injured party for more than attorneys' fees and expenses. In addition, this legislation allows the sanctioning of attorneys for arguing for an extension of current law if their actions violate this rule. Again, if the rule is violated, there needs to be sanctions.

Mr. President, this bill will not, by itself, stop the misuse of our courts. It is, however, a good first step. It is a necessary step. It is a bill that we must pass to sanction those who use the legal system to harass and torment others. That is not what the courts were established to do. We must protect the integrity of the courts and preserve them for proper use.●

By Mr. JEFFORDS:

S. 401. A bill to improve the control of outdoor advertising in areas adjacent to the Interstate System, the National Highway System, and certain other federally assisted highways, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

THE SCENIC HIGHWAY PROTECTION ACT

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, today I introduce the Scenic Highway Protection Act, legislation that will control billboard blight and put a stop to the policies that have actually encouraged billboard construction and destroyed rural vistas across America. Every year hundreds of miles of rural scenery disappear, millions of taxpayer dollars are spent, and thousands of trees on public lands are unnecessarily cut. Why? Because billboards continue to proliferate along our Nation's highways.

During debate on the National Highway System Act in 1995, billboard proponents pushed an amendment that would have forced States and localities to allow billboards on Federal aid highways. Fortunately, this proposal was defeated. My legislation attempts to give States the necessary tools to regulate and end the growth of billboards and protects the strict billboard controls enacted in Vermont and many other States.

In the coming months, Congress will consider reauthorization of the Nation's transportation law, the Intermodal Surface Transportation and Efficiency Act. Proponents of billboard proliferation will most likely try again to override State billboard control laws. This time, we are prepared to enact legislation that will reduce and control billboards nationwide. My legislation will send a signal to billboard owners that America is ready to end uncontrolled billboard blight.

The language in my bill will place a permanent freeze on the number of new billboards placed along Federal aid highways. for a new billboard to go up, an old one must come down. The legislation will also prohibit billboards in unzoned areas, eliminating the ability to randomly place billboards in rural America. My bill will end the practice of cutting trees on public lands for the sole purpose of better billboard visibility and reinstate the requirement that Federal and State funds be used to remove billboards when communities decide the sign violates local zoning laws. Finally, the legislation will place a 15-percent gross revenue tax on all billboards, ending the free ride for billboards. The money will be used to remove billboards in our Nation's most scenic areas.

This legislation will move the 1965 Highway Beautification Act closer to its original intent of preserving the public's investment in our highways by protecting scenic areas and natural resources. Let us end the taxpayer subsidized proliferation of billboards.●

By Mr. GORTON (for himself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 402. A bill to approve a settlement agreement between the Bureau of Reclamation and the Oroville-Tonasket Irrigation District; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SETTLEMENT AUTHORIZATION LEGISLATION

● Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, today I introduce legislation that will authorize a settlement between the Bureau of Reclamation and the Oroville-Tonasket Irrigation District in Washington State. I introduced similar legislation last year. Congressman DOC HASTINGS has introduced legislation on this subject in the House of Representatives, and the House Resources Committee will mark up the legislation today.

This legislation will authorize a carefully negotiated settlement between the BOR and the Oroville-Tonasket Irrigation District. If enacted, this legislation will save the BOR, and therefore the Nation's taxpayers, money that would otherwise be spent fighting with the irrigation district in court.

Earlier this week the administration sent a letter to me indicating that it would support the settlement bill, provided that several changes be made to the legislation. The legislation that I introduce today includes the changes requested by the administration. At this time, I ask unanimous consent to include a copy of the administration's letter of support for the legislation in the RECORD.

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION,
Washington, DC, March 3, 1997.

Hon. SLADE GORTON,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR GORTON: Thank you for your letter requesting the Administration's views on H.R. 412.

The Bureau of Reclamation has executed a settlement agreement with the Oroville-Tonasket Irrigation District (District) in preference to litigation over construction of the Oroville-Tonasket (O–T) Unit Extension. The settlement agreement provides that its terms will not become effective unless Congress enacts authorizing legislation by April 15, 1997.

While the Administration supports implementing the settlement agreement, it can only support H.R. 412 if the amendments shown on the attached page are adopted. These amendments are needed to clarify that the transfer of title will not affect the repayment obligation of the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) for irrigation assistance, and that the settlement agreement will not affect the District's obligation to continue to pay BPA wheeling charges. In addition, the amendments are needed to deauthorize the project irrigation works upon transfer of title. The Administration strongly encourages the adoption of these amendments, which are consistent with the intent of the settlement agreement.

Thank you for your interest in the Oroville-Tonasket Claims Settlement and Conveyance Act. If you have any questions, please call 208–4501.

Sincerely,

ELUID L. MARTINEZ,
Commissioner.

AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 412

1. At the end of section 5, insert the following new subsection (c):

''(c) PROJECT CONSTRUCTION COSTS.—The transfer of title authorized by this Act shall not affect the timing or amount of the obligation of the Bonneville Power Administration for the repayment of construction costs incurred by the Federal government under Section 202 of the Act of September 28, 1976 (90 Stat. 1325) that the Secretary of the Interior has determined to be beyond the ability of the irrigators to pay. The obligation shall remain charged to and be returned to the Reclamation Fund as provided for in section 2 of the Act of June 14, 1966 (80 Stat. 200), as amended by section 6 of the Act of September 7, 1966 (80 Stat. 707).''

2. At the end of section 6, insert the following new sentence: ''The rate that the District shall pay the Secretary for such reserved power shall continue to reflect full recovery of Bonneville Power Administration transmission costs.''

3. In Section 11(a), delete the sentence that read: ''After transfer of title, any future Reclamation benefits received pursuant to chapter 1093 of the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 388), and Acts supplementary thereto or amendatory thereof, other than as provided herein, shall be subject to approval by Congress.''

4. At the end of Section 11 insert the following new subsection (c):

''(c) DEAUTHORIZATION.—Effective upon the transfer of title to the District under this section, that portion of the Oroville-Tonasket Unit Extension, Okanogan-Similkameen Division, Chief Joseph Dam Project, Washington referred to in Section 7(a) as the Project Irrigation Works is hereby deauthorized. After transfer of title, the District shall not be entitled to receive any further Reclamation benefits pursuant to the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902, and Acts

supplementary thereto or amendatory thereof.''

5. Add in the Committee report language:

''It is the understanding of the Committee regarding this legislation that the amount of Oroville-Tonasket Project irrigation assistance that the Bonneville Power Administration will repay is not expected to exceed $75,000,000, and that repayment is now scheduled to be made in the year 2042.''●

By Mr. FEINGOLD:

S. 403. A bill to expand the definition of limited tax benefit for purposes of the Line Item Veto Act; to the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Governmental Affairs, jointly, pursuant to the order of August 4, 1977, as modified by the order of April 11, 1986, with instructions that if one committee reports, the other committee have 30 days to report or be discharged.

THE EXPANSION OF LINE-ITEM VETO ACT

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I am introducing legislation to expand the Line-Item Veto Act to cover one of the largest and fastest growing areas of the Federal budget, tax expenditures. I am especially pleased to be joined in offering this legislation by my good friend, Congressman TOM BARRETT of Milwaukee who is spearheading this legislation in the other body. Both bills expand the Line-Item Veto Act which took effect this past January and will remain in force for the next 8 years.

Mr. President, both Congressman BARRETT and I supported the new Line-Item Veto Act that was signed into law last session. Though it isn't the whole answer to our deficit problem, I very much hope it will be part of the answer.

However, the new Line-Item Veto Act failed to address one of the largest and fastest growing areas of Federal spending—the spending done through the Tax Code, often called tax expenditures.

According to the Senate Budget Committee's most recent committee print on tax expenditures, prepared by the Congressional Research Service, we will spend nearly half a trillion dollars on tax expenditures during the current fiscal year. Citizens for Tax Justice estimates that over the next 7 years, we will spend $3.7 trillion on tax expenditures, and sometime in the next 2 to 3 years, the total amount spent on tax expenditures will actually surpass the total discretionary budget of the United States.

Mr. President, despite making up a huge and growing portion of the Federal budget, tax expenditures are beyond the reach of the new Presidential line-item veto authority. As currently structured, that authority only extends to so-called limited tax benefits, defined in part to be a tax expenditure that benefits 100 or fewer taxpayers. As long as the tax attorneys can find 101st taxpayers who benefit from the proposed tax expenditure, it is beyond the reach of the new Presidential authority.

Mr. President, it may not even be necessary for the tax attorneys to find that 101st taxpayer. If a tax expenditure gives equal treatment to all persons in the same industry or engaged in the same type of activity, it is exempt from the new Presidential authority no matter how narrow the special interest spending.

Further, if all persons owning the same type of property, or issuing the same type of investment, receive the same treatment from a tax expenditure, that tax expenditure is similarly outside the scope of the President's new authority.

Mr. President, there are still more exceptions that make it even harder for a President to trim unnecessary spending done through the tax code. For example, if any difference in the treatment of persons by a new tax expenditure is based solely on the size or form of the business or association involved, or, in the case of individuals, general demographic conditions, then the new spending cannot be touched by the President except as part of a veto of the entire piece of legislation which contains the new spending.

By contrast, we find none of these elaborate restrictions on the new line item veto authority for spending done through the appropriations process or through entitlements. The new Presidential authority is handcuffed only for spending done through the Tax Code.

Mr. President, this raises several problems.

First, and foremost, it shields an enormous portion of the Federal budget from this new tool to cut wasteful and unnecessary spending. If the authority established by the Line-Item Veto Act is to have meaning, it cannot be preempted from being used to scrutinize this much spending.

A second problem raised by the inability of the new Presidential authority to address new tax expenditures is that it creates an enormous loophole through which questionable spending can escape. We have already seen discussions of how special interest spending can be crafted to avoid the new Presidential authority. While the current Line-Item Veto Act power given the President formally covers discretionary spending and new entitlement authority, a special interest intent on enacting its pork barrel spending could readily do so by avoiding the discretionary or entitlement formats, and instead transform their pork into a tax expenditure. As we know from the elaborate limits placed on the President's ability to apply the new authority to spending through the Tax Code, most special interest pork that takes the form of a tax break is beyond the reach of the Line-Item Veto Act.

Mr. President, no matter how powerful this new authority is with regard to discretionary spending and entitlement authority, it is virtually useless against tax expenditures, and thus invites special interests to use this avenue to deliver pork.

A further problem with the lack of adequate Presidential review in this area is the very real potential for inequities in the implementation of the new Line-Item Veto Act authority. These inequities arise in part from the progressive structure of marginal tax rates—as income rises, higher tax rates are applied. In turn, this means that many tax expenditures are worth more to those in the higher income tax brackets than they are to families with lower incomes.

In some instances, tax expenditures provide no benefit at all to individuals with lower incomes.

This is not the case with entitlement and discretionary spending programs—both areas covered by the Line-Item Veto Act. The benefits of those programs often are targeted to those with lower income.

The net effect is that the scope of the current Line-Item Veto Act covers programs that often benefit those with low and moderate income, while it is powerless with regard to programs that often benefit individuals and corporations with higher incomes.

Mr. President, tax expenditures have another feature that makes it especially important that we extend the new Line-Item Veto Act to cover them, namely their status as a kind of super entitlement. Once enacted, a tax expenditure continues to spend money without any additional authorization or appropriation, and without any regular review. In fact, while even funding for entitlements like Medicare or Medicaid can be suspended in rare instances such as a Government shutdown, funding for a tax expenditure is never interrupted.

Tax expenditures enjoy a status that is far above any other kind of government spending, and as such, it should receive special scrutiny. Extending the Line-Item Veto Act to cover them will provide some of that needed review.

Mr. President, as I have noted, tax expenditures make up a huge portion of the budget. They will soon exceed the entire Federal discretionary budget. Citizens for Tax Justice reports that if all current tax expenditures were suddenly repealed, the deficit could be eliminated and income tax rates could be reduced across the board by about 25 percent.

Clearly, tax expenditures have an enormous impact on the deficit, and we need to pursue two tracks with regard to them. First, we must cut some of the nearly half a trillion dollars in existing spending done through the tax code. Any balanced plan to eliminate the deficit over the next few years must contain cuts to spending in this area.

And second, with so much of our budget already dedicated to this kind of spending, we must bring tax expenditures under the Line-Item Veto Act and give the President the authority to act on new spending in this area as he does in other areas.

Our legislation does just that by eliminating the highly restrictive language with respect to tax expenditures.

Mr. President, as with the recently enacted Line-Item Veto Act itself, this bill to extend that new authority is not the whole answer to our deficit problems, but it can be part of the answer, and I urge my colleagues to support this effort to put teeth into the new Presidential authority with respect to the tax expenditure portion of the Federal budget.

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. 403

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT TO CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT.

Section 1026(9) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 691e(9)) (as added by the Line Item Veto Act) is amended to read as follows:

''(9) LIMITED TAX BENEFIT.—The term 'limited tax benefit' means any tax provision that has the practical effect of providing a benefit in the form of different treatment to a particular taxpayer or a limited class of taxpayers, whether or not such provision is limited by its terms to a particular taxpayer or class of taxpayers.''.●

By Mr. BOND (for himself, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. GREGG and Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire):

S. 404. A bill to modify the budget process to provide for separate budget treatment of the dedicated tax revenues deposited in the Highway Trust Fund; to the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Governmental Affairs, jointly, pursuant to the order of August 4, 1977, as modified by the order of April 11, 1986, with instructions that if one committee reports, the other committee have 30 days to report or be discharged.

HIGHWAY TRUST FUND INTEGRITY ACT OF 1997

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a measure, along with my dear friend and colleague, the chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, Senator JOHN CHAFEE, entitled the Highway Trust Fund Integrity Act of 1997. Our cosponsors are Senators NICKLES, COCHRAN, and GREGG.

Mr. President, I hope all of us understand that transportation and highway funding is critical to our individual States and the entire Nation. Good highways link our communities, towns, and cities with markets. They link our constituents with their schools, hospitals, churches, and jobs.

An effective transportation system should move us into the 21st century. Back in 1956, the Federal Highway Trust Fund was established as a way to finance the Federal Aid Highway Program. This was to be a dedicated trust fund, supported by direct user fees and taxes. It was called a trust fund because once the money went in, we were supposed to be able to trust that that money would come back out for use on our roads, highways, and bridges.

However, the 1990 Budget Act eliminated the linkage between the revenues raised by the user taxes and the spending from the transportation fund. We know now that what we promised ourselves and our constituents, that the highway trust fund user taxes would be deposited and the trust fund would be used for highways, has not been observed. We see now an illogical process that allows highway trust fund dollars not to be spent in order to permit spending more in other categories. I believe that is wrong. My constituents are telling me this is wrong and they have challenged me to find a solution. I believe we have come up with that solution.

Let me explain, briefly, Mr. President, what the bill is: First, it is a budget bill, not a tax bill or an ISTEA highway authorization bill. This bill would ensure that the highway trust fund dollars are spent for the purposes for which they were intended and that it would be deficit neutral. The bill would reestablish the link between the highway trust fund taxes and highway spending by transferring the taxes and the spending to a new budget category—a revenue constrained fund—that is part of the unified budget. This new category would have its own budget rules to ensure that highway programs were fully funded and deficit neutral. This bill would restore the trust to the trust fund because highway spending would equal the highway trust fund taxes collected the prior year. It is consistent with achieving a balanced budget because it comes with its own built-in cap—the revenue received from the highway trust fund. It does not take the highway trust fund off-budget, but it also does not attempt to spend the balances that have accumulated or the interest on those balances. We do not attempt to resolve the arguments of the past. Instead we have focused on developing a workable process for the future.

I do not believe that the status quo is sustainable, primarily for two reasons.

First, our country has tremendous infrastructure needs. Take my State of Missouri alone. A recent report by the Road Information Program stated that Missouri has the seventh highest percentage of structurally deficient or functionally obsolete bridges in the country, and that more than half of its major roads are in poor or mediocre condition and in need of improvement. My State has the third highest percentage of urban freeway congestion in the Nation, and highway fatalities in Missouri have increased by 17 percent since 1993. These statistics will continue to grow as vehicle travel continues to grow and the infrastructure crumbles.

Second, I know that my constituents, and I would say the American public, will not continue to support a process that sentences transportation spending to compete with other discretionary programs despite its unique dedicated funding source.

Mr. President, I do not want to take much more time, but there is one more issue I would like to address. Senator CHAFEE and I have focused on the highway account of the highway trust fund. The bill we are introducing today does not address the mass transit account of the highway trust fund. It is not included due to some concern transit advocates have expressed—not in regards to the budget process being proposed, but over the level of funding that transit receives. I believe it is important that a workable solution be found for transit and I am committed to working with the Banking Committee, which has jurisdiction for the transit programs, and transit advocates in developing a proposal.

I want to thank my dear friend Senator CHAFEE for his leadership in the area of transportation. We will have ample opportunity to continue our work together as the reauthorization of ISTEA progresses. Senator CHAFEE has heard me 100 times stress the need for a formula change so I will not get into that one today. I do however want to thank him and his staff for their help on this legislation.

Mr. President, let me close by saying that this bill is the basis for a transportation funding policy for the future—a starting point for a fairer, more forward-looking transportation funding policy. I hope my colleagues will join us and cosponsor this important bill.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that additional material be printed in the RECORD.

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

SUMMARY OF HIGHWAY TRUST FUND INTEGRITY ACT OF 1997

GENERAL

Keeps the Highway Trust Fund on-budget, as part of the unified Federal budget.

Reestablishes the linkage between Highway Trust Fund taxes and spending that was lost when the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990 split the Federal budget process into two categories.

Consistent with achieving a balanced Federal budget by 2002.

Increases funding to meet our nation's substantial transportation needs.

Creates a new budget category that reflects the unique, revenue-constrained nature of the HTF. This new category, called a Revenue Constrained Fund (RCF) would have its own budget rules to ensure that transportation programs are fully-funded but deficit neutral.

REVENUE CONSTRAINED FUNDS (RCF)

The new RCF budget category would be a separate category, and would not be a subset of either the mandatory budget category or discretionary spending category.

Under the RCF proposal, the spending from Revenue Constrained Funds would be equal to the amount of tax receipts collected for the prior year. Spending would be limited to tax receipts in the prior year to ensure that Highway Trust Fund spending would never exceed actual receipts.

EXAMPLE OF PROBLEM UNDER CURRENT FEDERAL BUDGET PROCESS

One would expect that increased Highway Trust Fund taxes would make room in the

budget for increased transportation spending. Unfortunately, this is not the case.

Under the current rules, gas tax increases do make room in the budget for additional spending, but not for increased transportation spending. Under the current rules, the only way to fund the highway trust fund program at the level of Highway Trust Fund tax receipts is by cutting other discretionary programs. We must reform the Federal budget process to correct this illogical outcome.

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I want to congratulate the Senator from Missouri for his prime work on this piece of legislation. The money that goes into the highway trust fund this year will go out for transportation purposes next year, and I believe that is the right way to do things. It has varied from some of the other proposals that have been put in which provide that the accumulated interest of the accumulated principle of the fund be spent. We don't do that. We provide that what came in last year through taxes will go out the following year for transportation purposes.

Mr. President, today I join as a cosponsor of the Highway Trust Fund Integrity Act of 1997. This legislation, sponsored by my colleague from Missouri, Senator BOND, and cosponsored by Senators NICKLES, COCHRAN and GREGG, reestablishes the link between highway trust fund taxes and transportation spending.

I believe that our proposal represents a reasonable and responsible solution to a problem that faces the Congress as it considers the reauthorization of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act.

I hope that this bill will serve as a starting point for further discussions with my colleagues, especially my colleagues from the Budget and Appropriations committees. I recognize that proposals that modify the budget process are by their nature, controversial, and upset the status quo. However, I think change is necessary and the status quo is no longer an acceptable outcome.

THE PROBLEM

As most of you are aware, the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990 split the Federal Budget process into two categories, one for receipts and mandatory spending and the other for discretionary spending. highway trust fund taxes, like other revenues, are in the mandatory category, but almost all highway spending falls within the discretionary category. Each budget category has its own rules, procedures, and incentives. Because the highway trust fund is split between these two categories, different parts of the highway trust fund are subject to different budget rules, and the link between the highway trust fund taxes and transportation spending is severed.

Let me give an example of the problem the current situation causes. One would expect that increased highway trust fund taxes would make room in the budget for increased transportation spending. Unfortunately, this is not the case. Under the current rules, gas tax increases do make room in the budget for additional spending, but not for increased transportation spending. Under the current law, the only way to fund transportation programs at the level of highway trust fund tax receipts is by cutting other discretionary programs, such as law enforcement and education. We must reform the Federal budget process to correct this illogical outcome.

THE SOLUTION

Our proposal reestablishes the connection between highway trust fund taxes and transportation spending by putting the highway trust fund taxes and spending in the same budget category. ''The Highway Trust Fund Integrity Act of 1997'' transfers all of the highway trust fund receipts and outlays into a new budget category that reflects the unique, revenue-constrained nature of the highway trust fund. This new category, called the revenue constrained fund, would have its own budget rules to ensure that transportation programs are fully-funded but deficit neutral.

Under this proposal, spending from the highway trust fund would be equal to the highway trust fund tax receipts collected for the prior year. Spending would be limited to tax receipts in the prior year to guarantee that highway trust fund spending would never exceed actual receipts. If tax receipts into the highway trust fund are less than expected, transportation spending would be constrained, making the trust fund deficit-neutral.

This bill does not create a new entitlement program. highway trust fund spending would be strictly limited by the amount of taxes deposited in the prior year thereby ensuring that the highway trust fund will be deficit neutral. Other entitlement programs do not have this guarantee.

TRUST FUND BALANCES

One of the questions that has been raised regarding our proposal is how it treats the balances that now exist in the highway trust fund. Our proposal does not specifically address the status of the balances that now exist in the highway trust fund. In developing this proposal, we have attempted to focus on establishing a workable process for the future that reestablishes the connection between the highway trust fund taxes and transportation spending. We think we can develop a broad consensus on a proposal to spend the taxes deposited into the highway trust fund going forward. Such a broad consensus is not possible regarding the balances that now exist in the highway trust fund. There is significant disagreement about the validity of spending those balances, and our bill does not attempt to resolve this disagreement.

CONGRESSIONAL JURISDICTION

Another question that has been raised about our proposal is how this proposal would change the jurisdiction of the various committees in the Congress over the highway trust fund. Our bill does not change the jurisdiction among Congressional committees. It is our intention that all of the committees involved in setting transportation policy would continue to provide policy input and oversight for those areas currently under their jurisdiction.

The tax committees would continue to play their role in setting tax rates of the highway trust fund; the authorizing committees would continue to play their role, including determining the program structure and distribution formulas for the formula grant programs, and the appropriations committees would continue to provide oversight and make decisions about the programs under their control.

Under our proposal, the total amount of highway trust fund spending would be determined by the American people who pay the taxes deposited into the trust fund. Neither the authorizing committees nor the appropriations committees would determine the total level of spending.

TRANSIT

In developing this legislation, we have focused on the programs and spending of the Highway Account of the highway trust tund. The highway account programs are under the jurisdiction of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, the committee for which I serve as chairman. The bill we introduce today only addresses the highway account of the trust fund; it does not address the Mass Transit Account.

However, as part of the ISTEA reauthorization, I believe a similar proposal should be developed for the transit account of the highway tust Fund. Senator BOND and I plan to work with transit advocates and members of the Banking Committee, which has jurisdiction over transit programs, to craft such a proposal.

The Highway Trust Fund Integrity Act of 1997 is a forward looking bill. It is consistent with achieving a balanced Federal budget by 2002. It does not take the highway trust fund off-budget, but it does address concerns that the bond between transportation taxes and transportation spending has been broken.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this important bill.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DORGAN, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 405. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the research credit and to allow greater opportunity to elect the alternative incremental credit; to the Committee on Finance.

THE RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTATION CREDIT PERMANENT EXTENSION ACT OF 1997

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, today I am proud to introduce a bill to make

the current tax credit for increasing research activities permanent with my friend and colleague MAX BAUCUS. We are also joined by Senators D'AMATO, ABRAHAM, BOXER, BINGAMAN, MOSELEY-BRAUN, DORGAN, MURRAY, DEWINE, CONRAD, ROCKEFELLER. Companion legislation will be introduced today by Representatives NANCY JOHNSON and ROBERT MATSUI in the House. The Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996 temporarily extended this tax credit until May 31, 1997, when it is set to expire.

As the United States is shifting from an industrial based economy to an information and technology based economy, conducting research for tomorrow's products and methods is increasing in importance. In 1981, the Reagan administration and the Congress recognized this need, and the credit for increasing research and experimentation [R&E] activities was first enacted. Unfortunately, the credit has been victim to repeated short term extensions that included a break in the availability of the credit.

Mr. President, this nation is the world's undisputed leader in technological innovation. American know-how has given our Nation benefits undreamed of a few years ago. Research and development by U.S. companies has led the way in delivering these benefits, which enhance U.S. competitiveness as well as the quality of life for everyone. And, as the pace of change in our world quickens, the role of research has taken on increased importance. Today, the credit is needed more than ever to keep up with our changing world.

The R&E credit has played a key role in placing the United States ahead of its competition in developing and marketing new products. Studies of the credit indicate that the marginal effect of $1 of the R&E credit stimulates approximately $1 of additional private research and development spending over the short-run, and as much as $2 of extra investment in research over the long-run.

Mr. President, the benefits of the R&E credit, though certainly very significant, have been limited by the fact that the credit has been temporary. In many fields, particularly pharmaceuticals and biotechnology, there are relatively long periods of development. The more uncertain the long-term future of the R&E credit is, the smaller the potential of the credit to stimulate increased research. This only makes sense, Mr. President. U.S. companies are managed by prudent business men and women. They evaluate their research and development investments by comparing the present value of the expected cash flow from the research over the life of the investment with the initial cash outlay. These estimates take into account the potential availability of tax credits. However, because of the uncertainty of a tax credit that has been allowed to continually expire, many decision makers do not count on the R&E credit as being available in the long-run. This, of course, means that fewer research projects will meet the threshold of viability and results in fewer dollars being spent on research in this country.

In the business community, the development of new products, technologies, drugs, and ideas can result in either success or failure. Investments carry a risk. If a project has a high risk of failure, the R&E tax credit will help ease the cost of taking the chance to find the cure for killer diseases such as cancer, to build the next microchip, or the next generation of heart monitoring equipment that can save lives. If the project becomes a success, resulting in a new drug that can cure a disease or a new breakthrough technology, then what happens? Additional investment is made, workers are hired, new jobs are created and many Americans benefit from the initial research and experimentation. In this way, all Americans can benefit from the R&E tax credit.

Mr. President, a small investment in R&E today produces dividends and rewards tomorrow. This tax credit is a credit for investment, for economic growth, and for creating new jobs. What if we don't act? As the Peat Marwick study confirms, the benefits of the R&E tax credit reach into the future. Failure to extend the credit beyond May 31, 1997, will weaken our Nation's ability to stay competitive in the future.

It is important to note that while U.S. investment in research and development has generally grown since 1970, our international competitors have not stood still. Other nations, such as Japan and Germany are constantly knocking at the door trying to build the better car, the faster computer, or a more effective drug. Uncertainty, about the future of the credit will make firms hesitant to make long-term commitments and investments in the critical long-term research projects that really are the source of the breakthrough drugs and the new technologies. In fact, United States non-defense R&D, as a percentage of gross domestic product [GDP], has been relatively flat since 1985, while Japan's and Germany's have grown.

Unlike a few years ago, it is now not always necessary for U.S. firms to perform their research activities within the boundaries of the United States. As more nations have joined the United States as high tech manufacturing centers, with educated work forces, multinational companies have found that moving manufacturing functions overseas is sometimes necessary to stay competitive. The same is often true with basic research activities. In fact, some of our major trading partners now provide generous tax incentives for research and development conducted in those nations. These incentives are more attractive than the R&E credit the United States provides, particularly when the temporary nature of our credit is considered. Therefore, Mr. President, we are at risk of having some of the R&D spending in the United States transferred overseas if we do not keep competitive.

President Clinton, when campaigning for the Presidency in 1992, recognized the importance of stimulating private R&D investment and called for a permanent R&E credit. The 1993 tax bill had a 3-year extension. Last year, we extended the credit for only 1 year because of revenue constraints in the small business bill. The President's fiscal year 1998 budget contains another 1-year extension. These proposals for extensions are well and good, Mr. President, but they do nothing to give stability to risky, long-term research and experimentation investments. The certainty of the availability of the tax credit is now almost as important as the credit itself. It might well make the difference between a decision to undertake an expensive multiyear research project and a decision to forego such research.

I hope this year we can put our support behind investment in research and make this credit permanent.

Mr. President, my home State of Utah is home to a large number of innovative companies who invest a high percentage of their revenue in research and development activities. For example, between Salt Lake City and Provo lies the world's biggest stretch of software and computer engineering firms. This area, which was named ''Software Valley'' by Business Week, is second only to California's Silicon Valley as a thriving high technology commercial area.

In addition, Utah is home to about 700 biotechnology and biomedical firms that employ nearly 9,000 workers. These companies were conceived in research and development and will not survive, much less grow, without continuously conducting R&D activities.

In all, Mr. President, there are approximately 80,000 employees working in Utah's 1,400 plus and growing technology based companies. Research and development is the lifeblood of these firms, and hundreds of thousands more throughout the Nation that are like them. A permanent and effective tax incentive to increase research is essential to the long-term health of these businesses.

I am aware, Mr. President, that not every company that incurs R&D expenditures in the United States can take advantage of the R&E credit. As the credit matures and business cycles change, the current credit can be out of reach for some companies. Thus, as part of the latest extension of the credit Congress enacted an elective alternative credit to broaden the reach of this incentive. However, Congress should continue to examine ways to improve it and to make the credit more effective in delivering incentives to increase R&D activity.

In the meantime, however, it is important that this Congress send a strong signal that the current credit

should not be allowed to expire. I urge my colleagues to show their support for the concept of a permanent R&E credit by cosponsoring this legislation and support the kind of research activities that will maintain American leadership in the technological developments that will lead us into the next century.

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. 405

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. MODIFICATIONS TO RESEARCH CREDIT.

(a) CREDIT MADE PERMANENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 41 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to credit for increasing research activities) is amended by striking subsection (h).

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (1) of section 45C(b) of such Code is amended by striking subparagraph (D).

(b) OPPORTUNITY TO ELECT ALTERNATIVE INCREMENTAL CREDIT.—Subparagraph (B) of section 41(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to election) is amended to read as follows:

''(B) ELECTION.—An election under this paragraph shall apply to the taxable year for which made and all succeeding taxable years unless revoked with the consent of the Secretary.''

(c) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) EXTENSION.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply to amounts paid or incurred after May 31, 1997.

(2) ELECTION.—The amendment made by subsection (b) shall apply to taxable years beginning after June 30, 1996.

● Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I join with my colleague from Utah, Senator HATCH, and my other colleagues Senators ABRAHAM, BOXER, BINGAMAN, CONRAD, D'AMATO, DEWINE, DORGAN, MOSELEY-BRAUN, MURRAY, and ROCKEFELLER to introduce this bill, which is so critical to the ability of American businesses to effectively compete in the global marketplace. Companion legislation has been introduced in the House by Representatives NANCY JOHNSON and ROBERT MATSUI.

Our Nation is the world's undisputed leader in technological innovation, a position that would not be possible, absent U.S. companies' commitment to research and development. Investment in research is an investment in our Nation's economic future, and it is appropriate that both the public and private sector share the costs involved, as we share in the benefits. The credit provided through the Tax Code for research expenses provided a modest but crucial incentive for companies to conduct their research in the United States, thus creating high-skilled, high-paying jobs to U.S. workers.

The R&E credit has played a key role in placing the United States ahead of its competition in developing and marketing new products. Every dollar that the Federal Government spends on the R&E credit is matched by another dollar of spending on research over the short run by private companies, and $2 of spending over the long run. Our global competitors are well aware of the importance of providing incentives for research, and many provide more generous tax treatment for research and experimentation expenses than does the United States. As a result, while spending on nondefense R&D in the United States as a percentage of GDP has remained relatively flat since 1985, Japan's and Germany's has grown.

The benefits of the credit, though certainly significant, have been limited over the years by the fact that the credit has been temporary. In addition to the numerous times that the credit has been allowed to lapse, last year, for the first time, when Congress extended the credit it left a gap of an entire year during which the credit was not available. This unprecedented lapse sent a troubling signal to the U.S. companies and universities that have come to rely on the Government's longstanding commitment to the credit.

Much research and development takes years to mature. The more uncertain the long-term future of the credit is, the smaller its potential to stimulate increased research. If companies evaluating research projects cannot rely on the seamless continuation of the credit, they are less likely to invest on research in this country, less likely to put money into cutting-edge technological innovation that is critical to keeping us in the forefront of global competition.

Our country is locked in a fierce battle for high-paying technological jobs in the global economy. As more nations succeed in creating educationally advanced work forces and join the United States as high-technology manufacturing centers, they become more attractive to companies trying to penetrate foreign markets. Multinational companies sometimes find that moving both manufacturing and basic research activities overseas is necessary if they are to remain competitive. The uncertainty of the R&E credit factors into their economic calculations, and makes keeping these jobs in the United States more difficult.

Although the R&E credit is not exclusively used by high-technology firms, they are certainly key beneficiaries of the credit. In my own State of Montana, 12 of every 1,000 private sector workers were employed by high-technology firms in 1995, the most recent year for which statistics are available. Almost 400 establishments provided high-technology services, at an average wage of $34,500 per year. These jobs paid 77 percent more than the average private sector wage in Montana of $19,500 per year. Many of these jobs would never have been created without the assistance of the R&E credit. Making the credit permanent would most certainly provide the incentive needed to create many more in the future.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and look forward to working with them and with the administration to make the research and experimentation tax credit permanent.●

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. BOND, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. BURNS):

S. 406. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide clarification for the deductibility of expenses incurred by a taxpayer in connection with the business use of the home; to the Committee on Finance.

THE HOME OFFICE DEDUCTION ACT OF 1997

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, today I am proud to introduce the Home Office Deduction Act of 1997. I am joined today by my friends and colleagues, Senators BAUCUS, ALLARD, BOND, LIEBERMAN, and BURNS. This bill will clarify the definition of what is a ''principal place of business'' for purposes of section 280A of the Internal Revenue Code, which allows a deduction for an office in the home.

This bill is designed to reverse the 1993 Supreme Court decision in Commissioner versus Soliman. When this decision was handed down, it effectively closed the door to legitimate home office deductions for hundreds of thousands of taxpayers. Moreover, the decision unfairly penalizes many small businesses simply because they operate from a home rather than from a store front, office building, or industrial park.

Mr. President, until the Soliman decision, small business owners and professionals who dedicate a space in their homes to use for business activities were generally allowed to deduct the expenses of the home office if they met the following conditions: First, the space in the home was used solely and exclusively on a regular basis as an office; and second, the deduction claimed was not greater than the income earned by the business. Through the Soliman case, the Supreme Court has narrowed significantly the availability of this deduction by requiring that the home office be the principal business location of the taxpayer. This requirement that the home office be the principal business location has proven to be impossible to meet for many taxpayers with legitimate home office expenses.

For example, under the Soliman decision, a self-employed plumber who generates business income by performing services in the homes of his customers would be denied a deduction for a home office. This is because, under the rules, his home office is not considered his principal place of business because the business income is generated in the homes of the customers and not in his home office. This is the case even though the home office is where he receives telephone messages, keeps his business records, plans his advertising, stores his tools and supplies, and fills out Federal tax forms. In fact, having a full-time employee in the office who keeps the books and sets up appointments would still not result in a home office deduction for the plumber.

This is preposterous, Mr. President, and we need to correct it. My bill would rectify this result by allowing the home office to qualify as the principal place of business if the essential administrative or management activities of the business are performed there.

The truly ironic effect of the Supreme Court's decision is that a taxpayer who rents office space outside of the home is allowed a full deduction, but one who tries to economize by working at home is penalized. This makes no sense to me.

The Home Office Deduction Act of 1997 is designed to restore the deduction for home office expenses to pre-Soliman law. Rather than requiring taxpayers to meet the new criteria set out by the Court, the bill allows a home office to meet the definition of a ''principal place of business'' if it is the location where the essential administrative or management activities are conducted on a regular and systematic basis by the taxpayer. To avoid possible abuses, the bill requires that the taxpayer have no other location for the performance of these essential administrative or management activities.

Mr. President, today's job market is rapidly changing. New technologies have been developed and continually improved that allow instant communication around the once expansive globe. There is even talk of virtual offices, which are equipped only with a telephone and a hookup for a portable computer. These mobile communications have revolutionized the definition of the traditional office. No longer is there a need to establish a business downtown. Employees are telecommuting by facsmile, modem, and telephone. Today, both a husband and a wife could work without leaving their home and the attention of their children. In this new age, redefining the deduction for home office expenses is vital. Our tax policy should not discriminate against home businesses simply because a taxpayer makes the choice, often based on economic or family considerations, to operate out of the home.

In most cases, start-up businesses are very short on cash. Yet, for many, ultimate success depends on the ability to hold out for just a few more months. In these situations, even a relatively small tax deduction for the expenses of the home office can make a critical difference. It is important to note that some of America's fastest growing and most dynamic companies originated in the spare bedroom or the garage of the founder. Our tax policies should support those who dare to take risks. Many of tomorrow's jobs will come from entrepreneurs who are struggling to survive in a home-based business.

Mr. President, the home office deduction is targeted at these small business men and women, entrepreneurs, and independent contractors who have no other place besides the home to perform the essential administrative or management activities of the business. The Soliman decision drastically reduced the effectiveness and fairness of this deduction and must be reversed.

This legislation can also have an important effect on rural areas, such as in my home State of Utah. Many small business owners and professionals in the rural areas of Utah must spend a great deal of time on the road, meeting clients, customers, or patients. It is likely that many of my rural constituents will be unable to meet the requirements for the home office deduction under the Soliman decision. Mr. President, we must help these taxpayers, not hurt them, in their efforts to contribute to the economy and support their families.

The Home Office Deduction Act of 1997 not only has strong bipartisan support in the Congress, but also has the support of the following organizations: The Alliance of Independent Store Owners and Professionals, the American Animal Hospital Association, the American Small Business Association, the American Society of Media Photographers, the American Society of Travel Agents, Americans for Financial Security, the Bureau of Wholesale Sales Representatives, Communicating for Agriculture, the Home Office & Business Opportunities Association of California, the Illinois Women's Economic Development Summit, the Manufacturers Agents National Association, the National Association for the Cottage Industry, the National Association of the Self-Employed, the National Association of Women Business Owners, the National Electrical Manufacturers Representatives Association, the National Federation of Independent Businesses, National Small Business United, the National Society of Public Accountants, the Promotional Products Association International, the Small Business Legislative Council.

I urge my colleagues in the Senate to join us as cosponsors of this important legislation.

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. 406

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 ''Home Office Deduction Act of 1997''.

SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION OF DEFINITION OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS.

Section 280A(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) as paragraphs (3), (4), and (5), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS.—For purposes of subsection (c), a home office shall in any case qualify as the principal place of business if—

''(A) the office is the location where the taxpayer's essential administrative or management activities are conducted on a regular and systematic (and not incidental) basis by the taxpayer, and

''(B) the office is necessary because the taxpayer has no other location for the performance of the essential administrative or management activities of the business.''

SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this Act shall apply to taxable years beginning after the December 31, 1996.

• Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I join with my colleague from Utah, Senator HATCH, to introduce this important bill today. The Home Office Deduction Act of 1997 will correct a problem that has unfairly hurt thousands of small businesses in this country.

In 1993, the Supreme Court, in its Commissioner versus Soliman decision, substantially narrowed the availability of the home office deduction. Until the Soliman decision, small business owners and professionals who dedicated a space in their homes for business activities were generally allowed to deduct the expenses of the home office if the space was used solely and exclusively and on a regular basis as an office, and the deduction was not greater than the income earned by the business.

In the Soliman case, the Supreme Court limited the credit to only those persons who met with customers in the home office, or who conducted the primary business function in the home. This principal business location requirement has proven to be impossible to meet for many taxpayers with legitimate home office expenses.

the ironic effect of the Supreme Court's decision is that a taxpayer who operates from a store front, an office building, or an office park is allowed a full deduction, but one who chooses to work at home is penalized. This ruling denies the home office deduction to self-employed plumbers, home-care nurses, and other self-employed business people who try to economize by working from their homes but cannot meet with customers there due to the nature of their businesses.

Our bill is designed to restore the home office deduction to thousands of American men and women who work at home. Rather than requiring taxpayer to meet the new criteria set out by the Court, the bill allows a home office to meet the definition of a principal place of business if it is the sole location where essential administrative or management activities are conducted on a regular and systematic basis by the taxpayer. To avoid possible abuses, the bill requires that the taxpayer have no other location for the performance of these activities.

The job market in the United States is constantly changing. New technologies are helping to make the work-at-home option a practical reality, bringing all the benefits to society that home-based businesses can provide. Mothers and fathers, whether single or married, are more often choosing to work at home to be with their children. Having a parent at home who can help

supervise children while earning a living can have a tremendous positive effect on the well-being of our families and of society.

Restoration of the home office deduction was one of the most important recommendations to come out of the June 1995 White House Conference on Small Business. Some of America's fastest growing and most dynamic companies originated in the spare bedroom or the garage of the founder. To foster continued economic growth and to encourage Americans to start their own business ventures, we need to pass legislation that will put home-based businesses on an equal footing with other enterprises.

I urge my colleagues and the administration to support this legislation, and look forward to seeing it enacted in the 105th Congress.●

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. BURNS):

S. 407. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to clarify the authority of the Federal Communications Commission to authorize foreign investment in United States broadcast and common carrier radio licenses; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS INVESTMENT CLARIFICATION ACT

● Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President. I introduce legislation designed to clarify the authority of the FCC to authorize foreign investment in United States broadcast and common carrier radio licenses. Joining me today, is Chairman BURNS of the Subcommittee on Communications.

Mr. President, American companies and consumers worldwide will benefit tremendously from the passage of this legislation. No one can deny that U.S. telecommunications services providers ability to compete in the global market is hampered by the restrictions that we place upon foreign companies seeking to do business here. The problem is quite simple: the more restrictive the foreign ownership rules are here in the U.S., the more oppressive are the regulations that are placed on United States companies in other countries. The solution is just as simple: the greater the willingness by the United States to permit foreign ownership of U.S. companies, the greater the success of the U.S. companies wishing to maximize their ownership opportunities overseas.

This bill accomplishes just that by amending section 310(b) to: First, remove the statutory limitation on foreign indirect investment in U.S. corporations holding common carrier or aeronautical radio licenses (but not broadcast licenses); second, allow foreign direct investment greater than 20 percent in U.S. corporations holding common carrier or aeronautical radio licenses, if the FCC finds it in the public interest; third, explicitly prohibit any corporation with more than 20 percent foreign government ownership from holding common carrier, aeronautical or broadcast licenses.

It is clear that lowering barriers to foreign ownership in this country will result in greater opportunities for U.S. service providers overseas. The ripple effect on the U.S. telecommunications industry as a whole would increase the benefits across the board from consumers to manufacturers to service providers. The only way for the United States to effectively lead the world in establishing an expansive global marketplace is to set the standard in this country by which U.S. companies want to be measured overseas. Liberalizing foreign ownership restrictions under 310(b) would send that message to our foreign partners loud and clear.

That is why I am introducing this bill, and I encourage my colleagues to join me and support the legislation.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that additional material be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 407

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 ''International Telecommunications Investment Clarification Act''.

SEC. 2. FOREIGN OWNERSHIP.

Section 310(b) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 310(b)) is amended to read as follows:

''(b)(1) No broadcast or common carrier or aeronautical en route or aeronautical fixed radio station license shall be granted to or held by—

''(A) any alien or the representative of any alien;

''(B) any corporation organized under the laws of any foreign government; or

''(C) any corporation of which more than one-fifth of the capital stock is owned of record or voted by a foreign government or representative thereof.

''(2) No common carrier or aeronautical en route or aeronautical fixed ratio station license shall be granted to or held by any corporation of which more than one-fifth of the capital stock is owned of record or voted by aliens or their representatives or by any corporation organized under the laws of a foreign country, if the Commission finds that the public interest will be served by the refusal or revocation of such license.

''(3) No broadcast radio station license shall be granted to or held by—

''(A) any corporation of which more than one-fifth of the capital stock is owned of record or voted by aliens or their representatives or by any corporation organized under the laws of a foreign country; or

''(B) any corporation directly or indirectly controlled by any other corporation of which more than one-fourth of the capital stock is owned of record or voted by aliens, their representatives, or by a foreign government or representative thereof, or by any corportation organized under the laws of a foreign country, if the Commission finds that the public interest will be served by the refusal or revocation of such license.''.

SEC. 3. SUBMARINE CABLE AMENDMENT.

Section 2 of the Act of May 27, 1921, entitled ''An Act relating to the landing and operation of submarine cables in the United States'' (47 U.S.C. 35), is amended by inserting before the period at the end thereof the following: '': *And provided further,* That the Federal Communications Commission shall not deny any license to land or operate such a cable solely on the grounds that such license will be issued to a corporation that is directly or indirectly owned by aliens, their representatives, or by any corporation organized under the laws of a foreign government''.

SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE; REGULATIONS.

(a) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act and the amendments made by this Act are effective upon enactment.

(b) REGULATIONS.—Within 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Communications Commission shall take all actions necessary to implement this Act, including amending its rules and regulations, but the Commission shall not, after such effective date, take any action to enforce any rule, regulation, or policy that is inconsistent with the amendments made by this Act.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS INVESTMENT BILL—SECTION-BY-SECTION SUMMARY

A Bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to clarify the authority of the FCC to authorize foreign investment in United States broadcast and common carrier radio licenses.

Section 1. Short Title. This Act may be cited as the ''International Telecommunications Investment Clarification Act''.

Section 2. Amendments to the Communications Act of 1934. Section 310(b) is amended to: (a) remove the statutory limitation on foreign indirect investment in U.S. corporations holding common carrier or aeronautical radio licenses (but not broadcast licenses); (b) allow foreign direct investment greater than 20% in U.S. corporations holding common carrier or aeronautical radio licenses, if the FCC finds it in the public interest; (c) explicitly prohibit any corporation with more than 20% foreign government ownership from holding common carrier, aeronautical or broadcast licenses.

Section 3. Amendment to the Submarine Cable Act. Clarify that the Submarine Cable Landing License may not be denied to an applicant solely on the basis of foreign investment or ownership.

Section 4. Effective Date. Effective upon enactment. Allow the FCC 90 days to amend its rules.●

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. 408. A bill to establish sources of funding for certain transportation infrastructure projects in the vicinity of the border between the United States and Mexico that are necessary to accommodate increased traffic resulting from the implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement, including construction of new Federal border crossing facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

THE BORDER INFRASTRUCTURE, SAFETY AND CONGESTION RELIEF ACT OF 1997

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today, Senator BINGAMAN and I are introducing the Border Infrastructure, Safety and Congestion Relief Act of 1997, legislation to authorize assistance for States along the U.S.-Mexico border which must cope with the increased demands on roads and other public infrastructure that result from expanded international trade. Our bill is also

being introduced in the House of Representatives by my good friend, Representative BOB FILNER.

Last week, in a hearing before the Environment and Public Works Committee on ISTEA, Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater noted that since the passage of NAFTA, ''we have seen a tremendous growth in trade. To make the most of these opportunities, we are proposing a new program to help improve our border crossings and major trade corridors—programs that will facilitate our domestic and international trade * * *.''

Secretary Slater is right: NAFTA has greatly increased trade across our borders. If we all work together to fix our border crossings, increased trade offers great opportunities for the entire nation. If we do not, then NAFTA will act as an unfunded mandate that forces California and other border States to support other States' trade routes.

The Administration is proposing a border crossing and trade corridors grant program to improve traffic efficiency at border crossings, to be funded at $45 million a year. All border States north and south would be eligible.

As I told Secretary Slater at last week's hearing, I believe that the proposal, while a good step forward, is too limited for our border needs. Forty-five million across 14 States is simply not enough to address these crucial infrastructure problems.

The Administration also wants to establish a new innovative financing program that would provide loans and credit assistance for large projects in the national interest—another good proposal, but one which, in my opinion, does not go far enough.

The Boxer-Bingaman-Filner bill provides a two-stage system for Federal assistance to fund the States' top-priority border infrastructure projects:

First, it authorizes appropriation of $125 million each year in 1998 through 2001—a total of $500 million—for a border infrastructure fund to provide Federal grants to border States and local governments in order to pay for new or upgraded connections to the regional and national road network. The bill also allows up to $10 million to be transferred from the fund to Federal law enforcement agencies to use for their own infrastructure improvements, such as border patrol roads and lighting.

Second, our bill would authorize appropriations of $100 million to provide a Federal guarantee for loans made by border State infrastructure banks [SIBS] or border authorities for high cost projects such as toll roads that bring in revenue to the States. Federal guarantees will support up to $1 billion in State loans.

For California, this could mean up to $50 million in Federal guarantees, leveraging up to $500 million in loans. California is one of 10 States designated last year by the Secretary of Transportation to participate in this innovative new method of financing transportation projects.

Third, the bill authorizes Federal loan guarantees for border railroads, which could modernize and complete the San Diego and Arizona Eastern railway. This section would provide $10 million a year for 4 years for a total of $40 million in Federal funds to help railroads obtain low-interest private loans they might otherwise not get.

Finally, our bill requires the Secretary of Transportation to submit an annual report to Congress on the volume of commercial traffic that is crossing the United States-Mexico border, and the level of international commercial vehicle safety violations. This report will help us gauge the effectiveness of the Federal response to trade demands on infrastructure in the border region.

Mr. President, since the entire Nation benefits from international trade, I believe the Federal Government has a responsibility to help pay for the improvements in roads and other infrastructure that make that trade possible. Our bill will ensure that we begin to meet that Federal responsibility.

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. 408

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 ''Border Infrastructure Safety and Congestion Relief Act of 1997''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) because of the North American Free Trade Agreement, all 4 States along the United States-Mexico border will require significant investments in highway infrastructure capacity and motor carrier safety enforcement at a time when border States face extreme difficulty in meeting current highway funding needs;

(2) the full benefits of increased international trade can be realized only if delays at the borders are significantly reduced; and

(3) Federal receipts from United States customs duties and fees are estimated to increase by an average of $800,000,000 annually in fiscal years 1998 through 2001, and these monies are an appropriate source of funding for programs designed to address the infrastructure needs of border States.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) BORDER REGION.—The term ''border region'' means the region located within 60 miles of the United States border with Mexico.

(2) BORDER STATE.—The term ''border State'' means California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas.

(3) FUND.—The term ''Fund'' means the Border Transportation Infrastructure Fund established by section 4(g).

(4) NAFTA.—The term ''NAFTA'' means the North American Free Trade Agreement.

(5) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Transportation.

SEC. 4. DIRECT FEDERAL ASSISTANCE FOR BORDER CONSTRUCTION AND CONGESTION RELIEF.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Using amounts in the Fund, the Secretary shall make grants under this section to border States that submit an application that demonstrates need, due to increased traffic resulting from the implementation of NAFTA, for assistance in carrying out transportation projects that are necessary to relieve traffic congestion or improve enforcement of motor carrier safety laws.

(b) GRANTS FOR CONNECTORS TO FEDERAL BORDER CROSSING FACILITIES.—The Secretary shall make grants to border States for the purposes of connecting, through construction or reconstruction, the National Highway System designated under section 103(b) of title 23, United States Code, with Federal border crossing facilities located in the United States in the border region.

(c) GRANTS FOR WEIGH-IN-MOTION DEVICES IN MEXICO.—The Secretary shall make grants to assist border States in the purchase, installation, and maintenance of weigh-in-motion devices and associated electronic equipment that are to be located in Mexico if real time data from the devices is provided to the nearest United States port of entry and to State commercial vehicle enforcement facilities that serve the port of entry.

(d) GRANTS FOR COMMERCIAL VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT FACILITIES.—The Secretary shall make grants to border States to construct, operate, and maintain commercial vehicle enforcement facilities located in the border region.

(e) LIMITATIONS ON EXPENDITURES OF FUNDS.—

(1) COST SHARING.—A grant under this section shall be used to pay the Federal share of the cost of a project. The Federal share shall be 80 percent.

(2) ALLOCATION AMONG STATES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For each of fiscal years 1998 through 2001, the Secretary shall allocate amounts remaining in the Fund, after any transfers under section 5, among border States in accordance with an equitable formula established by the Secretary in accordance with subparagraphs (B) and (C).

(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—Subject to subparagraph (C), in establishing the formula, the Secretary shall consider—

(i) the annual volume of international commercial vehicle traffic at the ports of entry of each border State as compared to the annual volume of international commercial vehicle traffic at the ports of entry of all border States, based on the data provided in the most recent report submitted under section 8;

(ii) the percentage by which international commercial vehicle traffic in each border State has grown during the period beginning on the date of enactment of the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (Public Law 103–182) as compared to that percentage for each other border State; and

(iii) the extent of border transportation improvements carried out by each border State during the period beginning on the date of enactment of the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (Public Law 103–182).

(C) MINIMUM ALLOCATION.—Each border State shall receive not less than 5 percent of the amounts made available to carry out this section during the period of authorization under subsection (i).

(f) ELIGIBILITY FOR REIMBURSEMENT FOR PREVIOUSLY COMMENCED PROJECTS.—The Secretary shall make a grant under this section to a border State that reimburses the border State for a project for which construction commenced after January 1, 1994, if the project is otherwise eligible for assistance under this section.

(g) BORDER TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE FUND.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States the Border Transportation Infrastructure Fund to

be used in carrying out this section, consisting of such amounts as are appropriated to the Fund under subsection (i).

(2) EXPENDITURES FROM FUND.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), upon request by the Secretary, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer from the Fund to the Secretary such amounts as the Secretary determines are necessary to make grants under this section and transfers under section 5.

(B) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—An amount not exceeding 1 percent of the amounts in the Fund shall be available for each fiscal year to pay the administrative expenses necessary to carry out this section.

(h) APPLICABILITY OF TITLE 23.—Title 23, United States Code, shall apply to grants made under this section.

(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Fund to carry out this section and section 5 $125,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1998 through 2001. The appropriated amounts shall remain available for obligation until the end of the third fiscal year following the fiscal year for which the amounts are appropriated.

SEC. 5. CONSTRUCTION OF TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT PURPOSES.

At the request of the Attorney General, the Secretary may transfer, during the period consisting of fiscal years 1998 through 2001, up to $10,000,000 of the amounts from the Fund to the Attorney General for the construction of transportation infrastructure necessary for law enforcement in border States.

SEC. 6. BORDER INFRASTRUCTURE INNOVATIVE FINANCING.

(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

(1) to encourage the establishment and operation of State infrastructure banks in accordance with section 350 of the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 (109 Stat. 618; 23 U.S.C. 101 note); and

(2) to advance transportation infrastructure projects supporting international trade and commerce.

(b) FEDERAL LINE OF CREDIT.—Section 350 of the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 (109 Stat. 618; 23 U.S.C. 101 note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (l) as subsection (m); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (k) the following:

''(l) FEDERAL LINE OF CREDIT.—

''(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, the terms 'border region' and 'border State' have the meanings given the terms in section 3 of the Border Infrastructure Safety and Congestion Relief Act of 1997.

''(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated from the general fund of the Treasury $100,000,000 to be used by the Secretary to make lines of credit available to—

''(A) border States that have established infrastructure banks under this section; and

''(B) the State of New Mexico which has established a border authority that has bonding capacity.

''(3) AMOUNT.—The line of credit available to each participating border State shall be equal to the product of—

''(A) the amount appropriated under paragraph (2); and

''(B) the quotient obtained by dividing—

''(i) the contributions of the State to the Highway Trust Fund during the latest fiscal year for which data are available; by

''(ii) the total contributions of all participating border States to the Highway Trust Fund during that fiscal year.

''(4) USE OF LINE OF CREDIT.—The line of credit under this subsection shall be available to provide Federal support in accordance with this subsection to—

''(A) a State infrastructure bank engaged in providing credit enhancement to creditworthy eligible public and private multimodal projects that support international trade and commerce in the border region; and

''(B) the New Mexico Border Authority;

(each referred to in this subsection as a 'border infrastructure bank').

''(5) LIMITATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A line of credit under this subsection may be drawn on only—

''(i) with respect to a completed project described in paragraph (4) that is receiving credit enhancement through a border infrastructure bank;

''(ii) when the cash balance available in the border infrastructure bank is insufficient to pay a claim for payment relating to the project; and

''(iii) when all subsequent revenues of the project have been pledged to the border infrastructure bank.

''(B) THIRD PARTY CREDITOR RIGHTS.—No third party creditor of a public or private entity carrying out a project eligible for assistance from a border infrastructure bank shall have any right against the Federal Government with respect to a line of credit under this subsection, including any guarantee that the proceeds of a line of credit will be available for the payment of any particular cost of the public or private entity that may be financed under this subsection.

''(6) INTEREST RATE AND REPAYMENT PERIOD.—Any draw on a line of credit under this subsection shall—

''(A) accrue, beginning on the date the draw is made, interest at a rate equal to the current (as of the date the draw is made) market yield on outstanding, marketable obligations of the United States with maturities of 30 years; and

''(B) shall be repaid within a period of not more than 30 years.

''(7) RELATIONSHIP TO STATE APPORTIONMENT.—Funds made available to States to carry out this subsection shall be in addition to funds apportioned to States under section 104 of title 23, United States Code.''.

SEC. 7. RAILROAD REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to provide assistance for freight rail projects in border States that benefit international trade and relieve highways of increased traffic resulting from NAFTA.

(b) ISSUANCE OF OBLIGATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue to the Secretary of the Treasury notes or other obligations pursuant to section 512 of the Railroad Revitalization and Regulatory Reform Act of 1976 (45 U.S.C. 832), in such amounts, and at such times, as may be necessary to—

(1) pay any amounts required pursuant to the guarantee of the principal amount of an obligation under section 511 of that Act (45 U.S.C. 831) for any eligible freight rail project described in subsection (c) during the period that the guaranteed obligation is outstanding; and

(2) during the period referred to in paragraph (1), meet the applicable requirements of this section and sections 511 and 513 of that Act (45 U.S.C. 832 and 833).

(c) ELIGIBILITY.—Assistance provided under this section shall be limited to those freight rail projects located in the United States that provide intermodal connections that enhance cross-border traffic in the border region.

(d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the aggregate unpaid principal amounts of obligations that may be guaranteed by the Secretary under this section may not exceed $100,000,000 during any of fiscal years 1998 through 2001.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to make loan guarantees under this section $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1998 through 2001.

SEC. 8. REPORT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall annually submit to Congress and the Governor of each border State a report concerning—

(1) the volume and nature of international commercial vehicle traffic crossing the border between the United States and Mexico; and

(2)(A) the number of international commercial vehicle inspections conducted by each border State at each United States port of entry; and

(B) the rate of out-of-service violations of international commercial vehicles found through the inspections.

(b) INFORMATION PROVIDED BY UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICE.—For the purpose of preparing each report under subsection (a)(1), the Commissioner of Customs shall provide to the Secretary such information described in subsection (a)(1) as the Commissioner has available.

SEC. 9. SENSE OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS.

It is the sense of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate that the programs authorized under this Act should be fully financed in a budget neutral manner by offsetting receipts derived from customs duties and fees.●

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 66

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Michigan [Mr. ABRAHAM] was added as a cosponsor of S. 66, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage capital formation through reductions in taxes on capital gains, and for other purposes.

S. 194

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the name of the Senator from Illinois [Mr. DURBIN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 194, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the section 170(e)(5) rules pertaining to gifts of publicly-traded stock to certain private foundations and for other purposes.

S. 197

At the request of Mr. ROTH, the names of the Senator from Virginia [Mr. WARNER] and the Senator from Alabama [Mr. SHELBY] were added as cosponsors of S. 197, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage savings and investment through individual retirement accounts, and for other purposes.

S. 221

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the name of the Senator from Wyoming [Mr. ENZI] was added as a cosponsor of S. 221, a bill to amend the Social Security Act to require the Commissioner of Social Security to submit specific legislative recommendations to ensure the solvency of the social security trust funds.

S. 228

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Montana

[Mr. BURNS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 228, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for continuing appropriations in the absence of regular appropriations.

S. 263

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Illinois [Mr. DURBIN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 263, a bill to prohibit the import, export, sale, purchase, possession, transportation, acquisition, and receipt of bear viscera or products that contain or claim to contain bear viscera, and for other purposes.

S. 293

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from West Virginia [Mr. ROCKEFELLER] was added as a cosponsor of S. 293, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the credit for clinical testing expenses for certain drugs for rare diseases or conditions.

S. 354

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. GREGG] was added as a cosponsor of S. 354, a bill to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to prohibit executive agencies from awarding contracts that contain a provision allowing for the acquisition by the contractor, at Government expense, of certain equipment or facilities to carry out the contract if the principal purpose of such provision is to increase competition by establishing an alternative source of supply for property or services.

SENATE RESOLUTION 60

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Idaho [Mr. CRAIG], the Senator from New Mexico [Mr. DOMENICI], the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON], the Senator from Montana [Mr. BURNS], the Senator from Florida [Mr. GRAHAM], the Senator from Ohio [Mr. DEWINE], the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. HELMS], the Senator from New Mexico [Mr. BINGAMAN], the Senator from Virginia [Mr. WARNER], and the Senator from Nebraska [Mr. HAGEL] were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 60, a resolution to commend students who have participated in the William Randolph Hearst Foundation Senate Youth Program between 1962 and 1997.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE JOINT RESOLUTION

HOLLINGS (AND HELMS) AMENDMENT NO. 19

Mr. HOLLINGS (for himself and Mr. HELMS) proposed an amendment to the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 5) waiving certain provisions of the Trade Act of 1974 relating to the appointment of the United States Trade Representative; as follows:

On page 2, after line 8 insert the following:

SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF CERTAIN TRADE AGREEMENTS REQUIRED.

No international trade agreement which would in effect amend or repeal statutory law of the United States law may be implemented by or in the United States until the agreement is approved by the Congress.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet in SR–301, Russell Senate Office Building, on Thursday, March 6, 1997 at 2:15 p.m. to hold a hearing and markup on the Committee on Governmental Affairs request for additional funding.

For further information concerning this hearing, please contact Ed Edens of the committee staff on 224–6678.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry will hold a full committee hearing on Tuesday, March 11, 1997 at 9 a.m. in SR–328A. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive testimony regarding the agriculture research systems structure, funding mechanisms, coordination and priority setting, and accountability.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry will hold a full committee hearing on Thursday, March 13, 1997 at 9 a.m. in SR–328A. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive testimony regarding the agriculture research systems structure, funding mechanisms, coordination and priority setting, and accountability.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry will hold a full committee hearing on Tuesday, March 18, 1997 at 9 a.m. in SR–328A. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive testimony regarding the agriculture research systems structure, funding mechanisms, coordination and priority setting, and accountability.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry will hold a full committee hearing on Thursday, March 20, 1997 at 9 a.m. in SR–328A. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive testimony regarding the agriculture research systems structure, funding mechanisms, coordination and priority setting, and accountability.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION AND FORESTRY

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be allowed to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 5, 1997, at 9 a.m. in SR–328A to review the U.S. Department of Agriculture Business Plan and Reorganization Management.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, the Finance Committee requests unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, March 5, 1997, beginning at 10 a.m. in room 215 Dirksen.

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Wednesday, March 5, at 10 a.m. for a hearing on high-risk issues.

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

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 5, 1997, at 9 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules and Administration be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 5, 1997 beginning at 9:30 a.m. until business is completed, to hold a oversight hearing to review the budget and operations of the Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Architect of the Capitol, and the National Gallery of Art.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AIRLAND FORCES

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Airland Forces be authorized to meet on Tuesday, March 5, 1997, at 10 a.m. in open session, to receive testimony on the Defense authorization request for fiscal year 1998 and the future years Defense program.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Aviation Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on March 5, 1997, at 10 a.m. on the Gore Commission/Aviation Safety.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee

on Personnel of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet on Wednesday, March 5, 1997, at 2 p.m. in open session, to receive testimony on recruiting and retention policies within the Department of Defense and the military services in review of the Defense authorization request for fiscal year 1998 and the future years Defense program.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Strategic Forces of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, March 5, 1997 to receive testimony on Defense programs to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the Department of Defense budget request for fiscal year 1998 and the future years Defense program.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SUPERFUND, WASTE CONTROL AND RISK ASSESSMENT

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Superfund, Waste Control and Risk Assessment be granted permission to conduct a hearing Wednesday, March 5, at 9:30 a.m., hearing room SD–406, on the reauthorization of Superfund, including S. 8, the Superfund Cleanup Acceleration Act.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

● Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I chose to vote against the balanced budget amendment to the Constitution, like I have in the past.

Many good arguments were made throughout the debate against amending the Constitution of the United States to require a yearly balanced Federal budget. In fact, the Senate voted 14 times on amendments to improve the underlying resolution, in the hope of revealing its shortsightedness. In every instance, I supported my colleagues. I believe we were successful in painting a clear and honest picture of the disastrous effects such an amendment could have on the economic and social fabric of this country.

This debate is about our Nation's spending priorities as much as it is about constitutional integrity. During the course of debate, I offered an amendment that would have made it a policy of the United States that in meeting the requirements of an annual balanced budget no cuts would be made that disproportionately affect children's programs in the areas of health care, nutrition, and education. Look at the evidence.

In the 104th Congress, dramatic cuts were made to programs for low-income families. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, more than 93 percent of the cuts in entitlement programs came from programs for low-income people. Congress reduced entitlement programs by $65.6 billion over the period from 1996 to 2002. In a letter of opposition to the BBA, the Women Legislator's Lobby, a group that speaks for women legislators across the country, pointed out to Senators that in 1997 the Federal Government spent four times more on the military than on housing, education, job training, and community development combined.

The people of Minnesota sent me to Washington to make tough, responsible, fair decisions. Amending the Constitution to require a balanced budget would put a legally binding dollar target above the economic and social health of our country. Our goal of achieving fiscal responsibility should appropriately focus on critical investments in programs that provide basic nutrition, housing, health care, and education to those less fortunate, especially children.

Our fixation with a constitutional amendment and our hunger for political gain have detracted from that important task. I will continue to press forward on finding a fair and equitable way to balance the budget because I think it is important to our country's future. Amending the Constitution in this way is not the answer.●

WILSON K. SMITH

● Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, while on a field trip to a Civil War site in the 1950's, a young African-American boy from Delaware asked his teacher why there was no mention of black soldiers. He learned a cold, hard lesson that day—that even though black soldiers fought and died for their country, they were not honored because of the color of their skin.

That field trip ignited what would become a 40-year crusade by a Delawarean named Wilson K. Smith. Mr. Smith is a retired Army Sergeant, who was decorated with a Bronze Star and Silver Star during the Vietnam war as a member of the 101st Airborne Division, First Special Forces. In 1957, Sgt. Smith began collecting war stories from black veterans. By 1979, he had tracked down all the African-American Congressional Medal of Honor recipients. In 1989, he began seeking financial pledges and support to build an African-American Medal of Honor monument.

I am proud to have worked closely with Mr. Smith over the last 5 years to see the realization of his dream.

Last month, the names of the 85 African-American Medal of Honor recipients were officially recognized in a permanent exhibit at the Pentagon. This exhibit replicates a monument honoring black Medal of Honor recipients now on permanent display at Morgan State University in Baltimore, MD. Mr. Smith was the driving force behind the design and fundraising for this monument.

This monument will help keep the legacy of the African-American Congressional Medal of Honor recipients alive for generations to come. Never again will young African-American school boys and girls have to wonder why black veterans are not honored for their service and sacrifice to the United States of America.

The Medal of Honor is the highest award for bravery in military service to our country, but few are aware of the names, faces and stories of heroism of the Medal of Honor recipients. These are truly inspiring Americans, who continue to serve this country by their examples of courage, patriotism, and selfless dedication above and beyond the call of duty. From the Civil War to the World Wars to Vietnam to the Persian Gulf war, they have been the outstanding defenders of liberty, the highest hope of humanity in struggle, and the truest representatives of human strength. A memorial to bring that inspiration to African-Americans and to all of us, is a most worthy endeavor.

It truly has been my honor and pleasure to have strongly supported Wilson Smith's crusade, along with many other national and State leaders, including former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Colin Powell. Wilson Smith is an outstanding man, Delawarean, U.S. veteran and historian. We all will forever owe him a double debt of gratitude for his service to our country.●

TRIBUTE TO LOUISIANA AFL–CIO PRESIDENT VICTOR BUSSIE

● Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President, next week working men and women from all over Louisiana will pause to honor a great and visionary leader and a remarkable man who has led Louisiana's AFL–CIO for the past 41 years. On March 10, my good friend Victor Bussie will retire as president of my State's AFL–CIO—marking the end of a truly historic public career during which time he was widely regarded as one of the most powerful and respected men in Louisiana public life.

Those of us who have known and admired Vic Bussie for many years understand that his power was not so much derived from the position he held, but from the force of his personality and the deep conviction and personal integrity that he brought to every debate or endeavor. Simply put, Vic Bussie will always be remembered as one of the most honorable and decent men who ever served in public life.

Perhaps the greatest testimony to Vic Bussie's extraordinary career is the many tributes paid to him by those who often found themselves on opposing sides in legislative and political battles. Almost without exception, those who fought with Vic Bussie over the issues never had anything but the highest regard for his integrity and his

tireless dedication to the cause of Louisiana's working men and women. Always aided by his wife, Fran, Vic Bussie was not only an effective and articulate spokesman for organized labor; he also brought his influence and moral persuasion to bear on a wide variety of issues, including civil rights, education, health care, government reform and economic development. In every case, I believe that the people of Louisiana are better off today because Vic Bussie took an interest in those issues and dedicated himself to making life better for all of our citizens, not just those in the labor movement.

Perhaps one of the greatest testimonies to Vic Bussie's influence and power were the many national political leaders who relied on him during his 41 years at the helm of Louisiana's AFL–CIO. From John F. Kennedy to Lyndon Johnson to Jimmy Carter to Bill Clinton, presidents of the United States have often sought Vic Bussie's counsel and have relied on him to build public support for their campaigns and their legislative initiatives. In the mid-1960s, when President Lyndon Johnson was attempting to persuade my predecessor, Senator Russell Long, to support his proposal to create the national Medicare system, he called on Vic Bussie. As the story goes, Vic was on the next plane to Washington and it was not long afterwards that Senator Long announced his support for Medicare. As Russell and I have learned so many times, it is awfully hard to say no to Vic Bussie.

Mr. President, the late Adlai Stevenson once remarked that ''every age needs men who will redeem the time by living with a vision of things that are to be.'' I suspect that Vic counted Adlai Stevenson as one of his friends. In fact, I would not be surprised to learn that Stevenson had Vic Bussie in mind when he uttered those words. As leader of Louisiana's labor movement for the past 41 years, Vic Bussie has certainly redeemed his time well. All working men and women owe him a tremendous debt of gratitude and my wife, Lois, and I are very proud to be part of the chorus of well-deserved praise that is coming his way during the days leading up to his retirement.

I know I speak for many others when I say that Victor Bussie will always be gratefully remembered for the outstanding service he has rendered to his State and his Nation.

BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

• Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I oppose amending the U.S. Constitution with a rigid requirement that every year the Federal Government must have a zero budget deficit. I don't think it is appropriate to use our Nation's most revered governing document to lock in a budget and economic policy that cannot respond to changing needs and circumstances. And I do not believe such a requirement could be enforced without forcing a constitutional crisis.

In my view, Congress does not need an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to perform its responsibility to enact responsible, balanced Federal budgets. The President and the Congress have all the tools they need to reduce the deficit, to respond and adapt to the country's changing needs, and to keep us militarily and economically strong. It is not a constitutional amendment that makes these choices, but strong leadership and judgment. We must make the choices through realistic cuts in spending, reasonable and fair tax policies, and the setting of obtainable goals that show the specifics—every spending cut and every tax.

Congress can and should act to reduce the deficit. A Democratic Congress did just that in 1993, and the deficit has been cut by more than 60 percent. Including an artificial, unworkable mandate in the U.S. Constitution is not the appropriate path to fiscal responsibility.

I offered and withdrew an amendment which would have protected Medicare from the autopilot of the balanced budget amendment. I offered the Medicare amendment with the intention of engaging in a debate that would expose the balanced budget amendment for the budgetary strait jacket that it is. I offered the amendment with the firm belief that a debate about the effects of a balanced budget amendment on Medicare may help some of my colleagues think through what their actions will mean. People don't want Social Security to be used to balance the budget—and, I believe Medicare is just as important to our constituents as Social Security. Medicare provides West Virginia seniors with health care security—Social Security with a measure of retirement security. My amendment says that the pursuit of a balance budget should not rob seniors of the health care security they need and deserve.

The current constitutional balanced budget amendment, if passed, would force deep and devastating cuts on the Medicare Program. Such cuts would increase the already too high out of pocket costs senior citizens are forced to pay for basic health care. The pending constitutional amendment is sure to drive up the percentage of a senior's total income they must spend on health care services. Currently, seniors' out of pocket costs are, on average, about 21 percent of their total income. This balanced budget amendment is likely to force seniors to spend 25, 30, 35, or even 50 percent of their total resources on the health care services they need. This increased burden on seniors would force many seniors into poverty and make a greater proportion of them dependent on Medicaid services, in essence, shifting even more health care costs to the states.

I want my colleagues to recognize the real world consequences of their vote for an automatic, constitutional balanced budget—the imposition of devastating cuts in the Medicare Program. Every Senator who I have heard speak publicly about Medicare has said they want to protect, preserve, and strengthen the program. A balanced budget amendment to the Constitution will do the opposite by devastating Medicare—simple math tells us this is true. If my colleagues mean it when they say they want to protect Medicare, they will oppose this constitutional amendment. I urge my colleagues to vote against Medicare being used as a piggy bank to be raided at the end of the year, when the budget isn't in balance, for whatever unforseen economic reason.

I think my colleagues should consider the admonition of the Secretary of the Treasury about the consequences of a Constitutional balanced budget amendment for Medicare beneficiaries. I asked the Secretary what he thinks would happen to Medicare beneficiaries under a balanced budget amendment when he appeared before the Finance Committee two weeks ago. Here is our exchange about the effects of the balanced budget amendment:

Senator ROCKFELLER. Now we have this thing called a balanced budget amendment, which, according to one of the papers this morning, may lose steam in both chambers, and I hope that is the case.

But, in the event that it is not, it will be, I think, very problematic for Medicare if we go into a situation where, let us say—Senator MOYNIHAN has heard me talk about this many times —back in the early 1980's in West Virginia we had unemployment that ran up to 21 percent, and devastation to the extent that we were laying off tens of thousands of workers. And this was not common just to West Virginia, it was true in the industrial heartland, as we were making a major economic shift that was painful.

Now, if that were to happen again, and I see no reason why it will not; Japan is now going through exactly that same kind of difficulty, one that we would not have guessed that they would have gone through 10 years after we did, but they are. They are very down about it. They are going to be fine in the long-term.

But if we were to run into that situation again in this country and we had a balanced budget amendment and we had to balance by the end of the year and we had to do our part here in Finance, would we not run into what we used to call sequestration?

Secretary RUBIN. I think that you could easily run into a situation, Senator. I think this is only one of the many problems that a balanced budget amendment creates, and that is, I do think it creates an additional threat to Medicare, if that is what you are saying. If you get to the end of the year and there is a very large, unexpected shortfall, which happens from time to time, then I think the President could be in a position where he would be forced to simply cease sending out all checks.

Well, if you cease sending out all checks you will cease sending out Social Security checks, you will cease sending out Medicare checks, and you will cease sending out all other kinds of checks, I think, instead of being able to deal with it in some sort of a reasonable and sensible fashion.

The Medicare trust fund should not be used as a cash cow to balance the budget in an effort to meet the restrictive requirements of a constitutional

amendment. I believe it is clear that one consequence of Senate Joint Resolution 1 would be the Medicare program, which provides health services to 38 million senior citizens, will be cut in excess of what is required to protect seniors and beyond the dictates of good health policy.

I am committed to charting a positive course for our Nation in the 21st century, and I believe that we are moving in the right direction. Some of us have worked very hard in the recent years to do the job of digging out from the exploding deficits of the 1980's, by reducing the deficit, and changing the priorities of the Federal budget in order to cut waste and increase investment in America's future. I have cast many votes in recent years for actual cuts, for detailed changes in policy, and for specific budget plans. These are the kinds of real votes that have cut the deficit.

By working out a balance between what must be done to invest in our people, and using their hard-earned tax dollars more wisely, we have a course that is far less reckless and dangerous than strapping this amendment onto the U.S. Constitution. I truly believe we can achieve the real goal of a balanced budget amendment—fiscal responsibility—if we are brave enough to tackle the real challenges that confront us. For the sake of real fiscal responsibility and the sake of West Virginia's future, I cast my vote against the constitutional amendment to balance the budget.

MR. COKER ADDS TO THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, last fall, I had the opportunity to participate in a ribbon cutting ceremony commemorating renovations to the Queen Manor low-income senior citizen complex in Dover, DE. One of the highlights of the ceremony was a poem written and read by Mr. James B. Coker that reminds us that drug abuse is not the answer.

Mr. President, I ask that the text of the poem be printed in the RECORD.

The poem follows:

The high I need doesn't come in a bottle
Or in an auto's throttle
Just give me some hugs
Not someone's drugs

Mr. BIDEN. Last week, President Clinton announced a new addition to our strategy in the fight against drug abuse by young people in America. I applaud the President's effort to focus on teen drug abuse, and believe that it is a good response to a disturbing trend that we cannot ignore. We must harness a moral condemnation of drug use by all segments of our population.

I commend Mr. Coker for making a difference, and am grateful for his contribution in the fight against drug abuse.●

DIVERSIFIED INTERGENERATIONAL CARE, INC.

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Diversified Intergenerational Care, Inc., in recognition of the grand opening of their facility at the West Haven Medical Center on March 21, 1997. This facility, which is the first of its kind in the Nation, will provide child care services and care for the mentally ill and elderly.

The sole principals of the company, Scott L. Shafer and Bernard L. Ginsberg, were able to make this facility a reality through a lease they were awarded by the Department of Veterans Affairs. They were selected for the Department's enhanced-use lease through a highly competitive process involving companies nationwide.

Diversified Intergenerational Care, Inc. considers it an honor to work with the Department of Veterans Affairs. They intend to continue their partnership by developing other intergenerational facilities. Their goal is to satisfy the unmet need for care for children, the elderly, and the mentally ill at VA medical centers across the country.

I congratulate Diversified Intergenerational Care, Inc. and the Department of Veterans Affairs for creating this very worthwhile facility, and thank them for working to make these vital services available to those in need.●

ANOTHER MILESTONE FOR THE NPT

● Mr. GLENN. Mr. President, I rise to remind my fellow colleagues that today marks the 27th anniversary of the entering into force of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, or NPT. All too often, the contributions to U.S. security made by multilateral arrangements like the NPT go unrecognized.

I will speak today of a treaty that—with the accession by Oman last January—now has 185 members. That is more than any international security treaty in history. Though it is true that the NPT has not eradicated the global threat of nuclear weapons proliferation—and that it faces some daunting challenges ahead —the treaty has undoubtedly served U.S. interests well and deserves the respect and support of all Members of Congress and indeed all Americans.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS

Mr. President, I ask to have printed in the RECORD at the end of my remarks a list supplied by the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency of all current signatories and parties to the NPT. The only major nonmembers are India, Pakistan, Israel, Brazil, and Cuba.

The NPT was negotiated throughout the 1960's and was signed by Secretary of State Dean Rusk on July 1, 1968. The treaty commits the United States, Britain, France, Russia, and China—the treaty's so-called nuclear-weapon states, defined as countries that detonated a nuclear explosive device before January 1, 1967—not to transfer, directly or indirectly, any nuclear explosive device or control over such a device to any other country, and ''not in any way to assist, encourage, or induce'' any non-nuclear-weapon state to acquire such a device. (Article I.)

As for the latter states, the treaty obligates them to forswear the bomb and to agree to full-scope safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] over all of their nuclear materials. (Articles II and III.)

The treaty also obligates all of its parties to pursue negotiations toward nuclear disarmament, indeed to pursue the eventual goal of a ''treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control.'' (Article VI.)

These respective obligations form the heart of the security obligations of members of the NPT. Though the treaty also encourages peaceful uses of atomic energy (Article IV), this encouragement obviously does not extend to help in making bombs or the fissile materials for use in such bombs. The ''NP'' in ''NPT'' continues to stand for nonproliferation—not ''Nuclear Proliferation'' or ''Nuclear Profiteering.''

NEW CHALLENGES AHEAD

Now, many published critiques have already established that the NPT is far from a perfect treaty. Typically these include observations about the limits of safeguards, the treaty's lack of complete universality, the lack of mandatory sanctions for violations, the inclusion of anachronistic language about ''peaceful nuclear explosions,'' the lack of an explicit ban on nonnuclear-weapon states helping other nonnuclear-weapon states to acquire the bomb, and allegations about the treaty's discriminatory division of the world into nuclear have's and have not's.

Though many of these specific criticisms are well-founded, I would like to identify some broader challenges that could someday jeopardize not just this treaty, but the very existence of nonproliferation as a basic norm of the international community.

Ironically, the first major challenge may well come from the disarmers. Though the United States and Russia have recently made substantial reductions in their strategic arsenals, it is possible that, someday, dozens of nonnuclear-weapon states may reconsider their membership or abandon the treaty due to what they may believe is inadequate progress toward the goal of total nuclear disarmament. What a hypocritical step that would be: it would amount not just to a form of extortion, but one based on some rather peculiar logic—''either you disarm, right now, in the interests of world peace, or we will arm.'' How this will serve the interests of either peace or nonproliferation is beyond me.

I agree that America and all the other nuclear-weapon states should reaffirm their obligation under the NPT to negotiate in good faith toward the ultimate goal of nuclear disarmament. But I do not read the NPT itself as

compelling the United States to disarm as a precondition for other countries to abide by the treaty. The START process has already shown the world that America and Russia are serious about deep cuts in nuclear arms. And the world community will rightfully expect Britain, France, and China to make deep cuts of their own, toward the eventual goal of eliminating all such weapons, as the treaty provides. I believe it is crucial that the nuclear-weapon states fulfill their end of the NPT bargain, but I do not believe that the complex and time-consuming process of nuclear arms reductions should serve as any pretext for further proliferation.

The second major challenge to the NPT will come from advocates of commercial uses of plutonium or highly enriched uranium around the world. I would hate to see countries use the NPT as a pretext for new demands for access to sensitive technology relating to the manufacture of nuclear weapons. If, for example, the acceptance of full-scope safeguards is interpreted by some countries as constituting some form of entitlement to produce highly enriched uranium or to separate plutonium, then the world would be a more dangerous place indeed. We need less of such materials in world commerce, not more of them.

I have no doubt that IAEA safeguards are good and that they are getting better, especially thanks to the agency's Programme 93+2 plan to improve safeguards, but the agency is already too under-funded and overworked to be taking on the new jobs of safeguarding a global plutonium economy, not to mention promoting one. And I continue to question the basic safeguardability of dangerous fuel cycle operations like reprocessing and enrichment, given the difficulty of preventing or even detecting diversions which, though small in size, would be quite sufficient to make bombs.

Since no technical fix will ever eliminate all proliferation and terrorist threats from commercial uses of such materials, I would urge all supporters of nonproliferation to pursue a global moratorium or outright prohibition on all production of highly enriched uranium and the separation of all bomb-usable plutonium for any purpose. Our goal should not be the production by all or some countries of bomb-usable nuclear materials under safeguards—our goal should be a ban on the production of such materials, period.

The key point to keep in mind about safeguards is that they serve as an important instrument in America's diplomatic tool kit for fighting proliferation. By themselves, safeguards do not in any way constitute a solution to the problem of proliferation. To the extent that they complement other U.S. nonproliferation initiatives, however, they thereby deserve our full support.

A third major challenge facing the NPT is that the nuclear-weapon states will, for various reasons, compromise their not in any way to assist obligation under article I of the NPT. I have already seen signs of some erosion of this key duty, which on its face tolerates no forms of assistance.

Various current and proposed export control reforms would, if fully implemented, undoubtedly open up new strains in the NPT's no assistance taboo. I have in mind here such proposals as the following: to relax controls over sensitive dual-use items going to friendly countries or members of multilateral regimes; to drop controls over goods that are no longer state-of-the-art—as though obsolete hydrogen bombs would be any less of a proliferation threat; to regulate or prohibit only significant forms of assistance; to authorize sensitive dual-use transfers so long as there is evidence that some other country is selling similar goods—this is the old ''foreign availability'' loophole; and to eliminate licensing requirements for many dual-use goods, and other such dubious schemes.

Some of these themes were reflected in recent speech by a senior U.S. export control official, who said the following:

> We no longer have a clearly defined single adversary. Instead, we aim to restrict a narrow range of transactions that could assist in the development of weapons of mass destruction in irresponsible countries like Iran and Iraq. In attempting to do that, we have refocused our control system on a smaller group of truly critical goods and technologies and on specific problem end uses and end users in addition to the so-called pariah countries. [Source: Under Secretary of Commerce William Reinsch, speech before the National Security Industrial Association, February 25, 1997.]

This quote illustrates the extent to which America's NPT's duty ''not in any way to assist'' is already being interpreted as meaning, in effect, ''* * * not to provide a narrow range of truly critical goods and technologies that could assist rogue nations to acquire nuclear explosive devices.'' The NPT, however, makes no distinction between so-called critical items and any other items—it rules out any and all assistance to any nonnuclear-weapon state.

The irony of such reform proposals can be seen even more when one considers that export controls affect only a tiny fraction of U.S. trade. According to Commerce Department data for 1995, $99.20 out of every $100 in U.S. exports did not even require an export license. Not only that—of those exports that did require a license in that year, only one license out of a hundred was denied. In 1991, the Commerce Department received 30,537 export license applications—by 1995 this number had plummeted to only 9,845, and only 121 of these were ultimately denied.

So the evidence is pretty slim, to say the least, to support any claim that rolling back on export controls will substantially boost America's competitiveness, except perhaps in the sense of increasing America's competitiveness as a proliferator of weapons of mass destruction. Yes indeed, America cannot only afford to comply in full with the NPT's ''not in any way to assist'' prohibition—from a security standpoint, it cannot afford not to comply with this obligation.

Unfortunately, the dubious claim of commercial need is not the only factor eroding this prohibition under the NPT. The other threat appears in the form of well-meaning pleas coming from two strange bedfellows—certain nongovernmental experts on nonproliferation, and various defense hawks and strategic theorists inside countries that are working on the bomb or keeping their bomb options wide open.

I am referring specifically to proposals to substitute the ''management'' for the ''prevention'' of proliferation as a goal of U.S. policy. America, they argue, should help other countries to make to proliferation safe, to ensure that new regional balances of nuclear terror remain stable, and to take steps to ensure that new nuclear arsenals around the world will remain reliable and guarantee secure second strike capabilities. In other words—they appear to believe that America should now help to convert the old cold war doctrine of ''mutual assured destruction'' into an export commodity.

Even highly esteemed organizations like the Council on Foreign Relations seem to be leaning in this direction. In a recent study released last January on U.S. nuclear nonproliferation policy in South Asia and sponsored by the Council, the authors not only recommended this basic approach, but also called for new U.S. arms transfers and nuclear cooperation with both India and Pakistan with no nonproliferation strings attached, specifically no requirement for full-scope IAEA safeguards. [Source: Council on Foreign Relations, ''A New US Policy Toward India and Pakistan,'' Richard N. Haass, Chairman, January 1997.]

Russia, meanwhile, seems intent on selling two nuclear reactors to India without full-scope safeguards, while China—which has never accepted such safeguards as a nuclear supply condition—continues to engage in nuclear cooperation with Pakistan.

Unless the United States and other members of the world community rally in defense of the NPT and the heart of its verification scheme—full-scope safeguards—I fear that more and more countries will be tempted to reassess their continued membership in that treaty. After all, why agree to safeguards restraints when the benefits of membership in the treaty can be obtained without such restraints? Nobody should take the future of this treaty for granted. By their nuclear supply practices in South Asia, Russia and China are simply making proliferation pay.

CONCLUSION

Mr. President, I would like to conclude by saying that if export controls remain a valuable instrument of nonproliferation, if the inertia toward the eventual goal of nuclear disarmament

is sustained, if the inertia in some countries to make large-scale commercial uses of bomb materials can be broken, and if the zealots of regional nuclear deterrence can be kept in check, then I truly believe that the NPT will be with us for quite a while and the world will be better off as a result.

If these conditions are not satisfied, I fear not just for the future of this treaty, but for the future of world peace.

The list follows:

SIGNATORIES AND PARTIES TO THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS—JANUARY 23, 1997

[Source: Arms Control and Disarmament Agency]

Afghanistan.
Albania.
Algeria.
Antigua and Barbuda.
Andorra.
Angola.
Argentina.
Armenia.
Australia.
Austria.
Azerbaijan.
Bahamas, The.
Bahrain.
Bangladesh.
Barbados.
Belarus.
Belgium.
Belize.
Benin.
Bhutan.
Bolivia.
Bosnia & Herzegovina.
Botswana.
Brunei.
Bulgaria.
Burkina Faso.
Burundi.
Cambodia.
Cameroon.
Canada.
Cape Verde.
Central African Republic.
Chad.
Chile.
China.
Colombia.
Comoros.
Congo, People's Republic of (Brazzaville).
Costa Rica.
Cote d'Ivoire.
Croatia.
Cyprus.
Czech Republic.
Denmark.
Djibouti.
Dominica.
Dominican Republic.
Ecuador.
Egypt.
El Salvador.
Equatorial Guinea.
Eritrea.
Estonia.
Ethiopia.
Fiji.
Finland.
Former Yugoslav.
Republic of Macedonia.
France.
Gabon.
Gambia, The.
Georgia.
Germany, Fed. Republic of.
Ghana.
Greece.
Grenada.
Guatemala.
Guinea.
Guinea-Bissau.
Guyana.
Haiti.
Holy See.
Honduras.
Hungary, Republic of.
Iceland.
Indonesia.
Iran.
Iraq.
Ireland.
Italy.
Jamaica.
Japan.
Jordan.
Kazakstan.
Kenya.
Kiribati.
Korea, Democratic People's Republic of.
Korea, Republic of.
Kuwait.
Kyrgyzstan.
Laos.
Latvia.
Lebanon.
Lesotho.
Liberia.
Libya.
Liechtenstein.
Lithuania.
Luxembourg.
Madagascar.
Malawi.
Malaysia.
Maldive Islands.
Mali.
Malta.
Marshall Islands.
Mauritania.
Mauritius.
Mexico.
Micronesia.
Moldova.
Monaco.
Mongolia.
Morocco.
Mozambique.
Myanmar (Burma).
Namibia.
Nauru.
Nepal.
Netherlands.
New Zealand.
Nicaragua.
Niger.
Nigeria.
Norway.
Oman.
Palau.
Panama.
Papua New Guinea.
Paraguay.
Peru.
Philippines.
Poland.
Portugal.
Qatar.
Romania.
Russia.
Rwanda.
St. Kitts and Nevis.
St. Lucia.
St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
San Marino.
Sao Tome and Principe.
Saudi Arabia.
Senegal.
Seychelles.
Sierra Leone.
Singapore.
Slovakia.
Slovenia.
Solomon Islands.
Somalia.
South Africa.
Spain.
Sri Lanka.
Sudan.
Suriname.
Swaziland.
Sweden.
Switzerland.
Syrian Arab Republic.
Taiwan.
Tajikistan.
Tanzania.
Thailand.
Togo.
Tonga.
Trinidad and Tobago.
Tunisia.
Turkey.
Tuvalu.
Turkmenistan.
Uganda.
Ukraine.
United Arab Emirates.
United Kingdom.
United States.
Uruguay.
Uzbekistan.
Vanuatu.
Venezuela.
Vietnam, Socialist Republic of.
Western Samoa.
Yemen.
Yugoslavia, Socialist Federal Republic of.
Zaire.
Zambia.
Zimbabwe.

Total: 185 (Total does not include Taiwan or SFR Yugoslavia, which has dissolved.)●

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 1997

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until the hour of 12 noon on Thursday, March 6. I ask unanimous consent that on Thursday, immediately following the prayer, the routine requests through the morning hour be granted, and that there be a period of morning business until the hour of 1:30 p.m. with Senators to speak for up to 5 minutes each except for the following: Senator DEWINE, 20 minutes; Senator GRAHAM, 15 minutes; Senator TORRICELLI, 15 minutes; Senator COATS, 10 minutes.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. SHELBY. For the information of all Senators, following morning business tomorrow, the majority leader has indicated that various nominations may be available for consideration on Thursday. Therefore, rollcall votes are possible during Thursday's session.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TOMORROW

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:47 p.m. adjourned until Thursday, March 6, 1997, at 12 noon.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate March 5, 1997:

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. KEVIN B. KUKLOK, 0000.

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE U.S. MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. TERRENCE P. MURRAY, 0000.

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE U.S. MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 624:

To be colonel

DIRK R. AHLE, 0000
STEPHEN W. BAIRD, 0000
PAUL BALASH III, 0000
RALPH A. BALDWIN, 0000
BILLY C. BELL, 0000
ROBERT J. BIGGS, 0000
GEORGE A. BISZAK, 0000
THOMAS P. BREHM, 0000
JOE C. BURGIN III, 0000
PAUL J. CAHILL, 0000
STEVEN C. CARPENTER, 0000
BENJAMIN L. CASSIDY, 0000
CLAUDE C. CASTAING, JR., 0000
ROBERT W. CERNEY, 0000
RONALD S. COLEMAN, 0000
JOHN W. COWAN, JR., 0000
MARSHA L. CULVER, 0000
DAVID T. DARRAH, 0000
MARK S. DAVIS, 0000
STEVEN F. DAY, 0000
JERRY L. DURRANT, 0000
DANIEL M. DYKSTRA, 0000
JOEL P. EISSINGER, 0000
ROBERT W. ELLIS, JR., 0000
REX A. ESTILOW, 0000
JOHN D. FAVORS, 0000
BARRY M. FORD, 0000
RICHARD W. GOODALE, JR., 0000
GREGORY L. GOODMAN, 0000
DAVID F. GOOLD, 0000
TERRENCE M. GORDON, 0000
THOMAS X. HAMMES, 0000
RICHARD A. HOBBS, JR., 0000
CARLOS R. HOLLIFIELD, 0000
JOHN B. HULICK, 0000
DAVID W. HURLEY, 0000
JONATHAN D. INGHRAM, 0000
LARRY A. JOHNSON, 0000
THOMAS V. JOHNSON, 0000
CHRISTOPHER C. KAUFFMANN, 0000
CHARLES E. KERR, 0000
JAMES J. KRATSAS, 0000
MARY A. KRUSADOSSIN, 0000
COLIN D. LAMPARD, 0000
DENNIS L. LAWRENCE, 0000
JAMES E. LENDERMAN, JR., 0000
DAVID G. LINNEBUR, 0000
THOMAS M. LYTLE, 0000
RONALD S. MAKUTA, 0000
RONALD L. MCCLAIR, 0000
PAUL P. MCNAMARA, 0000
JAMES M. MCNEAL, 0000
WILLIAM A. MEIER, 0000
TERRY D. METLER, 0000
ROBERT E. MILSTEAD, JR., 0000
CHARLES W. MORRIS, 0000
ROBERT B. NELLER, 0000
RICHARD M. NIXON, 0000
DANIEL C. OBRIEN, 0000
DANIEL P. OBRIEN, 0000
ALAN C. PENDLETON, 0000
MAXIE W. PHILLIPS, 0000
WILLIAM J. POWELL, 0000
PAUL R. PUCKETT, 0000
DAVID P. RANN, 0000
GREGORY G. RATHS, 0000
ARTHUR M. REYNOLDS, JR., 0000
BLAKE J. ROBERTSON, 0000
JOHN S. ROGERS III, 0000
CHARLES T. RUSHWORTH III, 0000
KEVIN M. SANDKUHLER, 0000
RICHARD M. SCOTT, 0000
THOMAS E. SEAL, 0000
ROBERT E. STEFFENSEN, 0000
LESLIE STEIN, 0000
ROBERT W. STRAHAN, 0000
JOHN L. SWEENEY, JR., 0000
JAMES S. SWIFT, 0000
JOHN M. TAYLOR, 0000
MICHAEL W. THUMM, 0000
FELIPE TORRES, 0000
RICHARD T. TRYON, 0000
ALLEN E. TURBYFILL, 0000
JOHN H. TURNER, 0000
EDWARD G. USHER III, 0000
JOHN VALENTIN, 0000
ROBERT G. WILCOX, 0000
CHRISTOPHER A. WILK, 0000
MICHAEL E. WILLIAMS, 0000
DAVID L. WRIGHT, 0000
GERALD L. YANELLO, 0000
PHILIP N. YFF, 0000

CONFIRMATION

Executive Nomination Confirmed by the Senate March 5, 1997:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

CHARLENE BARSHEFSKY, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY.

THE ABOVE NOMINATION WAS APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEE'S COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DRUG-FREE COMMUNITIES ACT OF 1997

HON. ROB PORTMAN
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce with my colleagues, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HASTERT], the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN], and the gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL], the Drug-Free Communities Act of 1997. This bipartisan legislation represents a new effort in Congress to rechannel existing Federal drug control resources into support for locally-based, community anti-drug efforts that are working to reduce teenage drug abuse around the country. Now is clearly the time for action on this issue.

Tragically, after more than a decade of substantial progress in reducing drug abuse in America from 1979 to 1991, the trends have now reversed. Marijuana use alone has tripled among 8th graders and more than doubled among 10th and 12th graders; significantly, daily use has increased dramatically during this period so that today, one in 20 of today's high school seniors use marijuana daily. And, the marijuana of today—because of the chemical THC content—is up to 15 times stronger than the marijuana of the 1970's. Use of cocaine, crack cocaine, amphetamine stimulants, barbiturates and heroin among teenagers are all on the rise. LSD use is at its highest recorded level.

These statistics from the University of Michigan's Monitoring the Future Study are quite troubling, but the anecdotal evidence in the field—the real human stories about drug use and the impact it has on the lives of our young people—is even more compelling and brings home to each one of us the need to do something very tangible that can help address this problem, community by community.

A courageous woman from my district, Patty Gilbert, came to Washington, D.C. to tell me about the tragic story of her 16-year-old son, Jeff Gardner. Jeff combined smoking marijuana with huffing gasoline one day and lost his life. A whole future gone because of a lack of understanding of the real risks of drug use. Twenty-one high school students were expelled from a public school in my district for LSD, cocaine and marijuana use. The stories of death and lost opportunities go on and on. And such stories are common today in every area of the country.

If we are going to design sensible public policies, we have to understand what is driving increases in drug abuse among our young people. It is a complicated issue and there are no silver bullets. Two key factors seem to directly correlate with increases in drug use. When kids view drug use as socially acceptable—when peer norms are soft—drug use rises. When our young people view drug use as less dangerous, again, drug use rises. So, basically, this problem comes down to a problem of eroding attitudes about the acceptability and risks associated with drug abuse.

The good news is that we are not powerless to solve this problem. We have done it before as a Nation and we can do it again. The key question in my mind, however, is how do we do this over the long haul, and bring some national leadership where it ultimately has to be on this problem—at the community, neighborhood and family levels.

The Drug-Free Communities Act of 1997 is designed to do just that and to do it in a smart, cost-efficient fashion. This bipartisan legislation is built on the belief that the local community commitment is absolutely essential to solving the drug problem, year in and year out. It recognizes that community venture capital and major sector involvement are the keys to solving our Nation's drug problem. In order to receive a Federal matching grant under this program, communities must first demonstrate a comprehensive, long-term commitment to reducing substance abuse. Experience in the field, good research and common sense tell us that communities that have every major sector involved in implementing strategies to reduce drug abuse are the most effective. That is why this legislation supports those communities that have mobilized youth, parents, businesses, faith leaders, law enforcement, educators and other key sectors and have been working together for at least 6 months with a focused mission and targeted strategies.

The local community must also demonstrate that there is substantial local will to address the substance abuse problems in that community. Without that local will, no program can survive over the long-run. In fact, one of my concerns with the CSAP Community Partnership Program is that grants were given to communities that did not always have strong non-Federal financial and other support. During its 6-year life, the CSAP Community Partnership Program has made at least 252 grants, typically ranging from $350,000 to $700,000, to local community programs; today, we understand that only 137 of these programs survive. It seems to me that the Federal Government should be providing important early support to communities that will continue to sustain the effort with our without the Federal Government.

Another key aspect of the Drug-Free Communities Act is that it requires the local coalition or effort to have a system of evaluation in place. One of the criticisms of Federal programs that support State and local initiatives has been that such programs lack any accountability. Instead of trying to measure outcomes and do evaluations at the Federal level, which would require a large bureaucracy and would not necessarily produce any better results, the onus is on the local coalition to put in place a system that measures its progress—including outcomes, such as whether teenage drug abuse is declining—over time. It is our experience that those efforts around the country that are making a difference already have good systems of evaluation in place. They have to have such systems in order to justify their continued existence. The question is how such efforts can add value and a system of performance measures is critical to determining that.

The Federal support provided under this program redirects, at its height, less than three-tenths of 1 percent of existing money from the $16 billion Federal drug control budget to support, dollar for dollar up to $100,000 per community, local community efforts. This is another check to ensure that there is local will. Not one Federal dollar will be spent under this program without a dollar or more generated by the local community.

Talking to community coalitions and groups around the country that are successfully implementing strategies to combat teenage drug abuse shores up the need for the Federal Government to provide incremental support. A few examples.

Ronda Kopelke from the North Woods Coalition in Marshfield, WI, wrote: ''If you have Federal support based on community buy-in, then it can help us leverage support from the community. A small grant from the Federal Government—even $5,000—could enable our coalition to build a regional youth alliance, send youth to camp to learn drug and alcohol strategies and to hire a part-time person to marshal the volunteers necessary to sustain the effort over time.''

Marilyn Culp, executive director of the highly successful Miami Coalition covering 1.8 million people in Miami, FL, said that a $100,000 grant from the Federal Government would enable the coalition to leverage an additional $300,000–$400,000 from the private sector, expanding the effort to train parents, to communicate drug-free messages on billboards, and to enhance the many other activities that have made the Miami Coalition so effective. Ms. Culp also reports that under the current CSAP grant program the Federal reporting requirements are so cumbersome, that she had to hire a person just to comply with those requirements. Coalition leaders around the country have echoed this concern.

Don Lynch of the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribes in the State of Washington is trying to develop a comprehensive adolescent treatment program. While there is substantial volunteer participation in the effort—in fact, one of the program's mottoes is ''chi-e-che'', which means ''helper''—some small support from the Federal Government will enable the hiring of a full-time adolescent counselor and additional private support can be leveraged to sustain the effort over time.

Karen Hoff, Director of the Clean Focus Coalition in Charles Town, WV, is implementing a peer mediation program which helps kids resist peer pressure to take drugs and teaches them life-enhancing decision-making skills. This program could be fully up and running with $3,000. With $2,000 from the Federal Government, a locally supported parent education program could be expanded to reach 1,000 parents in the Charles Town area.

The stories go on and on, but the point is that a small amount of Federal support that

tracks strong local will can help local communities have a greater impact in their own regions.

To ensure that this program maintains the sophistication to give support only to those efforts that are truly working, while maintaining the flexibility to permit communities to continue to fashion local solutions, an advisory commission or board of trustees is charged with helping to select the administrator and to overseeing the program. Local community leaders and experts at the national and State levels in the field of substance abuse prevention and treatment will be able to review grant applications, and policies and criteria relating to the program. Those who are working directly in the field—on the front lines of the drug problem—will be able to offer valuable input to those administering the program.

The Drug-Free Communities Act of 1997 is our effort to redirect Federal drug control policy to help support local communities. We believe it is fully consistent with the National Drug Control Strategy, which includes as part of its No. 1 goal, support of community antidrug coalition efforts. We look forward to working with our colleagues on a bipartisan basis and with the administration to help communities throughout our country reduce substance abuse.

PAYOFFS FOR LAYOFFS CORPORATE WELFARE ELIMINATION ACT OF 1997

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing bipartisan legislation in conjunction with my colleague, Mr. SANDERS of Vermont, to end a wasteful corporate welfare policy which uses taxpayer money to subsidize defense contractor mergers. This legislation—the Payoffs for Layoffs Corporate Welfare Elimination Act of 1997—will put a stop to the practice of artifically stimulating layoffs with taxpayer funds.

As some of you know, under the guise of an obscure Clinton administration policy change made in July 1993–at the specific request of four CEO's representing America's top defense contractors—DOD began to allow defense contractors to begin charging the taxpayers for the merger-related costs of laying off workers and shutting down plants. The premise behind this policy is as dubious now as it was back then: that unless Uncle Sam dishes out big corporate subsidies, defense contractors would rather remain uncompetitive and risk going out of business than use their own money to pay for mergers and restructuring.

Already, 11 defense contractors have put in 17 requests totaling $817.3 million, and the meter is running. Lockheed Martin alone could eventually claim $1.2 billion in merger subsidies, according to statements by their CEO, Norman Augustine. When the Loral, McDonnel Douglas, Rockwell International, Texas Instruments, and Hughes merger subsidy requests come in, this total will skyrocket into the billions.

DOD claims that by paying more money on contracts now, DOD will realize savings due to lower overhead at some unspecified time in the future. This justification is really nothing more than an updated and more sophisticated version of the old cartoon character adage of ''I'll gladly pay you on Tuesday for a hamburger today.''

The fact of the matter is that claims of savings are greatly exaggerated. Indeed, the very concept of savings assumes the contractor will put off or delay restructuring unless they are given subsidies. In December 1996, an investigation by CBS's 60 Minutes correctly pointed out that, ''Even without the subsidy, defense companies are required by law to pass savings back to the Government when they reduce their overhead.''

My legislation does not hinder or prevent mergers from happening. It simply states that mergers should happen on their own and without DOD prompting and use of our tax dollars. I concur with the Honorable Don Yockey, who was Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology during the Bush administration, when he stated ''the defense department would be better served if they simply did not discourage acquisition, but stayed at arms length in the encouragement of the business financial process. If the deal does not make sound stand alone business sense the company should not proceed. To rely on Government-subsidized support is the worst of reasons to merge.''

While we must always be concerned when government subsidies warps business decisions, equally disturbing is the fact that the so-called savings to be realized from restructuring have thus far been mostly illusory. Not a single weapon system can be truly identified as having a lower cost due primarily to corporate restructuring. The fact of the matter is that DOD's very own report on restructuring stated: ''it is not feasible to isolate completely the effect of restructuring from other complex determinants of the difference between projected and actual costs over a long period of time.'' In plain English, DOD essentially admits that savings cannot be attributed to restructuring.

What we really have here is a policy with unknowable assumptions and unverifiable effects. GAO found that in just one case, contractor estimates of savings fell 85 percent short of initial claims. And that is just the estimates—there is no way of knowing if there will ever be real savings. GAO also has stated on more than one occasion that contractors have been projecting future increases—not decreases—in overhead rates.

While savings cannot be attributed directly to these subsidies, additional layoffs have unquestionably resulted from the policy. In the first merger analyzed by GAO, it found that ''the contractor's proposed savings were based entirely on work force reductions.''

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues—on all sides of the aisle—to join with me to put a stop to this payoffs for layoffs policy. Not only is this policy not really saving any money, it actually increases the deficit because DOD is spending hundreds of millions of our tax dollars chasing after savings to which it is entitled to receive anyway. This type of corporate welfare is unconscionable and Members with defense contractors in their districts should be especially wary of it. In my district alone, over 3,200 jobs will be lost because of this policy. If you have a plant in your district, you should not have to worry about your own tax dollars being used to encourage it to shut down.

NO PACIFIC NUCLEAR DUMP

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, when most of us think of Pacific islands, we usually think of a tropical paradise with brightly colored fish swimming in turquoise waters while palm fronds rustle overhead in a warm gentle breeze. Well, Mr. Speaker, I am here to tell you that there is trouble in paradise because there are some people that see a tropical island and think of nuclear dump sites.

As we struggle with the legacy of the cold war and the wastes generated by it, those that trade in these wastes have increasingly looked at isolated atolls, with few if any constituents to object, as likely nuclear dump sites. Several years ago, there was a proposal to store radioactive waste in the Marshall Islands. Fortunately, the Marshallese Government eventually thought better of it and that proposed died. Last year, a group calling itself U.S. Nuclear Fuels was making the rounds in Washington, DC, to drum up support for a proposal to create a nuclear dump site on Palmyra Island, a private owned island in U.S. territory. This proposal prompted the introduction of legislation in both Houses of Congress prohibiting the Federal Government from siting a nuclear waste storage facility outside the 50 States. Now, another group, Nuclear Disarmament Services, Inc., is circulating legislation to authorize the siting of a nuclear dump site on either Palmyra or Wake Island, a U.S. possession. In fact, there is a symposium occurring today at Georgetown University, sponsored by U.S. Nuclear Fuels, to discuss this proposal.

What do all these crazy ideas have in common? One man, Alex Copeson, has been the driving force behind all these proposals and a principal in these companies. And this is not Mr. Copeson's first foray into the waste trade. In the early 1990's, he was the pitch man for a scheme to dump toxic waste on the sea floor, even though this is prohibited under U.S. and international law.

Why does Mr. Copeson think that we should store nuclear waste on Pacific islands? An article in the March edition of Outside magazine offers some insights. Referring to the Marshallese Government and the Bikini Islanders, Mr. Copeson is quoted as saying, ''They're all scam artists banging the tin cup in front of the white man. They'd open a whorehouse and sell their daughters and grandmothers for a dollar. They've never lived so good since that bomb, the fat lazy [expletive]. All they want to do is go gambling, drinking, and whoring in the United States. The only contribution they could make to the world is to give someone their islands [for waste] and take a hike—be an absentee landlord for world peace.''

Given Mr. Copeson's views of the people of the tropical Pacific and his insensitivity to the economic, social, and environmental injuries inflicted on them by above-ground nuclear testing, it is no wonder that he thinks that we should continue to dump radioactivity in their back yard. And that brings up the most crucial point. Even if one thought that shipping nuclear waste thousands of miles across the stormy Pacific Ocean to store it on geologically unstable coral or volcanic islands in the

middle of the Pacific Ocean's typhoon belt was a good idea scientifically, how could one justify inflicting further nuclear contamination on the people of the Pacific territories? In furtherance of our cold war, many of the people of the Pacific islands have lost not only their traditional way of life, but in some cases their home islands have been rendered uninhabitable.

We need to stop this madness in its tracks. That is why Mr. ABERCROMBIE and I are introducing a resolution today that expresses the sense of Congress that we will not transport to or store nuclear waste on any U.S. territory or possession. Federal law already forbids the siting of a nuclear waste storage facility in U.S. territories or possessions without the express authorization of Congress and passing this resolution will send a clear signal that we do not intend to do so. We need to let the international waste merchants know that the people of the Pacific islands have suffered enough and that we will not insult them further by forcing them to be the caretakers of the nuclear legacy of the cold war. I recognize that this is a terrible problem, but Pacific islanders did not start the cold war, and they should not be asked to finish it.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 36: THE NEED FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, one of the most difficult challenges facing the fledgling democratic governments of Eastern Europe involves learning to treat equally and fairly all of their citizens—regardless of ethnic background—with regard to rights and opportunities. Unfortunately, some of those governments are still seeking to treat their citizens from minority ethnic groups in traditionally nationalistic and counterproductive ways. Rather than working to ensure that all citizens are treated equally, they seek to limit the rights and opportunities of those citizens who do not belong to the majority ethnic group.

Mr. Speaker, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, an independent state since 1991, has so far avoided the ethnic-based conflict that has afflicted several of the other successor states to the defunct Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. There are troubling signs, however, that the Government of Macedonia has yet to take sufficient steps to ensure that those of its citizens from its considerable Albanian minority are provided with adequate opportunities for higher education in the Albanian language. The most worrisome consequence of this lack of educational opportunity is an increasing resentment toward that government among many of its ethnic Albanian citizens. Their frustration has led some ethnic Albanian citizens to attempt to open an Albanian-language university to ensure that opportunities for professional education are readily available to those who have been raised and educated in Albanian at the secondary school level.

In February 1995, a renewed attempt to open such a university in Tetovo, Macedonia led to a violent clash between ethnic Albanians and Macedonian police. Tragically, 1 individual lost his life and 28 others were wounded in that violent incident.

Mr. Speaker, I believe all of us want to see the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and, in fact, all of the Southern Balkans avoid the kind of ethnic violence that wracked the Northern Balkans for 4 years. We need to encourage the Government of Macedonia to constructively address the issue of fair opportunities for higher education in the language of its Albanian minority. I am, therefore, introducing today House Concurrent Resolution 36, a resolution that focuses specifically on Macedonia and on the issue of proper access to higher education in that country.

This resolution calls on the Government of Macedonia to:

Ensure the fair and equitable treatment of all its citizens, regardless of ethnic background;

Consider all means by which higher education conducted in the Albanian language can be provided, including the possible establishment of an Albanian language university;

The resolution also calls on the President of the United States to:

Express our country's strong support for Macedonian efforts to ensure access to higher education conducted in the Albanian language;

Offer appropriate support for those international organizations that are working to resolve the issue of higher education in the Albanian language in Macedonia, and;

Offer appropriate support for efforts by the Government of Macedonia to ensure access to higher education conducted in the Albanian language, including assistance for establishing curricula and provision of textbooks and related course materials.

Mr. Speaker, I want to strongly encourage my colleagues to join in cosponsoring this timely and important measure.

Mr. Speaker, I insert a copy of House Concurrent Resolution 36 for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

H. CON. RES. 36

Whereas failure to achieve fair and cooperative inter-ethnic relations often leads to governmental repression and conflict between peoples of different ethnic backgrounds;

Whereas the achievement of fair and cooperative treatment of all citizens, regardless of their ethnic backgrounds, is a serious challenge for all of the states of the Balkans region, including those states that gained their independence after the dissolution of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;

Whereas the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia faces important issues involving the fair and equitable treatment of all of its citizens, regardless of their ethnic background;

Whereas the extraordinary census conducted by the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in June 1994 determined that those citizens of Albanian descent constitute at least 23 percent of the total population;

Whereas Macedonia's citizen of Albanian descent are increasingly concerned to ensure fair and equitable treatment as citizens of the state of Macedonia, including appropriate opportunities for education at all levels of instruction;

Whereas the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is a member of the Council of Europe, an organization that encourages its member states to provide the opportunity for educational instruction in the languages of minority groups that constitute the citizenry of those states;

Whereas the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is a member of the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe, an organization that, in the ''Copenhagen Document'' of its 1990 Conference on the Human Dimension, noted the need for adequate opportunities for educational instruction in the native languages of citizens from minority groups;

Whereas international documents and conventions recognize the right of persons belonging to national minorities to establish their own educational institutions within the framework of and in conformity with the legislation of the state within which they live;

Whereas levels of admissions of ethnic Albanian citizens of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the Universities at Skopje and Bitola are far below the 23 percent of Macedonia's population that is composed of ethnic Albanians;

Whereas higher education for ethnic Albanian citizens of Macedonia is made more difficult by the lack of general usage of the Albanian language at that level of instruction;

Whereas there are increasing reports that ethnic Albanian citizens of Macedonia are concerned that efforts to ensure access to higher education in the Albanian language have met with little success;

Whereas an application was filed with the Ministry of Education of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in October 1994 seeking permission to open an Albanian-language university as part of the established system of education;

Whereas, in the absence of a response to the application filed with the Ministry of Education of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in October 1944, attempts were made in December 1994 to begin university classes in the Albanian language at Tetovo, Macedonia and were prevented by the intervention of police forces; and

Whereas in February 1995 renewed attempts to open an Albanian-language university at Tetovo, Macedonia were again prevented by police forces, with the death of one ethnic Albanian citizen of Macedonia and the wounding of 28 other persons occurring as a result of the related violence: Now, therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia should take all appropriate measures to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of all of its citizens, regardless of ethnic background;

(2) while steps taken by the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to ensure instruction in the Albanian language and the language of other national minorities in Macedonia at the primary and secondary levels of education and the adoption of a law permitting Albanian language instruction at the University of Skopje are commendable, the ethnic Albanian citizens of Macedonia continue to suffer from the lack of opportunity for higher education in their native language;

(3) the Government and Parliament of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia should therefore consider all means by which higher education conducted in the Albanian language can be provided, including the establishment of an Albanian-language university;

(4) the efforts by the High Commissioner for National Minorities of the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe, and the Working Group

on Ethnic Minorities of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia, to offer guidance and mediation to the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and representatives of the Albanian minority in resolving the issue of higher education in the Albanian language, are commendable;

(5) the President should express to the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia the strong support of the Government of the United States for measures that will contribute to democracy and stability in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, including efforts to ensure access to higher education in the Albanian language;

(6) the President should offer appropriate support for the efforts of the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe to resolve the issue of access to higher education in the Albanian language; and

(7) the President should offer appropriate support for efforts by the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to ensure access to higher education in the Albanian language, including assistance for the establishment of necessary curricula and the provision of textbooks and related course materials.

CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING TEAM AT OAK GROVE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I wish to recognize the members of the Oak Grove High School wrestling team and their coach, Bob Glasgow, for their outstanding achievements and continued excellence in the sport of wrestling.

During Coach Glasgow's career at Oak Grove High School, he has developed a wrestling program that is known for excellence and success. Last season, the Oak Grove wrestling team won numerous tournament championships as well as the district 6 championship for the eighth consecutive year. Under the direction of Coach Glasgow, ten exceptional wrestlers qualified for the State tournament.

This kind of outstanding achievement has been a tradition for Coach Glasgow and his wrestling team during his 14 years at Oak Grove High School. During Coach Glasgow's tenure as the wrestling coach, the Oak Grove wrestling team has won 8 State championships and has had 39 individual State champions. In addition, nine Oak Grove wrestlers have signed division 1 scholarships during this time period.

I wish to extend my congratulations to the Oak Grove High School wrestling team for their continued tradition of excellence.

MARCH 1997—NATIONAL EYE DONOR MONTH PROCLAMATION

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, March is National Eye Donor Month. All throughout the country, the miracle of transplantation surgery is allowing people's lives to be enhanced or saved. Nationwide thousands of people are benefited every year through organ and tissue transplantation surgery. Today, I rise to request that we take a moment to focus on eye donation and on the importance of preserving and restoring sight through corneal transplantation.

The benefits of sight-restoring transplant surgeries extend well beyond the people who receive the transplants; they also extend to their families, friends, and communities. In recent years, the efforts of Congress, educators, and the media have had an enormous impact on the success of eye donation programs.

Corneal transplants have been performed since 1905, and eye banks have existed in this country for over 50 years. Since 1961, when the Eye Bank Association of America was founded, member eye banks have helped make possible over one-half million corneal transplants, with a success rate over 95 percent.

Every year, thousands of corneal transplants are performed across the country restoring precious sight to both the young and the old. The Eye Bank Association of America is the Nation's oldest transplant association and is dedicated to the restoration of sight through the promotion and advancement of eye banking. In 1995, over 44,000 corneas were made available by our Nation's eye banks for use in transplantation procedures. Additional eye donations were used for research, training, and other surgical procedures. While figures for 1996 are still being tallied, even greater totals are expected.

In fact, just outside my district, the Lions Club of Tampa, FL runs one of the largest eye banks in the world. The Central Florida Lions Eye and Tissue Bank restores sight to over 2,000 people each year. Nevertheless, the need for corneal transplants continues.

Many Americans do not realize that they have it in their power to give someone else the gift of sight. If you declare now that after your death, you want your eyes to be donated to an eye bank, your eyes can become someone's miracle—a gift of sight. This is a great opportunity and a great responsibility that all Americans should take very seriously.

Anyone can be a donor. Neither cataracts, poor eyesight, nor age prohibit one from donating. However, it is important for individuals who want to be donors to inform family members of their wishes.

We, in Congress, can lead the effort to educate the public about the need and importance of eye donation and encourage more Americans to become donors. We have joined the Eye Bank Association of America every year since 1983 in proclaiming a ''National Eye Donor Month.'' The purpose of National Eye Donor Month is to remind all Americans that they have the power to make the miracle happen for someone and that we can make the tissue available. By making this proclamation, we call on all Americans to support us in promoting eye donation in order to enhance the lives of our fellow citizens through the restoration of sight.

INTRODUCTION OF MARKEY-BURTON BILL TO ENCOURAGE CONTENT-BASED TV RATINGS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the v-chip provision in the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which became law last year, was intended to help parents take control of what comes into their homes and their children's minds via the television set by allowing them to block out programs that they believe contain too much violence, sex, or adult language.

Under the 1996 act, the broadcast industry was encouraged to establish rules for rating violence, sex, and other indecent material so that parents would be able to make informed decisions on what programs their children could or could not watch.

However, rather than devising a system that truly informs parents about the content of the television programs, the entertainment industry has proposed an age-based rating system. This type of rating system fails our children because it does not provide parents with comprehensive information to make informed choices about what their children watch.

This age-based system is too broad and vague for parents. Parents have said over and over that they want a television rating system to tell them what's in a program, not who should view it. According to a nationwide survey conducted by the National Parent and Teachers Association, 80 percent of parents stated that they want separate ratings for sex, violence, and language content to help them make informed and educated evaluations of television shows.

The National PTA, the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Children's Defense Fund, the Family Research Council, and numerous other organizations have all criticized the age-based ratings system. Instead they advocated ratings based on program content to help parents with the ability to block out objectionable, content-specific programming.

Today, I am joining my colleague from Massachusetts, Congressman EDWARD J. MARKEY, and 11 other cosponsors, to introduce legislation that seeks to ensure that parents will be able to keep their children from watching violent programs. I would like to commend my colleague from Massachusetts for all the hard work he has done over the past few years to provide parents with a tool to make informed choices on what their children watch on television. This legislation encourages the broadcast industry to adopt a content-specific ratings system that would allow parents to block out violent programming. If the industry prefers, it can choose not to label those shows that are violent and can keep the age-based system. However, the broadcaster would not be allowed to televise programs that contain violent content during the hours of the day when children are most likely to comprise a substantial portion of the audience. Broadcasters have a choice—either adopt a content-specific programming system that allows parents to block out violent programs, or only air those shows during the times when the majority of children aren't watching television.

Parents want a content-based rating system to help them protect their children from being

exposed to inordinate amounts of violence, sex, and vulgar language on television. Hopefully, this bill will encourage the entertainment industry to do what is right for our Nation's children, and ultimately our Nation's future.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, today, I am reintroducing legislation that will permit the city of Tulare, CA's Tulare Redevelopment Agency to end a blight in the city's downtown area. This bill will give the agency control over Federal revisionary interest in railroad rights of way bisecting the very heart of the city.

Tulare is a city of 39,772 centrally located in California, approximately 45 miles south of Fresno, and 63 miles north of Bakerfield. The city and surrounding county face the daunting prospect of trying to provide jobs in an area that has an unemployment rate of over 16 percent. If allowed to redevelop land adjacent to the rail line, Tulare's Redevelopment Agency believes that it could generate over 370 jobs in 6 years because of the agency's plan to create a retail shopping area. Adding new businesses would end local citizens' need to travel to other cities for important family needs.

Unfortunately, the city cannot gain control over the core of its downtown area without this legislation. In the last century, Congress extended rights of way to railroads in order to encourage the creation of a trail transport system. The Southern Pacific Railroad received rights for tracks and land adjacent to those tracks within what is now Tulare. Because the Federal Government has a reversionary interest in the right of way and surrounding properties, the redevelopment agency cannot obtain control of all the 12 parcels of land along the rail line that the city wishes to redevelop. The city cannot condemn the Federal interest and as a result, cannot make use of anything the community might secure from the railroad.

The railroad and its successor, Union Pacific, run over 30 trains per day through the center of the city and as a result the trackage will probably never be abandoned under the law. The railroads will continue to argue that they also control the parcels of land along side the tracks because abandonment has not occurred. These adjoining parcels that the agency needs, however, are about as barren as barren can get.

Because the Federal Government has this reversionary interest, we have about 200 feet of weeds and sand on each side of the railroad tracks today. Commercial development of small shops east of the rail line and a cotton seed mill and family homes on the other side look out on blighted property. There is a vacant gas station, a root beer stand, and a railroad storage building in the area sought by the city but that is about all. The root beer stand operates on a short-term lease. The Tulare Redevelopment Agency's plan would preserve the railroad tracks while allowing this empty space in the center of town to be turned into more productive use.

The bill I am introducing clears the path for redevelopment. First, it gives the city clear title to one piece of property which Tulare already purchased from Southern Pacific before learning that railroad law clouded the title. Second, it gives the city the Federal reversionary interest in 11 other parcels so that the city can then deal with the railroad owner and secure the remaining properties.

It is essential that we pass this bill without modification because the redevelopment plan cannot be made to work piecemeal. Following the practices of the past and confirming title in someone who has already bought a clouded title only solves part of the city's problem. To ensure coherent development of properties along the rail corridor, the redevelopment agency has to control all 11 parcels of land so planning, marketing, and community financing of the development are possible. Giving the city title to one piece of property will deny the city resources to continue developing. Forcing the city to come back to Congress each time an interest is transferred is a waste of the city's time and ours.

I urge my colleagues to join me in moving this legislation as fast as possible. Tulare wants to take control over its own economic destiny by putting lousy land to better use. Unless this bill is enacted, Congress will be in the way of a city that badly needs our help.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL REQUESTING FAIR REPRESENTATION ON FEDERAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, today I am reintroducing legislation which calls for fair representation on all Federal Judicial Circuit Court of Appeals. This legislation is a companion bill to S. 382, the Fairness in Judiciary Appointments Act of 1997. Furthermore, it is identical to H.R. 3045, which was introduced in 1996.

Currently, only the State of Hawaii does not have representation on their circuit court of appeals. In fact, it's been over 10 years since Judge Herbert Choy of Honolulu retired from the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Some States like Montana have only recently had a resident granted a judgeship. My bill would require that each State have at least one judge appointed to its circuit court of appeals. That way, all States would always have representation on the bench. The bill does not affect the President's historic power to appoint Federal judges.

Having each State represented on its respective circuit courts helps ensure that justice is blind and impartial. A report entitled ''The Long Range Plans for Federal Courts,'' completed by the Judicial Conference of the United States in December 1995, noted, ''Federal judicial credibility and accountability are fostered when appellate judges are drawn primarily from the region they will serve.'' This bill would add to the judicial credibility of the courts, because each State would have at least one judge representing and understanding its State law, business, and customs.

This legislation is about maintaining the integrity of our third branch of government, fairness, and representation. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill and press for its passage.

SENSE-OF-CONGRESS RESOLUTION TO PRESERVE THE ANCESTRY QUESTION ON THE 2000 CENSUS LONG FORM

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce a resolution today, along with 14 of my colleagues, to express the sense of Congress that the ancestry question on the census long form should be preserved.

In crafting this legislation, I have worked closely with my friends from the Working Group on Ancestry in the U.S. Census. Together, they represent all of America. I especially want to recognize the National Italian-American Foundation and the Arab-American Institute for their work in bringing people together today.

It is critically important that we preserve the ancestry question. We aren't trying to add to the census—we just want to ensure that the ancestry question is not omitted in 2000. The Census Bureau must submit to Congress by April 1, 1997, the material to be included on the 2000 census questionnaire. Since the 1990 census, there has been much debate over the long form, and quite frankly, I am afraid some of my colleagues want to eliminate it.

The census long form—including the ancestry question—is sent to approximately one in six households. It only constitutes about 6 percent of the census budget; it is far more costly to omit these questions. It is an important source of social and economic data about our population. The decennial census is the only reliable source of information about the ethnic composition of our Nation's population.

Members of Congress depend on accurate information. The ancestry question gives us insight into our communities and ethnic constituencies. We know the value of statistics on ethnicity and the importance of maintaining a national reservoir of accurate and up-to-date information about our society's changing demographic make up. If this data is not collected in Census 2000, we will lose the only reliable and nationally comparable source of information on ethnicity. Both the private and public sectors rely on the census long form for accurate information on our population.

Those who use ancestry data include: State, county, and municipal agencies; educators and human service providers; corporations; researchers; political leaders; and Federal agencies. They need this information to ensure that programs are inclusive, representative, and serve the needs of local populations. The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights needs the data to monitor discrimination based on national origin. Without the ancestry question, I fear that data on ethnicity will be incomplete or skewed.

We are a proud nation of immigrants, and the ancestry question helps us to preserve knowledge about our ethnic heritage for present policymakers and for future generations. The ancestry question provides important insights into who we are as a people, how our neighborhoods are constituted, and how

we are changing demographically. Knowing this will help us move toward a society that is inclusive and best serves the diverse needs of our American family. Please join me in supporting this resolution to preserve the ancestry question.

CONGRESSWOMAN DEBBIE STABENOW COMMENDS STEVEN SPEILBERG, FORD MOTOR CO., AND NBC FOR AIRING ''SCHINDLER'S LIST''

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in response to Congressman TOM COBURN's assertion that the airing of the Academy-award winning film ''Schindler's List'' was an all-time low for network television.

Twenty-five years ago, I walked through the Dachau concentration camp and was overwhelmed with emotion. I could not understand how something like the Holocaust could have happened. I could not understand the hate. I could not understand the loss of lives. The visit had a tremendous effect on me. Watching ''Schindler's List'' on Sunday evening, I had the same deep sense of how something so unspeakably horrible could have happened.

I speak out not only as the Representative of the Eighth District of Michigan, who believes we all need to fight against hatred and social injustice, but also as a mother who has seen the great effects the movie ''Schindler's List'' can have on our children. My daughter, a junior at Sexton High School in Lansing, recently watched ''Schindler's List'' in her world history class. I was extremely impressed with how her teacher used the movie to document examples of the Holocaust, so the students could see, first-hand, the gruesome reality of what occurred. My daughter came home from school after seeing this movie and said, ''Mom, how could this have happened?''

These are the questions we need to ask if we are going to learn from the past. We need to make sure that the Holocaust is never forgotten. As a parent, I appreciated my community and my daughter's teacher for showing ''Schindler's List''. ''Schindler's List'' opened the eyes and minds of my daughter and her classmates to the harsh realities of the past.

We all, young and old, can learn from ''Schindler's List.'' I am proud that Steven Speilberg, the Ford Motor Co., and NBC had the courage to show the truth. I commend them for instilling an important message: ''To be educated, to learn from the past, and to strive to make sure that a Holocaust never happens again.''

RETIREMENT OF MAJ. GEN. RAYMOND PENDERGRASS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, Maj. Gen. (MO) Pendergrass prepares to retire more than 48 years after first donning a uniform. A native of Booneville, AR, he first joined the armed forces as a member of the Air Force Reserves in September 1948, then joined his hometown Army National Guard unit, the 217th Medical Collecting Company, a litter bearer unit. The unit was called to active service in August 1950, and deployed to Korea, where General Pendergrass served with them through June 1952.

By the time he moved to Missouri, General Pendergrass had been commissioned and served with signal and armor units. Locating in Rolla, MO, he joined the 1438th Engineer Company, and later would command the company.

He moved up through the ranks, and at the time of his retirement as a colonel in February 1986 was deputy commander of the 35th Engineer Brigade. His time in the retired ranks lasted 7 years almost to the day. Missouri Governor, Mel Carnahan, recalled him to duty and he became Missouri's Adjutant General in February 1993.

Immediately, General Pendergrass had to deal with tough reorganization decisions facing the National Guard as a result of the post-cold war reductions being made to the Army and Air Forces. But in only 4 months a more acute challenge faced him, the Great Flood of 1993.

Beginning in July 1993 and for the next 2 months, General Pendergrass led the men and women of the Missouri National Guard in its largest State emergency mission ever as both the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers overran their banks and everything in front of them.

General Pendergrass and the men and women of the Missouri National Guard worked with scores of State and Federal agencies to provide a response capability unequaled anywhere during that massive multistate disaster.

General Pendergrass applied his leadership skills to ensure that the forces of the Missouri National Guard were equally accessible for Federal missions. During his tenure as Adjutant General, units and individuals from the Missouri National Guard have served with distinction from Germany to the Balkans in Operation Joint Endeavor, and earlier in Somalia, Haiti, and Rwanda. During the same period his units led our Nation building efforts in Latin America, building roads and schools and providing medical care to families in isolated rural areas from Belize to Panama.

Through all his years of service to our Nation, Raymond Pendergrass has been more than a military leader, more than a man who knows that leading involves teaching. He has served as a gentleman willing to answer the call time after time, even returning from well earned retirement. He is more than one of the last to remain in uniform with a Korean war combat patch on his right shoulder. He is a leader whose distinguished career is surely in the finest tradition of the American Citizen Soldier.

THE IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, today I, along with Representative ROBERT MATSUI and over 40 other House Members, introduced legislation to permanently extend the research and development tax credit. This proposal will make permanent provisions included in last year's Small Business Job Protections Act, which restructured the existing research credit by providing among other things, an alternative credit increasing small businesses' and high tech industries' accessibility to this important investment incentive.

Congress has reaffirmed its commitment to the research credit by extending it seven times since 1981. However, the existing credit is scheduled to expire in less than 3 months. It is imperative that Congress address this issue before the credit expires on May 31, 1997.

Today, the single biggest factor behind productivity growth is innovation. Two-thirds to 80 percent of productivity growth since the Great Depression is attributable to innovation. In an industrialized society, research and development is the primary means by which technological innovation is generated. However, because firms cannot capture fully the rewards of their innovation—the rate of return to society of innovation is twice that which accrues to the individual company—the market activity alone creates under-investment in R&D. The situation is aggravated by the high risk associated with R&D. Eighty percent of such projects are believed to be economic failures. Therefore, economists and technicians who have studied the issue are nearly unanimous that the Government should intervene to bolster R&D.

If the United States fails to provide U.S. companies with competitive incentives to conduct R&D, many U.S. firms in key industries—aerospace, electronics, chemicals, health technology, and telecommunications, to name a few—will find it harder to compete in an increasingly globalized marketplace, jeopardizing their leadership positions.

For the past 16 years we have had an R&D tax credit, designed to provide an incentive for companies to conduct additional R&D in the United States. As the marketplace changes and industries mature, we must continue to improve the effectiveness and utilization of this important program. Most importantly, we must remove the uncertainty surrounding the credit's extension and once and for all permanently extend the provision. Study after study has established that the credit's uncertain future reduces its ability to continue stimulating additional increases in R&D expenditures.

To the extent that researchers in American laboratories are able to pioneer the new technologies, processes, and products that will drive global markets, we will be able to offer skilled and highly paid jobs to the next generation of Americans. That is why we must now underscore our permanent commitment to a leadership role in global technological advancement. If we fail to act, the R&D credit will expire in June of this year. Such failure is the opposite message we should be sending to U.S. businesses that are gearing up to meet the challenges of rapidly changing, global marketplace.

In Connecticut, where 100 percent of all research activity in the United States takes place, numerous companies have take advantage of this critical legislation. Several large companies, including United Technologies, Pfizer, and Bristol-Meyers, have utilized this credit. In addition, several small companies, including Locknetics in Bristol, CT have used

and will continue to use the R&D credit to expand their operations, hire more engineering staff, and expand their investment in the critical research field.

As we prepare to enter the 21st century, we must remain committed to providing an environment that fosters technological investment and scientific exploration. America's continued economic well-being depends on it. Such investment creates more and higher paying U.S. jobs, increases productivity, and, in turn, increases the U.S. standard of living.

There is considerable discussion, on both sides of the aisle and within the administration, about smaller government, less regulation, and market incentives as opposed to Government-dictated solutions. The R&D credit is an example of a successful program by which the Federal Government has encouraged market forces to dictate where and when innovation and technology should occur. The most recent study of the issue, prepared by KPMG Peat Marwick's policy economic group, concludes that ''a one dollar reduction in the after tax price of R&D stimulates approximately one dollar of additional private R&D spending in the short run, and about two dollars of additional R&D spending in the long run.'' That, in turn, implies long run increases in GDP. Thus, an effectively targeted R&D credit can help set the pace of growth and should not be allowed to expire.

I am pleased to be introducing this legislation with my friends and colleagues, Representative ROBERT MATSUI, and Senators HATCH and BAUCUS in the Senate. I intend to work actively to ensure a permanent extension of the R&D credit and encourage all my colleagues, on both sides of the aisle, to work with me in this important endeavor.

IN HONOR OF REAR ADM. LUTHER F. SCHRIEFER IN RECOGNITION OF HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE IN THE U.S. NAVY

HON. PORTER J. GOSS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, on January 31, 1997, Rear Adm. Luther F. Schriefer retired after 40 years of distinguished service in the U.S. Navy. Admiral Schriefer, who was born in Oshkosh, WI, began his career in the Navy as a cadet at Annapolis in 1956. After 4 years at the Naval Academy, where he excelled not only in academics, but also on the gridiron playing with the great Navy teams of the late 1950's, Admiral Schriefer was commissioned as a ensign in the Navy and 1 year later as a naval aviator. He quickly rose through the ranks serving with distinction in Vietnam and a variety of assignments on aircraft carriers: Intrepid, Independence, Saratoga, and America. He completed over 700 carrier landings, many of which were at night, and accumulated over 7,000 flight hours. In October 1983, he was given command of the U.S.S. Mobile. Three years later, he took command of the amphibious assault ship U.S.S. Belleau Wood. In 1987, he was selected for Rear Admiral and Commanded the Anti-submarine Warfare Wing U.S. Pacific Fleet, and served as Commander of San Diego Naval Base.

Admiral Schriefer's service was not limited to life at sea. He also served with great distinction for 2 years as the Director of Inter-American Region, International Security Affairs, Office of the Secretary of Defense. He managed two simultaneous crises, one in Haiti and one in Cuba, where mass migrations of Haitian and Cuban nationals in the summer of 1994 called for the marshalling of the Navy's resources to rescue thousands of innocent Haitians and Cubans fleeing tyranny in their countries. Admiral Schriefer also chaired the Department of Defense's Haiti Crisis Response Team and he was at the helm during the invasion of Haiti in September 1994, when 23,000 U.S. troops were introduced into Haiti without casualties, a major military success.

Admiral Schriefer's final assignment in the Navy was as Director of the Navy's Environmental Programs, where he brought to bear his management skills and respect for the environment to help the Navy in its aggressive efforts to clean up its facilities throughout the United States. His steady hand, leadership and sense of duty were essential to the success of each of the missions throughout his career. Our Nation owes him respect for the work that he has done. He has accomplished it with flair. I wish him well as he completes his very successful career.

THE DRUG-FREE COMMUNITIES ACT OF 1997

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, the recent increase in drug use among young people is a national tragedy. Studies have shown, both nationally and in my home State of Michigan, that drug use among young people has risen steadily over the past 5 years. Since 1991, marijuana use has almost doubled in all age groups. And there has been a dramatic increase in the use of alcohol and tobacco, the precursors to trying other more dangerous drugs.

There are faces behind these numbers. In recent months, I have spent time with high school students throughout my district. What I found was alarming. It leads me to believe that the statistics may underestimate the challenge we face. Many students I spoke with had no real perception of the risks and dangers associated with drug and substance abuse. In one school, the very first question I was asked was about, and the main preoccupation appeared to be the legalization of drugs. In another instance, young women in the audience were indifferent toward the addictiveness of tobacco products and their effect during pregnancy, or on long-term health. It was clear to me from these and other discussions that there was a lack of adequate frank discussion of these issues, either at home or at school.

Today, we are introducing the Drug-Free Communities Act of 1997, to help support community-based coalitions in the fight against teenage drug use. Community-based coalitions in my district in Michigan have successfully reduced substance abuse and related crimes in targeted areas. This bill would support communities undertaking similar local initiatives in their own neighborhoods.

The idea is simple. Bring together all segments of the community—parents, students, teachers, police officers, clergy, health care providers, government officials, and others—to develop a community-wide strategy to combat drug and substance abuse.

The community-based approach makes sense because drugs do not just impact the people who abuse them. Drugs harm entire communities by threatening our work force, our health and economic security, and our values. These coalitions are homegrown, and empower local communities to solve their own problems. They reduce duplicative efforts and better focus limited resources. Coalitions foster partnership between the public and private sector, and can draw upon a variety of financial resources.

In the district I represent, this community-based approach has yielded concrete results. It has brought a sense of community back into our neighborhoods. It empowers neighborhoods to improve their own lives through increased community interaction, awareness, and activity.

In the spring of 1995, the Troy Community Coalition targeted drug use and related crimes in one apartment complex through the Neighbor-by-Neighbor Program. Since this initiative began, marijuana use and possession is down 50 percent in targeted areas. Assault and battery is down 15.4 percent. Vandalism is down 50 percent. Child abuse is down 50 percent.

Neighborhood awareness has also improved. The Troy Police Department reports that local citizens are much more likely to report suspicious activities in their neighborhoods. Suspicious incident reports are up an astonishing 250 percent.

Our communities have instituted a policy of zero tolerance toward youth substance abuse, whether it be smoking a cigarette, drinking a beer, or abusing illegal drugs. The law enforcement community and the court system are working hand-in-hand to make sure that juveniles who abuse alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs are punished.

This ''zero tolerance'' approach involves every member of the community, not just the police and the courts. School officials, parents, and other community leaders help to identify repeat offenders early on, and correct unacceptable behavior before it becomes a problem.

This legislation builds upon an approach which has already been shown to work. Community antidrug coalitions have yielded dramatic results in Michigan, and in other communities across the country. I am proud that I have the opportunity to join with my colleagues, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. HASTERT, to introduce this important piece of antidrug legislation.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE ST. EDMUND'S PARISH OF BROOKLYN, NY

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join all my friends and colleagues in celebrating the 75th anniversary of the St. Edmund's Parish. This wonderful church has been serving the community of Brooklyn, NY, faithfully for 75 years, and is well-deserving of recognition and praise.

I am pleased to congratulate the members of the St. Edmund's Parish for making this area a source of community pride. The church inspires, with their hard work and dedication, to bring out the best attributes of humanity in their neighbors. They perform a great humanitarian service to their neighborhood by recruiting home care assistants for the elderly couples in their parish to counsel the newly engaged about starting a marriage in these times of instant divorce. In their tight-knit community in Brooklyn, their acts exemplify what it means to help thy neighbor.

Also, this parish or better yet the school athletic program has had a chance to influence some notable citizens during its history. These figures include the late great Vince Lombardi, a parishioner in his early days. Mr. Joseph Paterno, head football coach at Penn State and Mr. Fran Frischilla, head basketball coach at St. John's University, both graduates of St. Edmund's Elementary School. All three national figures. All three touched by St. Edmund's Parish.

For years, families have known this church as a living monument in the community, making it a good place to come home. I am certain that the strength of this community would not be what it is today without the commitment of its church. I am honored to celebrate 75 years of fellowship at St. Edmund's Parish.

HONORING PROFS. ROBERT F. CURL AND RICHARD E. SMALLEY OF RICE UNIVERSITY

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Profs. Robert F. Curl and Richard E. Smalley of Rice University in Houston for their contribution to science and technology. Their pioneering work in molecular chemistry earned them and Prof. Harold Kroto of England a Nobel Prize in chemistry last fall and has opened new and wondrous doors for Rice University and the scientific community.

Professor Curl and Professor Smalley are codiscoverers of a new class of carbon molecules—the fullerenes—that promise to usher in a new wave of extraordinary scientific innovations. The fullerenes were named in honor of the famed architect Buckminster Fuller because the structure of these molecules are similar to geodesic dome structures. Carbon-60, known as buckminsterfullerene, is the most common and symmetrical fullerene. Because their 60 carbon atoms are arranged at the points corresponding to where the seams of a soccer ball meet, C–60 molecules are more commonly known as ''buckyballs''.

Professors Curl's and Smalley's once-in-a-lifetime breakthrough discovery promises to change many fields of science, from the way we conduct electricity to how we deliver medicines in the body.

This new discovery could allow scientists to construct new fiber tubes that will be 100 times stronger than steel with one-fifth the weight. Cables made of these fibers transmit electricity better than copper, paving the way for a revolution in electrical power. Other scientists are working on attaching buckyballs containing radioactive metals in their hollow center to biological markers that bind selectively to specific cells, thereby delivering radiation where it is needed. This development call add a potent new weapon for the treatment of cancer.

Professor Smalley and Professor Curl have galvanized the scientific community with their discovery. The promise of the practical application of their research has led thousands of researchers around the world to drop what they are doing and begin working with the buckyball molecule. The technologies of the 21st century are being born today, and it all began with these two men and their coworkers, Professor Kroto, James Heath, and Sean O'Brien, in a lab at Rice University.

In addition to congratulating Professors Curl Smalley, I also want to congratulate Rice University for fostering an environment of innovation and cutting-edge research that resulted in this discovery. This is a well-deserved boost to Rice's reputation and standing in the scientific community. Construction is now under way on Rice's new Center for Nanoscale Science & Technology to expand on the sort of science that led to the professors' discovery of buckyballs. Rice University's scientific research is luring the top minds to its labs. The center's faculty includes fresh arrivals from Harvard, AT&T Bell Labs, Stanford, and the University of Chicago. And with the awarding of the prestigious Nobel Prize to Professors Curl and Smalley, Rice University is attracting not only the top faculty, but the top students from around the Nation and the world.

I congratulate Professor Curl and Professor Smalley, as well as Rice University, on receiving the Nobel Prize in chemistry. Their contributions to science will pave the way for future success in the 21st century and will improve our lives.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ADAMS COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate the Adams County Conservation District, located in my congressional district, for its continued service over the years to the citizens of Adams County. This month the Adams County Conservation District will celebrate its 50th anniversary in helping the farming community conserve its natural resources. The Conservation District has been a vital asset to this agricultural region by providing educational, technical, and financial assistance to local farmers.

Over the years, I have witnessed the commitment and dedication of the Conservation District in assisting farmers to manage soil erosion through the use of crop rotations, grassed waterways, strip cropping, and many other practices. The invaluable support received by fruit growers, crop, and livestock farmers, has enabled them to grow better crops, maintain more productive fields, and obtain financial security.

What has contributed to the success of the Adams County Conservation District has been its ability to adapt to the growing demands on our natural resources and changing land use patterns. I am confident that over the next 50 years the Conservation District will continue to adjust to south central Pennsylvania's changing landscape and complex soil and water resource problems.

Our Nation has one of the most productive agriculture industries in the world. While employing more than 21 million Americans, our Nation's farms, mostly family owned, produce 16 percent of the world's food. Our Nation owes a great debt to our farmers and conservation districts, like the Adams County Conservation District, who have helped provide a constant source of food to their countrymen through old-fashioned hard work based on traditional American values.

I am proud to come from a farming family and honored to represent a farming community. Most of all, I am proud of the success the Adams County Conservation District has accomplished over the years in making Adams County farmers one of the most competitive and quality producing farmers in Pennsylvania and beyond. I am certain that the Conservation District will continue to provide top quality service to its constituency as we head into the 21st century.

ALBANIAN CRISIS DEMANDS IMMEDIATE RESPONSE

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the membership to the deeply disturbing situation unfolding in Albania. All Members of this body should join me in urging the administration to take immediate steps to forcefully address these terrible developments.

Mr. Speaker, Albanian President Sali Berisha heads an illegitimate government with a tenuous, slipping grasp on power. Having ignored widespread criticism of last year's rigged elections, Mr. Berisha has proceeded with his reelection as president by a parliament comprised of loyalists who lack any credibility with the Albanian people as a result of the circumstances of their election.

The people of Albania, outraged by this despotic action and the related widespread loss of investments in an unchecked pyramid scheme, have risen up in protest against Berisha and his regime. At this time, the government appears to be undertaking a vigorous crackdown against this outpouring of public outrage and hundreds, if not thousands, of lives are in clear jeopardy. Reports from Albania indicate that opposition newspapers have been shut down, satellite communication links used by western journalists to report back to the capital have been cut, a shoot to kill order has been issued, tanks are on the move, and buildings reportedly burning. If this situation spirals out of control, the resultant refugee flows will undermine what little stability exists today in this region.

Mr. Speaker, what must happen is that Sali Berisha must step down and yield power to a coalition unity government that will promptly schedule free and fair elections. The United States can and must support European governments in securing this outcome by withholding emergency assistance—and all other

assistance, especially military aid—from Albania until and unless Berisha steps down. Mr. Berisha could not win a fair election and he cannot now repress the wishes of the Albanian people. He must step down to avoid a catastrophe and we must press hard for this to happen.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY, MARCH 1997

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, another glorious St. Patrick's Day will soon be upon us. As we approach another celebration of this great and important day in honor of the patron Saint of Ireland, sadness still hangs over that beautiful, troubled land.

As we now approach the second St. Patrick's Day since the cease-fire on both sides was announced in the fall of 1994, the peace talks have broken down. Once again, we are without hope for any all-party inclusive talks to find any peaceful political solution to the troubles in the north of Ireland.

Ireland has a flourishing economy and expanding wealth, yet the unresolved troubles in the north diminishes the hope for an even greater, promising future for the youth of Ireland, and for all of its warm and generous people.

I was pleased to lead a congressional delegation last month to the north of Ireland, to the Republic of Ireland, and to London, to review what we in the Congress could do to help bring the stalled peace process back on track.

After visiting Ireland—both North and South—and having carefully evaluated the current status of the peace process following meetings with most of the parties to the current talks, including Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams, as well as representatives of both the Irish and British Governments on the Northern Ireland issue, I am still hopeful, yet realistic.

Our congressional delegation was still optimistic that progress toward peace through dialog was still possible, and I share that hope.

Our delegation joined President Clinton, and the Irish people, both North and South, in reaffirming its overwhelming desire for permanent peace and reconciliation on the island. The attached statement was issued by the delegation after our meetings were concluded in London.

These worthy, important goals can only be achieved through peaceful dialog and negotiations involving all parties, along with the eventual consent of the Irish people to any proposed political solutions.

A prompt restoration of the IRA cease-fire as called for by President Clinton, and many others, plus the cessation of the use of violence by anyone, would best serve the cause of peace, without further diminishing the worthiness or merit of any party's cause.

All-party inclusive talks and political dialog, in accordance with the terms set out in the Mitchell report, are the only true means for finding the common goal we all share for a just and lasting settlement on the whole island of Ireland.

There is still an historic opportunity for peace. The delegation urged all concerned to seize the opportunity now and move the peace process forward without any of the endless dilatory tactics we have so often observed in the past.

The British Government in particular, under whatever party is in power, must continue to lead the process and move it forward, giving the search for peace its highest priority by building trust between the two communities, especially after the destructive and provocative Orange Order marches of last year.

Our congressional delegation concluded with this plea. Let us hope all sides can reconcile, stepping back from a return to the past, and let us and the world never witness again the tragedy of Northern Ireland engaged in an endless cycle of violence, denying future generations of Irish youth the peaceful future and prosperity they desire and observe.

The Irish people who have contributed so much to our Nation's own prosperity and security have a right to expect continued United States interest in helping to bring lasting peace and justice to the whole island of Ireland.

Our congressional mission to the region was a continuation of that U.S. commitment. I intend to continue to work with President Clinton and others in Congress to help the Irish people pursue their dream of a lasting peace and justice on the whole island.

Millions of their families here in America and around the globe follow closely events as they unfold in Ireland.

They will be particularly pleased to know that our House International Relations Committee will be holding hearings later this year on the human rights situation in the north of Ireland.

The issue of lasting Irish peace and justice will continue to be high on our foreign policy agenda. I look forward to continuing to work with the Irish-American community, the President, and all those around the world committed to finding lasting peace and justice through dialog and peaceful political means in Ireland today.

PRESS STATEMENT NORTHERN IRELAND PEACE PROCESS—FEBRUARY 17, 1997

The bi-partisan U.S. Congressional delegation, led by Chairman Benjamin A. Gilman, visiting Ireland after carefully evaluating the current status of the peace process following meetings with the parties, as well as representatives of both governments, issued the following statement on Northern Ireland:

We join President Clinton, and the Irish people (both north and south) in reaffirming our overwhelming desire for permanent peace and reconciliation on the island. These worthy and important goals can only be achieved through peaceful dialog and negotiations involving all parties, along with the eventual consent of the people to any proposed political solutions.

A prompt restoration of the IRA cease-fire as called for by President Clinton, and many others, plus the cessation of the use of violence by anyone, will serve the cause of peace best, without further diminishing the worthiness or merit of any party's cause. All party inclusive talks and political dialog, in accordance with the terms set out in the Mitchell report, are the only true means for finding the common goal we all share for a just and lasting settlement.

This is an historic opportunity for peace. We urge all concerned to seize the opportunity now and move the peace process forward without the endless dilatory tactics we have so often observed in the past. The British government in particular under whatever party is in power, must continue to lead the process forward and give the search for peace its highest priority by building trust between the two communities, especially after the destructive marches of last year.

Let us hope all sides can step back from a return to the past. We hope the world will never witness again the tragedy of Northern Ireland engaged in an endless cycle of violence, which will deny future generations of all the youth on the island of Ireland the peaceful future and prosperity they desire and deserve.

IN MEMORY OF JUDGE WILLIAM T. BELLAMY

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Judge William T. Bellamy of Marshall, MO. Judge Bellamy was an honorable adversary in the courtroom, an outstanding jurist, and a warm and thoughtful friend.

Judge Bellamy was born in Marshall in 1920, the son of Nell Newton and William T. Bellamy, Sr. He married Louise Ainsley on February 18, 1950. He was a graduate of Westminister College in Fulton, MO, and the University of Michigan School of Law. He served his country with distinction during World War II, including service on the vital Manhattan project.

Following the war, Judge Bellamy returned to Marshall and practiced law as a partner in the firm of Bellamy and Bellamy. From 1978 to 1988, he served as presiding judge of the 15th Judicial Circuit of Missouri. Judge Bellamy was an active member of his community, and he served with distinction on the Marshall school board for many years.

Judge William T. Bellamy will be missed by all who had the privilege to know him. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family: his wife, Louise; his three sons, Brad, Tut, and Page and their wives, Suzanna, Suzanne, and Shannon; and his three grandsons, James, Caleb, and Brandt.

IN HONOR OF JOHN BORKOWSKI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor John Borkowski, a keeper of the flame of Polish culture, a pillar of the community, and resident of the city of Parma.

John Borkowski has earned the affection of greater Cleveland through his tireless work promoting Polish dance, Polish army veterans, a credit union for the Polish community, and Polish education.

He has been honored widely, including awards from the Polish Government, the Alliance of Poles of America, the Polonia Foundation, and the Polish Army Veterans Association.

John Borkowski's example illustrates that being a great American also means remembering and nourishing one's heritage.

TRIBUTE TO BOB JEFFRIES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of my good friend, Bob Jeffries.

Born in Birmingham, AL, the grandson of slaves, in 1907, Bob learned to cook at an early age, using as he said, from food products grown on the farm. During his career, he worked as a musician, a chef in Harlem nightclubs, and in restaurants around the New York area.

During the late 70's he cooked for a Member of Congress, and fed most of the Washington community. Now retired, and living at a Brooklyn Heights senior citizen residence operated by the Brooklyn Catholic Charities, Bob continues to cook for his many friends throughout the city. He is active and busy every day, visiting friends in need, continuing to enjoy the city and sharing his good humor and kindness with his large extended family.

His 90th birthday was celebrated by 80 members of his ''family'' at the home of Rita and Allen Schwartz in Brooklyn Heights. Bob insisted on cooking for the family and we were all thankful the good food and fellowship.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to wish Mr. Bob Jeffries a warm and heartfelt 90th birthday.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO REFORM CONGRESSIONAL PENSIONS

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, calls for reduced Government spending have echoed throughout this great Nation of ours. Unfortunately, all too often the voices of the people have not been heard by this Chamber. When these cries have been heard, the response has simply been to shift the burden of budget cuts. I believe the time has come for the Members of Congress to lead by example.

Today, I have introduced legislation that demonstrates to the American people the steadfast commitment of this Congress to fight against excessive spending by tackling the largest perk in Government—congressional pension plans.

Our retirement benefits are ridiculously more lucrative than those of many private sector and all Federal employees. Some Members of Congress make more in retirement than most Americans could hope to make in a lifetime. My legislation will slam shut the doors of this congressional pension millionaires club.

The bill I have sponsored recalibrates the formula used to calculate Members' pension. It changes the equation so that our pension plan is the same as that of any other Federal employee. It also increased the age at which a former member may begin to collect their benefits from age 50 to age 55.

The time has come for us to address the gross disparities between congressional retirement benefits and those of the average America. The era of governmental abuse has come to a close and the buck stops with us. I urge my fellow Members to hear the calls of the American people, and demonstrate your leadership by setting the example and cosponsoring this legislation.

VIETNAM VETERAN DREW PETERSON RETIRES FROM GOVERNMENT SERVICE

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, Drew Peterson graduated from high school in South Haven, MI, in 1967, and enlisted in the U.S. Army. He served two voluntary tours of duty in Vietnam with the 25th Infantry Division, where he was wounded during a Communist rocket and ground attack and later received the Bronze Star Medal. Drew then served with the Indiana National Guard where he rose to the commissioned officer rank of captain, having served in the intelligence and the security-counterterrorism training field.

After receiving an honorable discharge from the regular Army in 1970, Drew attended college and continued his public service career by becoming a Michigan certified deputy sheriff and later served with the Michigan State Police.

In 1983, Drew accepted a position with the Department of Defense in Indianapolis as a security-specialist at Fort Benjamin Harrison. During this time, he represented DOD as a member of the Law Enforcement Committee on Crime Prevention for the 1987 Pan American Games held in Indianapolis.

In 1987, Drew transferred to GSA's U.S. Federal Protective Service as a Federal law enforcement agent specializing in security. During his tenure with FPS, Drew served as the acting district director in charge of the security and law enforcement staff and functions in four States.

With FPS, Drew also served as a criminal investigator and security specialist, where among his accomplishments was to conduct security surveys for the Office of the Vice President of the United States and Congressmen, plus counterterrorism surveys of Federal courthouses and the Army Finance and Accounting Center in Indianapolis.

In 1995, Drew was involved with the President's requested Department of Justice review of the security for major Federal facilities and courthouses following the terrorist bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City. His counterterrorism recommendations to enhance security were adopted by Government agencies.

During Drew's tenure with the Federal Government, in addition to completing training in management and law enforcement, he completed his bachelor of science degree in criminal justice and a master of arts degree in executive development for public service from Ball State University.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Drew Peterson for his many accomplishments and his devotion and service to our country.

MICROCREDITS ARE ABOUT EMPOWERMENT

HON. DAN SCHAEFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. DAN SCHAEFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I recently had the privilege of participating in the microcredit summit held here in Washington. I wanted to take time to introduce this worthwhile program to you.

Poverty—be it in rich or poor nations—makes not just affected families and their surrounding communities vulnerable, it erodes the fabric of the nations in which they live.

One of the best and most effective uses of American foreign aid to combat poverty is through microcredits, the loaning of small amounts of capital, usually around $150, to indigent entrepreneurs to start their own small businesses.

What are microcredits about? They are about empowerment. The beneficiaries of this aid tend to be predominately women. The program has an astounding rate of success; 98 percent of loans are repaid on time and, in fact, many of the banks set up to disburse microcredit loans have gone on to become successful full-service banks.

The goal of the recently held summit was to begin the process of assisting 100 million of the globe's poorest families work their way out of poverty by the year 2005. These budding entrepreneurs will use this money as an investment. The more money invested in this fashion will decrease traditional foreign aid handouts in the long run.

I would like to commend microcredit experts who have shown what creative thinking can accomplish, even when applied to an entrenched and stubborn problem such as poverty. This solution holds real promise, not only around the globe, but here in the United States as well. I encourage all my colleagues to investigate this program and to lend your support.

TRIBUTE TO THE 13TH COAST GUARD DISTRICT

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the brave men and women who serve in the U.S. Coast Guard. I extend special recognition to the members of the 13th Coast Guard District who so capably serve my home district and the people of the Pacific Northwest region of our country.

The beauty and grandeur of the waterways of the Northwest are paralleled by the dangerous and unpredictable situations they sometimes present. On February 12, 1997, violent weather off the coast of the Olympic Peninsula threatened the safety of a sailboat and its passengers. In the middle of the night the Coast Guard responded to the distress call and saved the passengers. Unfortunately, one of the two Coast Guard rescue boats from the Quillayute River Station capsized in the strong winds and high waves of the Pacific Ocean. Three crewmembers were lost; the fourth survived.

On behalf of the people of the 7th Congressional District of Washington, I extend sincere sympathy to the family and friends of PO 2d Class David Bosley of San Mateo, CA, PO 3d Class Matthew Schlimme of Whitewater, MO, and Seaman Clinton Miniken of Snohomish, WA. We extend our best wishes for a rapid and complete recovery to Seaman Apprentice Benjamin Wingo of Bremerton, WA.

To Adm. David Spade, Commander, and all members of the 13th Coast Guard District, we extend deep appreciation for the professional accomplishment of your mission of search and rescue, vessel traffic safety, and marine environmental protection. We too frequently take for granted that the Coast Guard is always prepared for an emergency and we fail to recognize the vital contribution of your entire command in support of economic prosperity and the enjoyment we derive from our environment.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD this tribute from the editors of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer printed on February 19, 1997, the date of the memorial services:

HONORING HEROES OF THE SEA

The 23rd verse of the 107th Psalm speaks of ''they that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters.''

The members of the U.S. Coast Guard daily do business in great waters. Often it is the business of saving lives. Sometimes the cost of doing business is the loss of their own lives.

So the mourning bells will ring today in Seattle and LaPush for three District 13 Coast Guardsmen who died exactly one week ago during the rescue of a couple on a damaged sailboat off the mouth of the Quillayute River. The couple survived, rescued by a Coast Guard helicopter out of Port Angeles. One member of the guard's 44-foot motor lifeboat, Benjamin Wingo, 19, of Bremerton, also survived.

The rest of the crew did not. Killed were Petty Officer 2nd Class David Bosley, 36; Petty Officer 3rd Class Matthew Schlimme, 24, and Seaman Clinton Miniken, 22. They died when the lifeboat, a Coast Guard workhorse for 35 years, was repeatedly overturned by 25-foot seas and winds as high as 45 knots crossing the Quillayute bar.

That bar already had a reputation as a killer, claiming the lives of seven crewmembers of the fishing boat Gambler in 1990.

The last time a Coast Guardsman was killed in the line of duty anywhere in the Northwest was in 1991 during the rescue of a capsized fishing boat off the Columbia River.

During 1996, the 13th Coast Guard District, which includes Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana, was credited with coming to the aid of more than 8,000 individuals, saving 381 lives and rescuing nearly $267 million in property.

The Psalm's story has a happy ending. After its sailors ride stormy seas on which they ''mount up to the heavens, they go down again to the depths . . . and are at their wit's end,'' God calms the seas and ''bringeth them unto their desired haven.''

A week ago the seas were not calmed and the three Coast Guardsmen failed to reach safe haven.

''He was my hero,'' said Sandi Bosley of her husband David Bosley, the coxswain of the ill-fated vessel.

Today we join family and friends in mourning the deaths, and celebrating the lives, of all these heroes.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

HON. THOMAS W. EWING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, I have introduced a bill that would grant permanent most-favored-nation status to the People's Republic of China upon its entry into the World Trade Organization. Under the rules of the WTO, each member country must grant permanent MFN to all other member countries. As the administration moves forward in its WTO talks with the Chinese, it is imperative that commercially viable terms of entry are negotiated. The WTO is America's best weapon against the forces protectionism and predatory mercantilism. China's entry into the WTO is in America's national interest. First, entry into the WTO will require China to further liberalize its trade regime by lowering tariffs and eliminating many nontariff barriers that American goods face. Second, the WTO provides a more useful forum for resolution of trade disputes than the bilateral approach now in place with China. It is important to note that WTO membership is not a gift to China. The administration is negotiating tough commercial terms upon which China will enter and these terms will define United States-China trade in the future.

Perhaps the most important reason that we should be pushing for China's accession to the WTO is the level playing field that this membership would provide for United States exporters. Currently, exporting to China can be a very costly and timeconsuming endeavor for American producers. There are many nontariff barriers that, intentionally or not, impede market access. There is a certain amount of discriminatory treatment of products that will be difficult for the Chinese to continue when under the jurisdiction of the WTO. Transparency is also a big problem in China. It is difficult to find out which laws and regulations apply to which products and when do they apply. As a WTO member China's import policies will have to become more transparent and more defined. This will allow American exporters to conduct business in China by following internationally recognized trade practices. China's trade regime will have to conform to these international principles.

The United States exports less, as a percentage of GDP, than any other industrialized nation. Enhancing and increasing U.S. export performance will be essential as we search for ways to improve and increase economic growth in the U.S. economy. China's vast market potential, combined with the discipline of market forces and liberalized trade policies, are a positive step toward increasing market access for American exports.

AID TO ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss an issue which disturbs me to no end. Just last week, I introduced a bill, H.R. 849, to close a loophole that allowed an illegal immigrant to obtain $12,000 in Federal housing assistance.

One week ago, I sent letters to INS Director Doris Meissner and HUD Secretary Andrew Cuomo to find out just how this could have happened. Why did HUD not immediately contact the INS to report an illegal alien residing in this country? And why has INS still done nothing to address the situation? Mr. Speaker, this begs the question, what good are laws if our Federal agencies do nothing to enforce them?

People write and call my office every day for an explanation. And it's not just my constituents. Word of this unbelievable act has spread from my hometown in southern California clear across the country. Hardworking Americans who know the value of citizenship want to know why their tax dollars continue to be given away to illegal immigrants.

I urge my colleagues to support my legislation, H.R. 849, and to join in the call for an explanation of why this is still occurring. Mr. Speaker, the people want an answer.

INDIA DETAINS HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST KUMAR

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, last year Members received from the Council of Khalistan an excellent video entitled ''Disappearances in Punjab,'' an expose of the massive human rights abuse in Punjab, Khalistan under Indian rule. Now I have been informed that last month the Indian regime briefly detained the maker of that film, Ram Narayan Kumar. Mr. Kumar is a Hindu and a human rights activist.

According to a letter Mr. Kumar wrote to the Indian Home Minister, he was illegally detained and interrogated at the Delhi airport on the night of January 19–20 as he was leaving the country to return to his home in Austria. Mr. Kumar has written a book on the situation in Punjab, Khalistan which the regime apparently does not like.

Mr. Kumar was detained for 19 months in the 1970's because he criticized the dictatorial measures of Indira Gandhi. He was incarcerated again in 1982 for leading a strike. As a member of the Committee for Information and Initiative on Punjab, Mr. Kumar has been actively involved in documenting and exposing human rights violations in Punjab, Khalistan.

Like Jaswant Singh Khalra, who remains in the bowels of the Indian system after 17 months, Mr. Kumar ran afoul of the Indian state for exposing the truth about Indian ''democracy.'' Clearly, the regime's fear of exposure is growing. Why would a Democratic country be afraid of the truth?

Maybe it's because they are afraid that the inevitable collapse of India is on the horizon. With a 13-party coalition running the central government, it is inherently unstable. According to a letter that appeared in the Washington Post on January 26, there are 17 insurgencies going on in India. That is no surprise. The regime has murdered tens of thousands of Sikhs, Christians in Nagaland, Muslims in Kashmir, Assamese, Manipuris, Dalits—black untouchables, and others. In this light, is it any wonder that so many countries are trying to free themselves from Indian rule?

The illegal detention of Mr. Kumar merely advertises to the world the fact that India is

not a Democratic state in any real sense. This leads me to ask why the overburdened taxpayers of the United States should be taxed to support this brutal, tyrannical regime. As the world's only superpower and the leader of the worldwide movement to freedom, it is America's obligation to support those who struggle peacefully for freedom.

We should demand that India apologize to Mr. Kumar for violating his rights and that it stop violating the basic liberties of those under its control. If India cannot meet even the most basic standards of human rights, it is not worthy of our support. We should impose an embargo on Indian and cut off its aid from this country. We should also speak out strongly in support of the freedom movements in Khalistan, Kasmir, Nagaland, and all over South Asia. This is the best way to protect American values and interests in that part of the world.

I am introducing Mr. Kumar's letter into the RECORD.

RAM NARAYAN KUMAR,
Klagenfurt, Austria, 2 February 1997.

UNION MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS,
The Govt. of India, South Block, New Delhi.

Sub: *My illegal detention and interrogation about my forthcoming book on Punjab at Delhi's airport on 19–20th night of January 1997.*

SIR: I am writing this letter to protest against my illegal detention and interrogation at Delhi's international airport on January 19–20th night, when I was leaving the country with the British Airways flight BA 142 to join my wife in Austria. Before elucidating, I will introduce myself and my work to the extent it seems to bear on the incident.

My name is Ram Narayan Kumar. I am a writer by profession, and have published three books. My last book titled ''The Sikh Unrest and the Indian State: Politics, personalities and historical retrospective'' is due to be released early next month by Ajanta Publications of Delhi. In India I live at ''Srinivas'', Krawal Nagar, Delhi 94. My telephone number there is: 2262421. My wife, a doctor, is an Austrian national. Our address in Austria is: 60/7 Mühlgasse, 9020 Klagenfurt.

I remain an Indian citizen, and travel on passport number S 647894, issued by the Indian Embassy at Vienna on 24 June 1996.

I have been engaged in documenting and disseminating information on human rights violations by the State authorities from the time Indira Gandhi imposed the Emergency in June 1975. During that period, I was detained without trial for nineteen months for criticizing the dictatorial measures she had employed to conserve her regime. I was again incarcerated for leading a strike of colliery workers in Madhya Pradesh, culminating in the hostage case of New Delhi in April 1982. The experiences and considerations that guide my public life, and the chronology of my involvements until 1988, are part of a book—''Confronting the Hindu Spinx''—published in 1992.

For the last eight years, I have been involved in documenting reports of State atrocities in Punjab. As a member of the Committee for Information and Initiative on Punjab, I have taken active part in collating and verifying the evidence, also by way of video recording, which forms the basis of a petition that is pending before the Supreme Court. The petition shows that in the period from 1992 to 1994 the Punjab police have illegally cremated thousands of dead bodies by labelling them as unidentified. The petition also supplies evidence to establish that many persons so cremated had earlier been picked up by the security forces. The facts regarding the illegal cremations, as shown in our petition, have been authenticated by the Central Bureau of Investigation which has investigated the allegations at the order of the Supreme Court. The matter is now pending before the National Human Rights Commission for the examination of all the issues that attend on the establishment of these facts. Jaswant Singh Khalra, General Secretary of the Akali Dal's Human Rights Wing and a resident of Amritsar, had helped me in this work of documentation. In early September 1995, Khalra got kidnapped by armed commandos of the Punjab police. Khalra's whereabouts remain unknown, and I suspect that he has been done away with. After Khalra's abduction, I put together a short documentary film from the video material he had helped me to gather. This film has been used by several human rights groups in India and abroad to campaign for Khalra's release. Clearly, the film upset the Indian authorities. In fact, one Mr. Bedi of the Indian Embassy in Vienna rebuked me for defaming India. This row about defaming India, which divides the protagonists of the establishment and their critics, follows from divergent positions of empathy. From my position, to defame the abuse of power is to extol the humanity of those who, otherwise, become its mute victims. This same Mr. Bedi telephoned me, in early September 1996, to ask when I planned to return to India next. I was surprised that the Indian Embassy should count on me to support its snooping about my activities. Later in Delhi, some officers who would not identify themselves called on me to ask ''some questions''. I told them to come back with their identification cards. They never returned.

On 20 January 1997, I was going to return to Austria after spending four months in India. After checking in with the British Airways around 10 p.m. of 19 January 1997, I went to the immigration counter. The officer there took my passport, looked in his computer, and asked me if I had produced a video film on Punjab. I acknowledged having done a documentary. After scanning his computer for a while, the officer asked me to step aside and to take a chair within the enclosure of his superior who was overseeing the movement at all the counters: ''It will take some time to clear you,'' he told me. Soon after midnight, one person appeared at my side to ask if I had authored a book titled ''The Sikh Unrest in Punjab and the Indian State''. As he seemed all prepared to interrogate, I asked him to identify himself. ''My senior officers would soon arrive'', he said to skip my question. I wished to telephone a lawyer friend. But this he would not allow: ''You are under detention. Forget your flight and about contacting anyone,'' he told me.

After midnight, I was led to a room for interrogation. I found myself surrounded by almost twenty-five officers. I asked them to identify themselves, and to spell out the legal basis on which I was being detained and interrogated. Their response: ''Don't waste time on legal etiquettes. This is a joint interrogation. We would not tell you more. You would complicate matters for yourself by insisting on legal formalities.'' I was asked to explain what my forthcoming book on Punjab contained. I told them that it was a long work which took me years to complete. I could not give its substance to them in choice morsels, as they were demanding. ''Give us the gist in a nutshell'', my interrogators insisted. I had no option but to try. My interrogators kept taking notes, interrupting me intermittently to help them formulate sentences for their report.

After settling their report on the book, they compelled me to narrate the chronology of my own political and person background. I told them to consult the book ''Confronting the Hindu Sphinx'', which is partly autobiographical and covers the main events of my life till 1988. But the would not be deterred from having the story from the horse's mouth. They also forced me to pose for a photograph, and went on to compel me to give information on my relatives and close associates.

My interrogation lasted till five in the morning of 20 January. I was able to leave the next day due to the courtesy of the British Airways. They confirmed my reservation although the validity of my return ticket, which I had purchased in Austria, had already expired. I had mentioned the expiry of my ticket to my interrogators: It would become their responsibility to arrange my flight if I should lose my ticket because of their illegal action. Their answer: They could not bother how and when I fly again.

At the end of it all, I remain baffled about the significance of this episode. Why did not my interrogators identify themselves if they were acting under the law? It was a joint interrogation, and a large number of senior officers took part. Which organizations did they represent? Whose orders were they carrying out? The interrogation concerned mainly the forthcoming book. What was the idea? The interrogation makes no sense even if I assume that the authorities might be contemplating a ban on the book. This could not be done until someone carefully reads it. Or, was the aim to demonstrate the coercive powers of the Indian State, to suggest that unless I taper down my human rights work and begin to cooperate with the authorities, my life would become difficult?

I have no intention to give up my commitments, no matter what the circumstances and pressures. I do not expect any regard from the authorities but on the basis of fairness and legality, common to all. I complain because the tactics adopted by the Indian Embassy in Austria, the officers who visited me at my house in Delhi and finally my interrogators at Delhi's airport are illegal, intimidating and constitute direct violation of my fundamental rights. I also fear that the agencies that have orchestrated my interrogation may further try to damage the circulation of my book by intimidating the publisher and by taking recourse to other unlawful ways.

I sincerely hope that you will act on my complaint. Please, initiate suitable action against the agencies responsible for infringing my rights as a citizen and a writer. Please, also ensure that they do not persist in harassing me, my relatives and associates in unlawful ways.

Sincerely yours,

RAM NARAYAN KUMAR.

SOLDIERS FROM THE SUPPLY PLATOON OF THE 1019TH QUARTER MASTER COMPANY RETURN HOME FROM THEIR PEACEKEEPING MISSION IN HUNGARY

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to take this opportunity to welcome home to Syracuse the 29 soldiers of the Supply Platoon of the 1019th Quartermaster Company after a very successful mission in the region of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

These dedicated Central New Yorkers spent the past 6 months as part of the U.S. Peacekeeping Mission. They were stationed in Hungary, where they provided support for Operation Joint Endeavor and Operation Joint

Guard. The majority were reservists working in the main supply warehouse where every uniformed American was processed and provided with essential equipment. In addition to these duties, they also processed all of the servicemen as they left the area prior to their returning to the States. There were times when the company processed over 500 soldiers a day.

Our community is proud of the hard work and dedication displayed by the 1019th Quartermaster Company. They are truly a credit to Central New York.

Following are the names of the members of the Supply Platoon of the 1019th Quartermaster Company: 1st Lt. David Fosdick, 2d Lt. Ronald Humphery, CWO3 Gerald Davies, M. Sgt. Robert Fuller, Sfc. Ramona Sandoval, S. Sgt. Thomas Fahey, Sgt. Gregory Beebe, Sgt. Teddy Cavollo, Sgt. William Hazelton, Sgt. David Jones, Sgt. Edward Keegan, Sgt. Abraham Ortiz, Sgt. Miguel Pujos, Sgt. Deborah Reed, Sgt. Bradley Wass, Spc. Debra Addison, Spc. Richard Bailey, Spc. Michael Bick, Spc. Nicola Green, Spc. Traci Hall, Spc. Leroy Hardge, Spc. Samantha Isles, Spc. Sean Lawless, Spc. David Nixon, Spc. Timothy Peterson, Spc. Megan Taylorrolf, Pfc. Alana Crossman, and Pfc. Vincent Harris.

I would ask my colleagues to join me in thanking them as they return to their civilian jobs or their educational pursuits. We are proud of the commitment our national reservists make to their families and our country.

COMMEMORATION OF AMBASSADOR SAMUEL WISE

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, on January 21, 1997, the United States lost one of its finest public servants, Ambassador Samuel G. Wise. In his 20 years of service in the State Department and the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, Ambassador Wise sought to advance the precious principle of democracy. His diplomatic skills, recognized worldwide, helped forge an international consensus on human rights and an effective process to hold states accountable to the Helsinki principles. Through his work, many lives were saved and democracy was strengthened.

I first met Sam soon after being appointed to the Helsinki Commission in 1989. I did not know him very well, but his reputation was one of a kind with a good heart for people. He did not seek the limelight, but instead labored quietly and nobly behind the scenes. His work will live on in the effective organization he helped create and the human rights standards he helped strengthen. He will be sorely missed.

My thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, Mary, and his family during this time of loss.

CONGRATULATIONS ANN BROWN

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, though some appointments of the Clinton administration may be underwhelming, the selection 4 years ago of Ann Brown to be Chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission continues to gather rave reviews.

Ann is the CPSC's seventh Chairman, and I recommend that the agency retire her jersey. Consumer advocacy has been her passion for two decades, including service as vice president of the Consumer Federation of America for nearly 15 years and chairman of Public Voice for 11.

Ann understands which products harm children—from venetian blind cord loops to pajama drawstrings—and how to persuade industry and Congress to sell safety. Her focus and her voice are always clear.

Ann celebrates a milestone birthday this month. No one will believe which one, and I wonder if, just this once, we can waive the consumer's right to know.

Happy birthday to an extraordinarily competent public servant, lively and dear friend, and Smith College alumna. Your congressional fan club salutes you.

TEN COMMANDMENTS

SPEECH OF

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 1997

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, our forefathers established the United States, ''one nation under God, * * *'' as a country in which the Government shall not regulate the religious practices of its citizenry either by ''respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; * * *.'' This logical separation of two distinct activities in the first amendment of the Constitution of the United States supports the argument that religious freedom can be exercised by U.S. citizens on government property separately from the government respecting an establishment of religion.

Frankly, I am at a loss to understand why all the attention regarding the display of the Ten Commandments is focused on Alabama, when the Ten Commandments are displayed in other public forums across the Nation including the Supreme Court. Perhaps certain parties simply find the great State of Alabama a more appealing target of their anti-Christian attacks.

When I proudly took the oath of office as Representative of the First District of Alabama at the beginning of the 105th Congress, I swore to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States. The first amendment of the Constitution of the United States clearly prohibits the regulation, by the Federal Government, of Judge Moore's right to exercise his religious beliefs by displaying the Ten Commandments. I am pleased to join the sponsor of House Concurrent Resolution 31, my distinguished colleague from Alabama, Mr. ROBERT ADERHOLT, as a cosponsor of the concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the display of the Ten Commandments by Judge Roy S. Moore, a judge on the circuit court of the State of Alabama. I urge a favorable vote on this resolution.

TRIBUTE TO EMILY LEVY

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in the House and the residents of Dade County, FL, to recognize an upcoming leader in my district, Ms. Emily Levy. Emily, a senior at North Miami Beach Senior High, has been chosen as a finalist in the prestigious Westinghouse Science Talent Search for her work with children with learning disabilities.

Emily has displayed an astonishing level of maturity and dedication to her community for someone who is only 17 years old. As a volunteer at a school for children with learning disabilities, Ms. Levy noticed the frustration her students experienced while trying to learn in a traditional manner. As a result, she created a nonlinear program that has made learning easier for her students. She spent 5 years meticulously revising this brain imagery form of conceptual organization. Ms. Levy can be proud that because of her efforts, the course of young lives can be changed, and minds can be opened.

In addition to her obvious talent in the science field she maintains a 5.04 grade point average—on a 4.0 scale—has won piano and oratory competitions, and models professionally. She will be attending Brown University in the fall.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud and delighted to count Ms. Emily Levy as a constituent, and am sure that this is not the last we will hear from her.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE THEODORE ROOSEVELT WILDLIFE LEGACY ACT

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Theodore Roosevelt Wildlife Legacy Act. This legislation will improve the National Wildlife Refuge System because it clearly reaffirms President Roosevelt's original intent in establishing our first wildlife refuge in 1903—to conserve fish and wildlife for the enjoyment of present and future generations. Why is it necessary to reaffirm our commitment to the only system of public lands dedicated to wildlife conservation? Because legislation recently introduced in the House would fundamentally alter the purpose and undermine the conservation mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System. In the last Congress, a vote against a very similar bill, H.R. 1675, was counted by the nonpartisan League of Conservation Voters as one of the key environmental votes of 1996.

H.R. 511, which was recently introduced by the chairman of the Resources Committee, would undermine wildlife conservation on our refuges by elevating hunting, trapping, and other forms of recreation to a purpose of the system coequal to conservation. But do not think that this is a purely philosophical debate about whether hunting should be a purpose of

the refuge system, because H.R. 511 would also restrict the ability of the wildlife management professionals at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service properly to manage recreational activities. Hunting, if properly controlled, in an important tool in the kit of the wildlife manager. However, if not managed properly, it can rapidly deplete wildlife populations.

The Theodore Roosevelt Wildlife Legacy Act, on the other hand, reaffirms conservation as the purpose of the refugee system and establishes an objective process for evaluating whether recreational activities are compatible with wildlife conservation. It recognizes wildlife dependent recreation, including wildlife observation, hunting, and fishing, as priority uses of the system, but ensures that they are subordinate to conservation goals.

While the National Wildlife Refuge System provides world class opportunities for hunting and other outdoor recreation, which I support, the approach taken in H.R. 511 is dead wrong. The overwhelming majority of visitors to our wildlife refuges come not to hunt or trap, but to observe and enjoy nature in other ways. Yet those who do wish to hunt and fish enjoy broad access to refuge lands; in fact, over half of all refuges—comprising more than 90 percent of the system's acreage—already permit these recreational uses.

The Theodore Roosevelt Wildlife Legacy Act provides an effective blueprint to guide the refuge system into the 21st century. This bill ensures that all Americans will continue to get a fair return on their investment in the National Wildlife Refuge System. It is supported by a number of major conservation organizations, including the National Audubon Society, the Wildlife Society, Defenders of Wildlife, the Environmental Defense Fund, and the Natural Resources Defense Council. In contrast, H.R. 511 is a solution in search of a problem, and that solution will undermine 94 years of fish and wildlife conservation.

In 1903, President Roosevelt had the foresight to set aside a place—a small place—where wildlife came first. Let us maintain a place in our increasingly crowded world where there is room for people, but where wildlife comes first. That place is the National Wildlife Refuge System and we should keep it that way. Support the Theodore Roosevelt Wildlife Legacy Act.

TRIBUTE TO FRED KORT

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly extraordinary individual, Fred Kort. Mr. Kort has lived an amazing life; his story serves as an inspiration to all that know him. I am honored today to be able to pay tribute to this man, as recognition is long overdue.

Mr. Kort was born in Germany just before Adolf Hitler came to power. In 1938, his family was deported from southern Germany to Poland, and Fred was forced to continue his elementary school education at the American ORT Program in Poland. Things changed drastically with the outbreak of war as the family was separated and Fred and his brother were forced into the Lodz ghetto. In 1940, Fred escaped the Lodz Ghetto and made his way to Warsaw where he was reunited with his father. However, a short time later, he was forced into the Falenti labor camp. He toiled in the camp for 19 months, only to return to the Warsaw Ghetto where he was again captured and a few weeks later taken to Treblinca. Upon arriving at Treblinca, 90 percent of the individuals were immediately exterminated. Remarkably, Mr. Kort managed to survive in the camp for over a year.

Eventually, Fred managed to escape from Treblinca, and joined the Polish underground. As a member of the resistance he was inducted into the Polish Army. A year later the war ended, enabling Mr. Kort to return home. There he reunited with his mother and sister and found out that his father, brother, and several close relatives had not survived the Holocaust. In 1947, Fred left Europe for America to start a new life.

Upon arriving in the United States he worked and lived in New York as a technician. Eventually his work led him to relocate to Los Angeles. In Los Angeles he learned all that he could about the toy company business and in 1969 opened the Imperial Toy Co.

Mr. Kort always has been generous with his time as well as his money supporting various philanthropic charities. Fred's history of giving ranges from shipping toys to children left homeless by Hurricane Andrew to being an original founder of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC. Indeed his work in preserving the memory of the Holocaust has been exemplary.

The memory of the Holocaust has never been far from the heart and mind of Fred Kort. From his role in testifying at five Nazi war crime trials, to helping build museums in Washington and Los Angeles, Mr. Kort has worked to ensure that the knowledge of what happened will not be lost on future generations. Mr. Kort's life is a testament to the enduring nature of the human spirit as the strength of a lifetime was built from the ashes of hatred. Indeed one can say with certainty that America, and indeed the world, is a better place with Mr. Kort in it.

TRIBUTE TO BETTY AND LARRY FISHER

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, Mr. BERMAN and I are honored today to pay tribute to two of our dearest friends—Betty and Larry Fisher—for whom political activism is an abiding passion and a participatory sport. Betty and Larry are model good citizens, who have for decades offered freely of their time and every resource to advance the many good causes they have espoused.

Betty began her political career in the early 1960's, coordinating major events for Senators Hubert Humphrey and TED KENNEDY. She has been at it ever since. Among the positions in which she has served are Business Manager for the Robert Kennedy for President Campaign Committee; member of the Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission and, from 1991–95, Chief of Staff for Los Angeles City Councilwoman Ruth Galanter.

Larry has combined an extensive political background with a highly successful and distinguished business career. As chairman of Braun Ketchum, Los Angeles, Larry provided guidance to many of the country's most influential corporations, including Transamerica Occidental Life, GTE, and Great Western Financial. He also made time to serve as Executive Director of the California Democratic Party and continues to be heavily involved in political activities.

Larry is also a guiding force in community service. He is a trustee of the Norris Cancer Institute and Research Center, a director of the Shelter Partnership and a member of both the World Affairs Council and the Public Relations Society of America.

Among the most impressive thing about Larry and Betty Fisher is that their marriage has thrived in spite of the fact that he graduated from USC and she from UCLA. Indeed, we both cut our political teeth working alongside Betty in Young Democrats at UCLA. Larry and Betty's enormous political skill enabled them to survive even this intense interscholastic rivalry.

Seriously, Betty and Larry are among the world's most delightful human beings. They are charming, intelligent, and just great fun.

We ask our colleagues to join us today in saluting Betty and Larry Fisher, whose friendship and wisdom have been of the greatest value to us over the years. Their sense of commitment and dedication to making this a better world is an inspiration to us all. They are moving to a neighborhood some distance from us, and we will miss seeing them often. We send them off, however, with our greatest affection and wishes of continued happiness and success.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR ANN BARBARO, FOUNDER OF STRAIGHT TALK IN ROCKAWAY, QUEENS

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, one of the pleasures of serving in this legislative body is the opportunity we occasionally get to acknowledge publicly the outstanding citizens of our Nation.

I rise today to honor a distinguished resident of my district, Ms. Ann Barbaro. In an independent and bold move, Ms. Barbaro started a paper called Straight Talk, to report on news and events in the local community of Rockaway, Queens. It operated successfully for little over a year before it was forced to close its doors. The paper was to serve as a vehicle to educate the residents of her neighborhood. Today I would like to commend her initiative to improve and uplift her community through this paper. Ms. Barbaro has remained very involved in civic matters in the community and I expect her to do so for a long time to come.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring Ms. Barbaro for her commitment to improving the

quality of life in her community and for her social activism. Thank you Ms. Barbaro.

TRIBUTE TO CURT FLOOD

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to recognize and pay tribute to my friend and hero, former St. Louis Cardinals outfielder Curt Flood, who died on January 20, 1997.

In addition to this status as professional baseball player, Curt will be remembered as the man responsible for bringing collective bargaining to professional baseball. He took his case of free-agency all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. In his renowned letter to former baseball commissioner Bowie Kuhn, Curt Flood eloquently articulated his well-founded reasons and encouraged future professional players to fight diligently for their rights.

Curt Flood was a great humanitarian. He devoted his time and resources to numerous philanthropic causes. On my desk in my congressional office, there sits an award, an old bronzed shoe, from Aunts and Uncles, and organization which Curt Flood helped fund to provide shoes to needy children in the St. Louis area. Each time I look at that shoe, I am reminded of what a great man Curt Flood was.

I remember as if it were yesterday instead of 1961 that Curt, my cousin Arthur, and I spent several days and nights painting caricatures on the walls and ceiling of my Glow Worm cocktail lounge.

There are times when we forget the wonderful contributions that professional athletes make to mankind. The spotlight can be so blinding that we only remember their home runs, three-pointers, or touchdowns. Very seldom do we remember them for the work they do outside of their profession. That is why I submit to our colleagues Curt Flood's story as reported in the January 23, 1997, St. Louis American newspaper and a copy of his letter to Commissioner Bowie Kuhn regarding his free agency status.

[From the St. Louis American, Jan. 23, 1997]

CHAMPION OF PRINCIPLE—FORMER CARDINAL CURT FLOOD DEAD AT 59

(By Alvin A. Reid)

LOS ANGELES—Curt Flood used his athletic talent to help make the St. Louis Cardinals two-time world champions and then used his conviction to change major league baseball.

Flood died of throat cancer on Monday in Los Angeles, two days after his 59th birthday.

His dramatic stand against baseball's reserve clause ended his tenure in St. Louis in 1970. However, before he moved to Spain to further his budding artistic career, he had a profound impact on the St. Louis community.

''Curt Flood and former St. Louis football Cardinal lineman Ernie McMillan helped fund the Aunts & Uncles organization and their mission was to see to it that all kids in the city had good shoes,'' said Bennie Rodgers, *American* executive editor. ''They would have the shoe give-a-way at Christmas and Easter and give thousands of kids shoes, they would pay for it.''

Rodgers said the shoe give-a-way became a weekly event and was headquartered at the current location of the *American* offices at 4144 Lindell Blvd.

When traded to the Philadelphia Phillies, Flood refused to go. He petitioned to Commissioner Bowie Kuhn that the current system was akin to slavery and that it violated antitrust laws. The commissioner refused Flood's request for free agency. He sat out of baseball in 1970 while legally battling the ruling. He returned to baseball in 1971 as a member of the Washington Senators, but lasted just 13 games. After one game he found a black funeral wreath at his locker.

The commissioner refused Flood's case, which eventually reached the U.S. Supreme Court in 1972 where he lost his lawsuit. However, in 1975 an arbitrator granted free agency to two players, and permanently diluted the reserve clause and led to creation of the free-agent system still used today.

[From the St. Louis American, Jan. 23, 1997]

CURT FLOOD'S FAMOUS LETTER, A SIGNATURE DOCUMENT

(By Barry Cooper)

On the day that Martin Luther King was being honored, yet another famous African-American passed on. Curt Flood, who pioneered free agency by challenging baseball's long-standing reserve clause in the early 1970's, died in Los Angeles Jan. 20 after a battle with throat cancer. He was 59.

Here's the famous letter Flood wrote to then baseball commissioner Bowie Kuhn. That letter—and his subsequent lawsuit—forced baseball to adopt what has now become free agency.

December 24, 1969

Mr. Bowie K. Kuhn, Commissioner of Baseball, 680 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10019.

After twelve years in the Major Leagues, I do not feel I am a piece of property to be bought and sold irrespective of my wishes. I believe that any system which produces that result violates my basic rights as a citizen and is inconsistent with the laws of the United States and of the sovereign States.

It is my desire to play baseball in 1970, and I am capable of playing. I have received a contract offer from the Philadelphia Club, but I believe I have the right to consider offers from other clubs before making any decisions. I, therefore, request that you make known to all Major League Clubs my feelings in this matter, and advise them of my availability for the 1970 season.

Sincerely Yours, Curt Flood.

Flood sat out the 1970 season and took the case to court. A deal was worked out in 1971 that sent him to the Washington Senators, but he played only 33 games and retired. Later, other players were able to take advantage of the free agency that he had fought so hard for.

REFLECTIONS ON HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 31—THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

SPEECH OF

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, it's a day of biblical proportions—Congress debates the Ten Commandments and Charlton Heston prepares to present the staff he used as Moses to Mickey Mouse. The theater of the absurd becomes reality on the Hill and off.

I walk through the valley of congressional hypocrisy and take spiritual inventory of the less than holy works of my colleagues on welfare. Without trying to upstage Moses, I offer the following principles for consideration:

Treasure the children. Thou shalt not prioritize money above them.

Thous shall not take the status of legal immigrants in vain.

Thou shall not willfully push over 1 million children into poverty.

Thou shall not deny disability payments to over 260,000 of the poorest children of our nation.

Thou shall not bear false witness to over 800,000 elderly legal immigrants by terminating Medicaid and SSI assistance.

Thou shall not deceive our nation's governors, forced to bear the burden of a disintegrated safety net and an evaporated entitlement, with the false prophecies of bonus payments and block grants.

Thou shall not disgrace a nation in a time of widening gaps of wealth under the guise of reform.

If Members look to the Bible for justification of their actions, they would profit from the book of Job:

Do you limit wisdom to yourself? What do you know that we do not know? What insights do you have that we do not have? The gray-haired and the aged are on our side, men even older than your father. Why has your heart carried you away, and why do your eyes flash, so that you vent your rage against the meek, the humble, the poor of our nation? Job 15:8–13.

ALABAMA AND THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES W. ''CHIP'' PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 1997

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, religious freedom is once again under attack in our country. In my neighboring State of Alabama, the recent controversy over the Ten Commandments highlights the contempt that some people in our country have for religious freedom.

Alabama Circuit Court Judge Ray Moore opens each session of his courtroom with a prayer. The Ten Commandments hang on the walls of his court. Once again, the ACLU is saying that it is a terrible thing for the basis of our laws to be displayed in a court of law. I am proud to join with so many of my colleagues and Alabama's Governor Fob James in supporting Judge Moore's right to display the Ten Commandments.

The Ten Commandments are a symbol of our past and a hope for our future. They are the foundational elements of our history, heritage, and laws. Tradition is said to be ''nothing but the acknowledgment of the authority of symbols and the relevance of the narratives that gave birth to them.'' We have many such symbols and traditions in this Nation. We have biblical symbols in the Supreme Court, ''In God We Trust'' is inscribed here in the Chamber of the House and on every piece of U.S. currency and in addition each day of Congress opens with a prayer. Clearly, our country was founded upon religious principles. Unfortunately, some believe freedom of religion means freedom from religion.

On September 17, 1796, George Washington gave his farewell address saying, ''Of all

the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. * * * Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle.''

Those who want to take down the Ten Commandments and banish from our history the principles that guided our founders are the same ones that move our country away from moral absolutes to a value system of no right and no wrong. The values embodied by the Ten Commandments lead to political prosperity, civic responsibility, and renewed culture. Their absence, unfortunately, leads to chaos, destruction, and the loss of moral constraints. If the ACLU is successful in tearing down the Ten Commandments from our society what will they choose to replace them for a basis for law? What will the ACLU choose for us as a moral compass? Who gives them the right to change the founding principles of our country? Those are the questions that need to be asked. While some will side with the ACLU, I will side with the Founding Fathers of our country.

We are reaping the consequences today of an anything goes society. Our culture is permeated with crime, drugs, violence, and family breakdown. Those who want to take down the Ten Commandments from the Alabama courtroom cannot be allowed to do so. For 30 years, there has been a deliberate march and assault on our traditional values. This is where we should draw the line.

THE RESPECT CLUB FOSTERS PRIDE IN SELF, COMMUNITY, AND COUNTRY

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, we spend a lot of time on the floor of Congress talking about the importance of community, education, and this Nation's greatest resource, our young people. And believe me, that's important. But in reality, the real progress that is made toward educating and protecting our youth is made outside Washington, by the families, civic groups, towns, and schools that make up communities all across this country. And low and behold, I was fortunate enough to find out about just such a great program that incorporates all of these elements right in the heart of my congressional district in upstate New York.

I'm talking about an extracurricular program at Shenendehowa High School that draws on the community and parents, faculty and administrators, and most importantly, the students. Their focus is on one of the most important things we can teach our young people, mutual respect. The RESPECT Club at Shenendehowa is in its fourth year and has made great strides in demonstrating to our young people the importance of respecting individual preferences, rights, needs, and self-worth. In a day of age when our young people have become more and more sophisticated, they have also become exposed to new hardships and pressures that wear heavily on their psyche and self-esteem. This club and its young participants have played an active role in raising the awareness and the ability of their fellow students to cope with many of these grave problems and help one another at the same time. They have focused on such serious societal problems as eating disorders, teen pregnancy, suicide, depression, and dating violence.

Now how do they go about getting the attention and respect of their peers and surrounding communities? By sponsoring events that encourage student and community-wide involvement like their fourth annual arts festival.

What better way, Mr. Speaker, to foster greater understanding and cooperation between individuals than through a program encouraging participation in the arts. Their festival highlights student participation in the performing arts, like musical and theatrical performances, and the recitation of literature, poetry, and essays, not to mention displaying visual art like paintings, photography, and sculpture. And even better, the RESPECT Club's all-day art festival has attracted 500 participants, not to mention the support of the school faculty, administrators, and parents.

I couldn't have thought of a better way to emphasize to both young and old alike the value and importance of standing up and taking action to improve your local community. Programs like this do wonders for individual self-esteem but also to promote virtues like pride in community, volunteerism, and the sense of civic duty that has made America the greatest nation on earth.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and all Members of the House rise with me and pay tribute to all the members, past and present, of Shenendehowa's RESPECT Club on the occasion of their annual arts festival coming up on Friday, March 7, 1997. I would also ask that each of us take heed of their message because we tend to lose sight of it from time to time ourselves here in Congress. As the RESPECT Club says, Mr. Speaker, respect is earned through: The power to respect ourselves, our body, mind and spirit, the openness and acceptance needed to respect differences and individuality, and the will to take time to make a difference in someone's life.

OVARIAN CANCER RESEARCH AND INFORMATION AMENDMENTS OF 1997

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced the Ovarian Cancer Research and Information Amendments of 1997. A bill that would increase funding for ovarian cancer research to $90 million, require the establishment of at least one specialized program of research excellence [SPORE] in ovarian cancer at the National Cancer Institute, and provide for a comprehensive information distribution program.

Ovarian cancer is the leading cause of gynecological cancer and the number of ovarian cancer-related deaths continues to climb. This year, ovarian cancer will take the lives of 14,200 American women while 26,800 more American women will be diagnosed.

If ovarian cancer is discovered and treated in its early stages, the 5-year survival rate is 92 percent. The sad thing is that less than a quarter of all ovarian cancer cases are detected at the early stages. Why? Because there are no effective early screening tests for ovarian cancer. Instead of a 5-year survival rate of 92 percent as in early detected cases, the overall 5-year relative survival rate is 46 percent. Even more disheartening is the statistic that advanced cases have a 5-year survival rate of 25 percent. We must take action.

We are not doing enough to find an early detection test for ovarian cancer. Although ovarian cancer-related deaths more than doubled cervical cancer-related deaths, only $39.4 million was spent on ovarian cancer while $48.1 million went to cervical cancer in 1996.

It is essential for the Congress to make a strong commitment to saving the lives of our thousands of mothers, grandmothers, daughters, and sisters who are afflicted with ovarian cancer.

I urge immediate consideration and passage of this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNION ADVOCATE

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Union Advocate, one of the oldest labor newspapers in Minnesota, which is widely read by working families in my home town of St. Paul and its surrounding suburbs.

Barb Kucera, editor of the Union Advocate, today is a special resource to the Advocate newspaper. With her insightful articles and almost singlehanded operation of the bimonthly publication, Barb has been essential to the continued success of this special publication. Families in the Twin Cities area look forward to receiving copies of the publication, which highlights issues and concerns of interest to working men and women. For many years, I have had the privilege of counting Ms. Kucera, the first female editor of the paper, as a close friend. She is proceeding in the 100-year tradition of Union Advocate editors—real advocacy and a voice for working Minnesotans and the labor movement in our region.

A veteran labor reporter, Barb Kucera rescued the Union Advocate when it was on the verge of bankruptcy, and has been the driving force behind its revitalization. She manages to develop story ideas, write and edit the newspaper's articles, take photographs, and sell advertising space for each issue. Over the years, Barb has also managed to expand coverage of issues to incorporate stories with more of an international slant.

During the paper's centennial year, Ms. Kucera plans to publish various historical articles on the history of the labor movement—its victories and setbacks, opportunities and pitfalls. Barb was recently highlighted in a Twin Cities newspaper article, and in it she noted that examining the history of the union movement is useful in terms of applying lessons learned from it to today's situations.

First as a union family member, union member, and today as a public official, I want to

acknowledge the special role that the Union Advocate has in terms of helping to shape, guide, inform, and educate the Minnesota community that I am proud to represent.

The articles in the Union Advocate will no doubt provide important lessons for us and for our children during the next hundred years. I'm sure my colleagues will join me in congratulating this historic publication on its centennial year, and in extending good wishes to Minnesotan Barb Kucera, a very fine writer and editor, and also to the board and volunteer union members that are actively supporting this unique news publication. I wish the organization and paper many productive years of service even as I acknowledge the role that the Union Advocate has played in shaping the modern Minnesota today. May they continue to do the same in the decades ahead. Congratulations and thank you. Happy 100th anniversary.

ANDERSON COMMUNITY RESOURCES SUMMIT

HON. DAVID M. McINTOSH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. MCINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give my report from Indiana.

All across Indiana, my wife Ruthie and I have met so many wonderful, kind and caring people.

These are people who strive day and night to make a difference.

In my book, these individuals are Hoosier heros.

Heros in every sense of the word, because of their commitment to others.

Picture if you will, concerned citizens rolling up their selves and taking the responsibility to make their community a better place to live.

Today I commend each and everyone involved with the community resources summit, in Anderson, IN.

People like, Rudy Porter, Bill Raymore, Dr. William O'Neill, and Rev. Louis Burgess.

All of these people rolled up their sleeves and got involved.

These are special people.

Over a year ago, citizens who were concerned about the problems in the black community in Anderson, IN came together to identify the concerns that plague their streets, harm their people, and impact their neighborhoods.

These citizens of Anderson identified 86 areas of concern.

At a later summit meeting those concerns were consolidated to a little more than 20 actions areas.

Important issues ranging from crime, violence, race, the environment, care of the elderly, safety, and education.

Citizens were asked to do more than pay lip services, but do something to solve the problems.

At leadership meetings individuals signed their names to concern areas.

Then they were asked to come back months later and deliver a progress report on their efforts.

What transpired was truly amazing.

Responsibility was taken serious.

Commitments were made to help others, solve problems, and clean up the streets from crime, drugs and violence.

So many special people worked day and night to help those less fortunate in Anderson.

So many wonderful people like, Rudy Porter of the mayor's office, and Bill Raymore of the Urban League, both lent their leadership and influence to contribute to the summit's success.

Also Dr. William O'Neal, the assistant superintendent of Anderson community schools, implemented a mentor program for seniors in high school.

A mentor program that will help guide them through the difficult life choices they will fare after graduation.

Caroline O'Neal is currently helping Tiffany Haskins, a senior at Madison Heights High School, through the confusing process of applying for a college.

So today let me also commend; Rev. Louis Burgess, Jr., who coordinated with Jeff Weightman at Star Financial Bank to make banking services more comfortable and encourage low- to moderate-income African-Americans to open their own businesses.

Darrin Clay, Shannon Fuller, and Derrick Newsom are three young citizens who took advantage of this opportunity and opened their own small business, the Phade Factory.

The Phade Factory is a barber shop and beauty salon in Anderson.

The Lead Coordinator's valuable time, prayers, strength, and efforts, are commendable.

Everyone who participated in the community resources summit are Hoosier heroes.

Mr. Speaker, that concludes my report from Indiana.

Names to be entered into the RECORD: Bill Watson, Bruce Walker, Ollie Dixon, James Burgess, Larry Burns, and Lennon Brown.

STATEMENT OF CONGRESSMAN WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT REGARDING HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 31, PUBLIC DISPLAY OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, in the 6 weeks I have served in the Congress I have been called upon to cast fewer than 20 substantive votes. Over half of those votes were on various proposals to amend the Constitution to limit congressional terms of office. Two votes concerned the question of whether to allow the President to spend international development funds on the family planning programs for which they were previously appropriated. One was to establish a post office in memory of a late colleague and one was to issue a reprimand to the Speaker of the House.

Mr. Speaker, I did not campaign on any of these issues. The issues that my constituents sent me here to address have yet to be considered at all. The Congress has yet to debate a single piece of legislation on health care, the economy, Social Security, the plight of our cities and towns, the state of the environment, the defense of our Nation or the many crises we face on the international scene.

Now, instead of addressing any of these matters, we are being asked to consider a truly urgent and pivotal public concern: Whether, in our opinion, a judge should or should not be permitted to display the Ten Commandments in a courtroom in the State of Alabama.

With all due respect to Alabama, our vote today will have no effect on anyone, in Alabama or anywhere else. It merely expresses our undying devotion to the *Decalogue* and our conviction that everyone should believe as we do.

On one level, Mr. Speaker, I am relieved that we are voting to enshrine the Ten Commandments rather than, let us say, the ten articles of the contract for America. It is surely better that we do nothing than that we do harm.

It is also a relief that the Republican leadership has resisted the temptation to offer an amendment to the Commandments. Presumably they recognized that a ''Thou shalt not submit a budget that is not balanced'' would require more than a two-thirds majority of the House.

On the other hand, I do not know that the Code of Hammurabi is any less entitled to be honored in our courtrooms as a fount of legal and ethical teachings, let alone the Analects of Confucius or the sacred texts of Buddhism or the Golden Rule.

Nor do I believe that more than 25 centuries after the covenant at Sinai the Ten Commandments needs the Congress of the United States to rise to its defense. The very idea that our approval or disapproval could enhance the majesty of those tablets does more to trivialize religion than any court decision could.

I also fear it says more about our arrogance and conceit than some of my colleagues would like to admit. To paraphrase Thomas More, if the earth is round, can an act of Congress make it flat? And if it is flat, will our pronouncement make it round?

Finally, would it not be better, Mr. Speaker, for all of us to try to follow the Ten Commandments, rather than issuing empty endorsements of them?

I am as fond of apple pie as the next person, but I intend to vote ''no WDD'' on this silly resolution. I urge my colleagues to do likewise. And then I hope this Congress will get to work.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP TIMON-ST. JUDE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bishop Timon-St. Jude High School on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

Bishop Timon-St. Jude High School was founded in 1946 by Bishop John F. O'Hara, C.S.C., former president of Notre Dame University. Timon's establishment marked the beginning of the diocesan high school system in Buffalo, and from a humble beginning of only 76 students in 1946, has grown to over 1,100 students. With its reputation for continuous academic excellence, Bishop Timon-St. Jude has set the standard by which all other schools are measured.

Throughout its remarkable history, Bishop Timon-St. Jude High School has demonstrated its strong commitment to the education of the

whole person, including the person standing before this distinguished body today. As a member of the graduating class of 1969, I have personally experienced the benefits of attending an institution that instills a true appreciation and genuine respect for the importance of education, voluntarism, civic responsibility, and community involvement.

Over the past 50 years, Timon has remained steadfast in its mission to create ''a spiritual, academic, and physical environment that nurtures and enhances the growth and development of each student.'' Bishop Timon-St. Jude is an institution that teaches life skills, and it continues to serve as an example of how a superior educational institution contributes to the stability of a region. The western New York community is a stronger community because of the quality educational experience that Bishop Timon-St. Jude High School provides.

Mr. Speaker, today I join with the faculty, staff, administration, and students of Bishop Timon-St. Jude High School, the alumni, and indeed, our entire western New York community in recognition of this historic 50th anniversary.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL SPORTSMANSHIP DAY

HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor today's celebration of National Sportsmanship Day. National Sportsmanship Day is designed to foster ethics and fair play in healthy athletic competition.

National Sportsmanship Day is administered by the Institute for International Sport, located in my district at my alma mater, the University of Rhode Island. Since its inception in 1991, this program has grown to include more than 8,000 schools in all 50 States and in 75 countries worldwide.

To better educate students about good sportsmanship, the institute provides information and materials to participating schools on sports ethics, healthy competition, and fair and equitable play. The institute also sponsors essay contests, many of which are printed in local newspapers and further spread the laudable message of good sportsmanship.

In the past, National Sportsmanship Day has enjoyed the support and encouragement of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. This year is no different and its cochairs, Florence Griffith Joyner and Tom McMillen, have again commended the Institute for International Sport for its work on promoting good sportsmanship.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding those participating in this worthwhile program, and in extending my congratulations to the Institute for International Sport for being recognized by the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

I would like to include in the RECORD the letter received by the Institute for International Sport from the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

The letter follows:

THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON PHYSICAL FITNESS AND SPORTS,
Washington, DC.

Once again, the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports is pleased to recognize National Sportsmanship Day, March 4, 1997. Participation in sports is a great way to promote fitness while at the same time teaching lessons and skills that help us lead longer, healthier lives.

While it is personally satisfying to receive acclaim on individual athletic feats, it is more important to try to help all athletes focus on the value of fair play, ethics, integrity, honesty and sportsmanship, as well as improving their levels of physical activity and fitness.

The Institute for International Sport deserves recognition for the role it continues to play in this important annual event. We wish you every success in your efforts to promote the importance of National Sportsmanship Day.

FLORENCE GRIFFITH JOYNER,
Co-Chair.
TOM MCMILLEN,
Co-Chair.

IN HONOR OF THE U.S.S. ''MONITOR''

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues the valuable contributions of the U.S.S. *Monitor* during the Civil War and the wonderful success that the Greenpoint Monitor Museum has been in preserving its memory.

Built in the shipyards of Greenpoint, Brooklyn, the U.S.S. *Monitor* left the New York Harbor on March 6, 1862, to ward off its attacks and to destroy the C.S.S. *Virginia.* On March 9, for 4 hours this vessel fought her dreaded adversary to a standstill, in a battle which revolutionized naval warfare while protecting the Union blockade of the southern coast from its most serious challenge.

On Saturday, March 8, the people of Greenpoint will gather to celebrate the 135th anniversary of the departure out of the New York Harbor of the U.S.S. *Monitor* on its way to defeat the C.S.S. *Virginia.* They will follow the route of the U.S.S. *Monitor* from Greenpoint where she was built and launched, passed the Navy yard where she was fitted with her armaments, and finally up to Fort Hamilton where she departed the New York Harbor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the Greenpoint Monitor Museum which made this first annual celebration possible and the history of the U.S.S. *Monitor* available to everyone.

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNION MEMBERS' RIGHT-TO-KNOW ACT

HON. JON CHRISTENSEN

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, last year, the AFL–CIO spent more than $35 million on deceitful and negative television commercials. These ads were paid for by the dues of hard working union members all across America who have a right to know how their dues are being spent.

That's why today I'm introducing the ''Union Members' Right-to-Know Act.''

This piece of legislation amends Federal law to require labor organizations to inform their members of how much money they spent on: Political activities, including so-called issue advocacy and voter education; political candidates and organizations—including in-kind assistance; and affiliated political action committees [PAC's] and the candidates the PAC's assist.

This is not an antiunion bill. Republicans, Democrats, and union members alike all believe that union members should have the right to know how their dues are spent. For too long, the labor bosses in Washington have prevented the average hard working union member from knowing how his dues are spent—dues that according to the U.S. Supreme Court ruling *Communications Workers of America* versus *Beck* can be refunded to any union member if they are not being expressly used for representational purposes.

I am responding to the many union members of my district who contacted me last year expressing their opposition to the use of their dues money being spent on partisan politics. They have a right to know.

HONORING MARY RHODES, MAYOR OF CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated public servant, Mayor Mary Rhodes, who is retiring in April after 6 years of distinguished service as the mayor of Corpus Christi, TX. On April 4, 1997, the day before the election to succeed her, Special Olympics, Inc. will host a benefit honoring the mayor. I want to join them in commending Mayor Rhodes' service to our community.

Mayor Rhodes came to the mayor's office knowledgeable of the Corpus Christi municipal government. Prior to her service as mayor, she served for 4 years as a member of the Corpus Christi City Council. Mayor Rhodes' other official activities include serving as chair for the Metropolitan Planning Organization and as a board member of the Texas Municipal League.

She has also participated in various civic organizations such as the United Way, the League of Women Voters, and the City Council of Parent/Teacher Associations.

Mayor Rhodes has done much to help the children of Corpus Christi through programs to enhance their health and education. Like me, she speaks to schools as often as possible. We both support DARE, an antidrug program, and Operation Supply Our Students, a program aimed at providing school supplies to low-income school districts.

Perhaps one of Mayor Rhodes' greatest legacies is her progress in finding solutions to the long-term water needs of the area. The 1996 drought made many Texas communities realize how very valuable water is to our economic fortunes and personal well-being.

She and I worked together on a bill last year that set in motion a plan for Corpus Christi and Nueces County to get the water our community needs. Corpus Christi is in a better position today to secure water for our population and economy as a result of her service, and I am proud to have worked with her as mayor.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Mayor Mary Rhodes for her service and in wishing her well in her future endeavors.

THE MORRIS K. UDALL ACT OF 1997

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, it was with bittersweet pride that last week I once again introduced the Morris K. Udall Wilderness Act of 1997. I introduced this legislation in the last Congress and it was pushed aside—along with countless other environmental initiatives that were sensible, rational legislation—a victim of not just partisan bickering. That would be bad enough—but pushed aside because of powerful oil interests hell-bent on cashing in today while abandoning sound stewardship in their exploration and exploitation of fragile American natural treasures. This legislation is very much needed to provide permanent wilderness designation and protection for a magnificent and special place, the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

The Arctic Refuge coastal plain is a unique ecosystem, long recognized for its rich biological diversity. Today over 200 species of wildlife depend on the coastal plain for survival. Muskoxen, wolves, polar and grizzly bears, and countless complex fauna and flora create a web of life unlike any other place on Earth. The coastal plain is perhaps best known as the home of the 160,000 member Porcupine Caribou herd, which migrates there for calving and post-calving each year. In reality, this Arctic desert landscape is a 20th century window to the ice age, referred to as the North American Serengeti.

I have worked on issues affecting Alaska for a long time. One of my first assignments in Congress was to serve on the Alaska Lands Subcommittee with then Chairman Mo Udall and John Seiberling. Over a 4-year period, Congress debated the appropriate disposition, designation and use of Federal lands in Alaska. We frankly lost some debates and designations and won the preservation of magnificent areas constituting our North American natural legacy.

The final version of H.R. 39, signed into law by President Carter, is one of the most significant pieces of environmental law ever enacted. While this legislation protected many of Alaska's unique resources, the final disposition of the Arctic Refuge was left with limited safeguards, but not permanently resolved. While the House of Representatives strongly supported wilderness designation, the final compromise has left open the possibility of further exploration and development in this fragile area.

For the past 16 years the coastal plain, or 1002 lands, has been in a twilight zone enjoying the status of wilderness without the full force and protection of the law. The failure to designate the coastal plain as wilderness has haunted us and placed this unique ecosystem at risk. In the last Congress, some of my colleagues supported opening the refuge to oil exploration as a means of raising revenue to balance the budget. We must put this destructive policy path behind us. We must protect this jewel of our national refuge system.

This wilderness designation is under attack from a host of special interests. Instead of considering the potentially catastrophic environmental consequences of oil drilling in the coastal plain, they are looking to pad their already bulging wallets with short-term profits. In short, they are seeking instant gratification at the sacrifice of our children's natural legacy.

Mr. Speaker, the choices in this debate are quite clear. We can save, or we can destroy. We can protect, or we can plunder. We can choose to listen to the majority of the American people who oppose the devastation of this special place, or we can choose to irresponsibly give heed to the fortunate few. I choose to save; I choose to protect; and I choose to listen to the American people, who want to provide true wilderness protection for the Arctic Refuge.

Protecting the environment through policy and law is a topic and craft that Mo Udall knows a lot about, and serving with him was a distinct pleasure and honor. Chairman Udall was dedicated to preserving our Nation's crown jewels for future generations. He worked seriously, but always had a knack for making his points with wit and poignancy. In talking about the Alaska Land Legislation, Mo spoke eloquently to all Americans: ''Not in our generation, nor ever again, will we have a land and wildlife opportunity approaching the scope and importance of this one. In terms of wilderness preservation, Alaska is the last frontier. This time, given one great final chance, let us strive to do what is right.''

We couldn't do better than to honor Chairman Udall with this designation that he fought so hard to put in place. The American reservoir of values, vision and inspiration that Mo Udall evoked will be enlisted today as Congress once again acts to determine the fate of the Artic Refuge.

I urge my colleagues to support this effort. We should end this debate and send an important message to the people we represent: we are listening. We will not auction off your natural legacy to powerful special interests. We will follow Mo's wise counsel and do it right, for now and for our children.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 6, 1997, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 7

9:30 a.m.
Joint Economic
To hold hearings to examine the employment-unemployment situation for February.
1334 Longworth Building

10:00 a.m.
Rules and Administration
To hear and consider the Committee on Governmental Affairs' request for additional funding.
SR–301

MARCH 10

1:30 p.m.
Governmental Affairs
Oversight of Government Management and The District of Columbia Subcommittee
To hold hearings to review management issues for the Department of Commerce.
SD–342

MARCH 11

9:00 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for agricultural research.
SR–332

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the Consumer Information Center, and the Office of Consumer Affairs.
SD–138

Judiciary
To hold joint hearings with the House Judiciary's Subcommittee on the Constitution to examine issues relating to partial birth abortion.
SD–G50

Labor and Human Resources
Employment and Training Subcommittee
To hold hearings to review Federal job training programs.
SD–430

Indian Affairs
Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.
SR–485

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for Food and Consumer Service, Department of Agriculture.
SD–124

Armed Services
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on the unified commands military strategies and operational requirements.
SD–106

Budget
To hold hearings to examine a proposal by a House coalition relating to the budget for fiscal year 1998 and beyond.
SD–608

Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine issues relating to the census in the year 2000.
SD–342

10:30 a.m.
Finance
To hold hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 1998 for the Medicaid program.
SD–215

2:00 p.m.
Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Small Business Administration.
S–146, Capitol

2:15 p.m.
Armed Services
Acquisition and Technology Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on science and technology programs.
SR–222

2:30 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings on S. 377, to promote electronic commerce by facilitating the use of strong encryption.
SR–253

MARCH 12

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting, to mark up S. 104, to reform United States policy with regard to the management and disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste.
SD–366

Labor and Human Resources
Public Health and Safety Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine scientific discoveries in cloning, focusing on challenges for public policy.
SD–G50

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense, focusing on missile projects.
SD–192

Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Justice.
S–146, Capitol

Finance
To hold hearings to examine the Graduate Medical Education program.
SD–215

2:00 p.m.
Armed Services
Personnel Subcommittee
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on policies pertaining to military compensation and quality of life programs.
SR–232A

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine universal telephone service.
SR–253

MARCH 13

9:00 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for agricultural research.
SR–332

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To resume hearings to examine issues with regard to competitive change in the electric power industry.
SD–G50

Environment and Public Works
Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act, focusing on program eligibility.
SD–406

10:00 a.m.
Labor and Human Resources
Business meeting, to mark up S. 4, to provide private sector employees the same opportunities for time-and-a-half compensatory time off, biweekly work programs, and flexible credit hour programs to help balance the demands and needs of work and family, and to clarify the provisions relating to exemptions of certain professionals from the minimum wage and overtime requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and pending nominations.
SD–430

Joint Economic
To hold hearings to examine economic problems of the income tax system.
SD–628

2:00 p.m.
Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Commerce.
S–146, Capitol

Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the future of the National Park System and to identify and discuss the needs, requirements, and innovative programs that will insure the Park Service will continue to meet its responsibilities well into the next century.
SD–366

MARCH 14

9:30 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings on the nominations of Johnny H. Hayes, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, Brig. Gen. Robert Bernard Flowers, USA, to be a Member of the Mississippi River Commission, and Judith M. Espinosa, of New Mexico, and Michael Rappoport, of Arizona, each to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation.
SD–406

Labor and Human Resources
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Higher Education Act.
SD–430

MARCH 18

9:00 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for agricultural research.
SR–332

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
Room to be announced

Appropriations
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for energy research programs of the Department of Energy.
SD–124

Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings on proposals to authorize state and local governments to enact flow control laws and to regulate the interstate transportation of solid waste.
SD–406

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Department of Agriculture.
SD–138

Labor and Human Resources
To hold hearings on the nomination of Alexis M. Herman, of Alabama, to be Secretary of Labor.
SD–430

MARCH 19

9:30 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act, focusing on environmental programs and statewide and metropolitan planning.
SD–406

Labor and Human Resources
To hold hearings to examine proposals to reform the operation of the Food and Drug Administration.
SD–430

Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the legislative recommendations of the Disabled American Veterans.
345 Cannon Building

2:00 p.m.
Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Securities and Exchange Commission.
S–146, Capitol

MARCH 20

9:00 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for agricultural research.
SR–332

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for atomic energy defense activities of the Department of Energy.
SD–124

Energy and Natural Resources
To resume hearings to examine issues with regard to competitive change in the electric power industry.
SH–216

Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the legislative recommendations of AMVETS, the American Ex-Prisoners of War, the Veterans of World War I, and the Vietnam Veterans of America.
345 Cannon Building

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Education.
SD–192

Appropriations
Transportation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Transportation.
SD–192

Labor and Human Resources
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Higher Education Act.
SD–430

2:00 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee
To resume hearings to examine the future of the National Park System and to identify and discuss the needs, requirements, and innovative programs that will insure the Park Service will continue to meet its responsibilities well into the next century.
SD–366

APRIL 8

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Environmental Protection Agency.
SD–138

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Farm Service Agency, the Foreign Agricultural Service, and the Risk Management Agency, Department of Agriculture.
SD–124

2:00 p.m.
Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine child pornography issues.
S–146, Capitol

APRIL 10

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Drug Enforcement Administration.
S–146, Capitol

Appropriations
Transportation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Transportation
SD–192

APRIL 15

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.
SD–138

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Rural Utilities Service, the Rural Housing Service, the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, and the Alternative Agricultural Research and Commercialization Center, all of the Department of Agriculture.
SD–124

2:00 p.m.
Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on counter-terrorism issues.
S–146, Capitol

APRIL 16

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Transportation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Transportation.
SD–124

2:00 p.m.
Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Federal Communications Commission.
S–146, Capitol

APRIL 17

1:30 p.m.
Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Supreme Court of the United States and the Judiciary.
S–146, Capitol

APRIL 22

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the National Science Foundation and the Office of Science and Technology Policy.
SD–192

Appropriations
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Environmental Management Program of the Department of Energy.
SD–124

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Agricultural Research Service, the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, the Economic Research Service, and the National Agricultural Statistics Service, all of the Department of Agriculture.
SD–138

APRIL 24

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Corp of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior.
SD–124

APRIL 29

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Veterans Affairs.
SD–138

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and the Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Resources.
SD–124

MAY 6

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
SD–138

CANCELLATIONS

MARCH 11

10:00 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Energy and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.
SD–366

MARCH 13

10:00 a.m.
Labor and Human Resources
To hold hearings to examine proposals to improve the health status of children.
SD–430

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate confirmed Charlene Barshefsky as U.S. Trade Representative.

House committees ordered reported 13 sundry measures.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1935–S2004

Measures Introduced: Seventeen bills were introduced, as follows: S. 392–408. **Pages S1979–80**

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows:

Reported on Tuesday, March 4, 1997:

S. Res. 19, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding United States opposition to the prison sentence of Tibetan ethnomusicologist Ngawang Choephel by the Government of the People's Republic of China. **Page S1979**

Measures Passed:

Trade Act Application Waiver: By 98 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. 26), Senate passed S.J. Res. 5, waiving certain provisions of the Trade Act of 1974 relating to the appointment of the United States Trade Representative, after taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S1945–70**

Rejected:

Hollings Amendment No. 19, to require Congressional approval before any international trade agreement that has the effect of amending or repealing statutory law of the United States law can be implemented in the United States. (By 84 yeas to 16 nays (Vote No. 25), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S1945–70

Messages from the President: Senate received the following messages from the President of the United States:

Transmitting the notice of the continuation of the Iran emergency; referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–20).

Pages S1978–79

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 99 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. 27 EX), Charlene Barshefsky, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador. **Pages S1970–73, S2004**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

2 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.

Routine list in the Marine Corps. **Pages S2003–04**

Messages From the President: **Pages S1978–79**

Measures Placed on Calendar: **Page S1979**

Communications: **Page S1979**

Statements on Introduced Bills: **Pages S1980–97**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1997–98**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S1998**

Notices of Hearings: **Page S1998**

Authority for Committees: **Pages S1998–99**

Additional Statements: **Pages S1999–S2003**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—27) **Pages S1970, S1973**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 12 noon, and adjourned at 6:47 p.m., until 12 noon, on Thursday, March 6, 1997. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2003.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE STRUCTURE

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded hearings to review strategic planning and management of information technology at the Department of Agriculture, after receiving testimony from Richard Rominger, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture; Sally Katzen, Administrator, Office of

Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget; and John W. Harman, Assistant Comptroller General and Chief Information Officer, and Joel C. Willemssen, Director, Accounting and Information Management Division, both of the General Accounting Office.

GLOBAL ASSESSMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held closed hearings to examine global assessment issues, receiving testimony from Gen. John M. Shalikashvili, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Subcommittee will meet again on Wednesday, March 12.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Airland Forces held hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on tactical aviation modernization issues, receiving testimony from Gen. Joseph W. Ralston, USAF, Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; Richard A. Davis, Director, National Security Analysis, General Accounting Office; and Andrew F. Krepinevich, Jr., Director, Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, Washington, D.C.

Subcommittee recessed subject to call.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Personnel held hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on recruiting and retention policies within the Department of Defense and the Military Services, receiving testimony from Mark Gebicke, Director, Elliot Smith, Assistant Director, and Beverly Schladt, Senior Evaluator, all of Military Operations and Capabilities Issues, General Accounting Office; Staff Sgt. Denise Slaughter, USAF; Aviation Anti-Submarine Warfare Operator 2 Richard Winland, USN; Staff Sgt. Stephen Simmons, USA; Gunnery Sgt. James Ruffin, USMC; Frederick F.Y. Pang, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Management Policy; Lt. Gen. Frederick E. Vollrath, USA, Deputy Chief of Army Staff for Personnel; Vice Adm. Daniel T. Oliver, USN, Chief of Naval Personnel; Lt. Gen. Carol A. Mutter, USMC, Deputy Chief of Marine Corps Staff for Manpower and Reserve Affairs; Lt. Gen. Michael D. McGinty, USAF, Deputy Chief of Air Force Staff for Personnel; Maj. Gen. Alfonso E. Lenhardt, USA, Commanding General, U.S. Army Recruiting Command; Rear Adm. Barbara E. McGann, USN, Commander, Navy Recruiting Command; Maj. Gen. Jack W. Klimp, USMC, Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruiting Command; and Brig. Gen. Walter E. Buchanan, III, USAF, Commander of Air Force Recruiting Service.

Subcommittee will meet again on Wednesday, March 12.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces resumed hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on defense programs to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, receiving testimony from Franklin C. Miller, Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Policy.

Subcommittee recessed subject to call.

1998 BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded hearings to examine the Congressional Budget Office analysis of the President's budget for fiscal year 1998, after receiving testimony from June E. O'Neill, Director, James L. Blum, Deputy Director, and Paul Von de Water, Assistant Director, Budget Analysis Division, all of the Congressional Budget Office.

Committee will meet again on Tuesday, March 11.

AVIATION SAFETY

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Aviation held hearings to examine aviation safety issues, focusing on the recommendations of the Gore Commission on Aviation Security, receiving testimony from Nancy McFadden, General Counsel, and Barry Valentine, Acting Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, both of the Department of Transportation; Gerald Dillingham, Associate Director, Transportation Issues, General Accounting Office; Anthony J. Broderick, Catlett, Virginia, former Federal Aviation Administration Associate Administrator for Regulation and Certification; Brian Michael Jenkins, Kroll Associates, Los Angeles, California, and Lt. Gen. James A. Abrahamson, International Air Safety, Washington, D.C., both on behalf of the White House Commission on Aviation Safety and Security; and John Meenan, Air Transport Association of America, Robert W. Hahn, American Enterprise Institute, and Edward Wytkind, AFL–CIO, all of Washington, D.C.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management met to further receive testimony on the impact of

the proposed Public Land Management Responsibility and Accountability Restoration Act on the administrative and judicial appeals of land management decisions of the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management from Ross Gorte, Specialist in Natural Resource Policy, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Felice Pace, Klamath Forest Alliance, Etna, California; Mike Francis, Wilderness Society, John Doggett, American Farm Bureau Federation, R. Denny Scott, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, and George Leonard, all of Washington, D.C.; Andy Stahl, Association of Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics, Eugene, Oregon; Frank Gladics, Western Forest Industries Association, Portland, Oregon; and Sam Anderson, National Ski Area Association, Denver, Colorado.

Subcommittee will meet again tomorrow.

SUPERFUND REFORM

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Superfund, Waste Control, and Risk Assessment concluded hearings on S. 8, to authorize funds for and reform the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Liability, and Compensation Act (Superfund), after receiving testimony from Carol M. Browner, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency; Terry D. Garcia, Acting Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; New Mexico Assistant Attorney General Charlie De Saillan, Environmental Enforcement Division, Santa Fe; Richard Gimello, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Trenton, on behalf of the National Governors' Association; Linda H. Biagioni, Black and Decker Corporation, Towson, Maryland; Karen Florini, Environmental Defense Fund, Washington, D.C.; Barbara Williams, Sunny Ray Restaurant, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, on behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business; Karen O'Regan, Phoenix Environmental Programs, Phoenix, Arizona; Larry L. Lockner, Shell Oil Company, Houston, Texas, on behalf of the American Petroleum Institute; Robert Spiegel, Edison Wetlands Association, Edison, New Jersey; and Rich A. Heig, Kennecott Corporation, Salt Lake City, Utah.

MEDICARE

Committee on Finance: Committee resumed hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 1998 for the Medicare program, receiving testimony from Jane Baumgarten, North Bend, Oregon, on behalf of the American Association of Retired Persons; Todd C. Linden, Grinnell Regional Medical Center, Grinnell, Iowa, on behalf of the American Hospital Association; Alan R. Nelson, American Society of Internal Medicine, Washington, D.C.; Seymour I. Schwartz, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, New York, on behalf of the American College of Surgeons; and Tim Size, Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative, Sauk City, on behalf of the National Rural Health Association.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

HIGH-RISK MANAGEMENT REFORM

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Committee held hearings on proposals to develop and implement management reforms to provide Federal agencies with strategies and techniques to increase effectiveness, reduce costs, and minimize risks associated with program and administrative management, receiving testimony from John A. Koskinen, Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget; Gene L. Dodaro, Assistant Comptroller General, Accounting and Information Management Division, General Accounting Office; and Dwight P. Robinson, Deputy Secretary, and Susan Gaffney, Inspector General, both of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Labor and Human Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 295, to promote cooperation and teamwork among worker-management relations in the American labor force.

BUDGET/OPERATIONS

Committee on Rules and Administration: Committee held oversight hearings to review the budget and operations of the National Gallery of Art and certain legislative offices, receiving testimony in behalf of their respective activities from Earl A. Powell III, Director, National Gallery of Art; Gary L. Sisco, Secretary of the Senate; Gregory S. Casey, Senate Sergeant at Arms; and Alan M. Hantman, Architect of the Capitol.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 41 public bills, H.R. 922–962; and 6 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 36–38 and H. Res. 81–83, were introduced. **Pages H765–67**

Reports Filed: No reports were filed today.

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Ewing to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H727**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Rev. Douglas Tanner of Washington, D.C. **Page H727**

Motion to Adjourn: Rejected the Miller of California motion to adjourn. **Page H727**

Suspensions: The House voted to suspend the rules and agree to the following resolutions:

Guatemalan Peace Process: H. Con. Res. 17, congratulating the people of Guatemala on the success of the recent negotiations to establish a peace process for Guatemala (agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 416 yeas with 2 voting ''present'', Roll No. 29); **Pages H730–32, H737–38**

Nicaraguan Democratic Elections: H. Con. Res. 18, congratulating the people of the Republic of Nicaragua on the success of their democratic elections held on October 20, 1996 (agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 417 yeas with 3 voting ''present'', Roll No. 30); **Pages H732–35, H738**

Secretary Warren Christopher: S. Con. Res. 4, commending and thanking the Honorable Warren Christopher for his exemplary service as Secretary of State; and **Pages H735–36**

Display of the Ten Commandments: H. Con. Res. 31, expressing the sense of Congress regarding the display of the Ten Commandments by Judge Roy S. Moore, a judge on the circuit court of the State of Alabama (agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 295 yeas to 125 nays, Roll No. 31; the concurrent resolution was debated on Tuesday, March 4, 1997). **Pages H738–39**

Presidential Message—National Emergency Re Iran: Read a message from the President wherein he transmits his report concerning the national emergency with respect to Iran—referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered printed (H. Doc. 105–51). **Page H737**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:17 p.m. and reconvened at 1:02 p.m. **Page H737**

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 82, electing Representatives English of Pennsylvania, Nethercutt, Coburn, and Sessions to the Committee on Science. **Page H739**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H737–38, H738, and H738–39. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 11:00 a.m. and adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

Committee Meetings

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on the Farm Credit Administration and on Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services. Testimony was heard from Marsha Martin, Chairman and CEO, Farm Credit Administration; and Mary Ann Keeffe, Acting Under Secretary, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services, USDA.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE, AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary held a hearing on Secretary of State and on the FBI. Testimony was heard from Madeleine K. Albright, Secretary of State; and Louie Freeh, Director, FBI, Department of Justice.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on Bureau of Reclamation. Testimony was heard from Eluid L. Martinez, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior.

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior continued appropriation hearings, with emphasis on Energy Programs. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LABOR—HHS—EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a

hearing on National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, National Library of Medicine, the National Institute on Nursing Research and the Fogarty International Center. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Phillip Gorden, M.D., Director, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases; Donald Lindeberg, M.D., Director, National Library of Medicine; Patricia Grady, M.D., Director, National Institute on Nursing Research; and Philip Schambra, M.D., Director, Fogarty International Center.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction held a hearing on Army Construction. Testimony was heard from Mike Walker, Assistant Secretary of the Army, Installations, Logistics and Environment.

NATIONAL SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on National Security met in an executive session to hold a hearing on U.S. Pacific Command/U.S. Forces Korea and on U.S. Central Command. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Adm. Joseph W. Prueher, USN, Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Command; Gen. John H. Tilelli, Jr., USA, Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Forces Korea; and Gen. Binford J.H. Peay, III, USA, Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Central Command.

TREASURY, POSTAL SERVICE, AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government held a hearing on the IRS; the U.S. Mint; Bureau of Engraving and Printing; and the Financial Management Service. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: Larry Summers, Deputy Secretary; Margaret Milner Richardson, Commissioner, IRS; Philip N. Diehl, Director of the Mint; Larry Roluff, Director, Bureau of Engraving and Printing; Rusell D. Morris, Commissioner, Federal Management Service; and George Munoz, Assistant Secretary, Management and Chief Financial Officer.

VA-HUD-INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies held a hearing on the Council on Environmental Quality and on the Office of Science and Technology Policy. Testimony was heard from Kathleen A. McGinty, Chair, Council on Environmental Quality; and John H. Gibbons, Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy.

FINANCIAL MODERNIZATION

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Securities and Government Sponsored Enterprises held a hearing on Financial Modernization. Testimony was heard from Eugene A. Ludwig, Comptroller, Department of the Treasury; and Ricki T. Helfer, Chairman, FDIC.

CONDUCT OF MONETARY POLICY

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Subcommittee Domestic and International Monetary Policy held a hearing on Conduct of Monetary Policy (Humphrey-Hawkins). Testimony was heard from Alan Greenspan, Chairman, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System.

HOMELESS HOUSING PROGRAMS CONSOLIDATION AND FLEXIBILITY

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Subcommittee on Housing and Community Development held a hearing on H.R. 217, Homeless Housing Programs Consolidation and Flexibility Act. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Commerce: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 649, Department of Energy Standardization Act of 1997; H.R. 363, amended, to amend section 2118 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to extend the Electric and Magnetic Fields Research and Public Information Dissemination Program; H.R. 651, to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for the construction of a hydroelectric project located in the state of Washington; and H.R. 652, to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for the construction of hydroelectric project located in the State of Washington.

MEDICARE HOME HEALTH CARE

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Health and Environment held a hearing on Medicare Home Health Care. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Bruce Vladeck, Administrator, Health Care Financing Administration; and Michael F. Mangano, Principal Deputy Inspector General; the following officials of the GAO: William Scanlon, Director, Health Financing Systems, Health, Education, and Human Services; and Thomas Doudal, Senior Assistant Director, Health and Human Services Division; Donald A. Young, M.D., Executive Director, Prospective Payment Assessment Commission; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 1, Working Families Flexibility Act; and H.R. 914, to make certain technical corrections in the Higher Education Act of 1965 relating to graduation data disclosures.

ADMINISTRATION'S EDUCATION INITIATIVES

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Held a hearing on the Administration's Education Initiatives. Testimony was heard from Richard Riley, Secretary of Education.

IMPROPER GRANTING OF CITIZENSHIP TO INDIVIDUALS WITH CRIMINAL RECORDS

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on National Security, International Affairs, and Criminal Justice and the Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims of the Committee on the Judiciary held a joint Subcommittee hearing on Improper Granting of U.S. Citizenship to Individuals with Criminal Records. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Justice: Stephen R. Colgate, Assistant Attorney General, Administration; Dawn Johnsen, Acting Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Counsel; Doris M. Meissner, Commissioner, David Rosenberg, Citizenship USA Program Director; Louis D. Crocetti, Associate Commissioner, Examinations and David Martin, General Counsel, all with the Immigration and Naturalization Service; Laurie E. Ekstrand, Associate Director, Administration of Justice, General Government Division, GAO; and a public witness.

COMMITTEE FUNDING

Committee on House Oversight: Met to consider funding requests from the following Committees: House Oversight; Ways and Means; Small Business; International Relations; Agriculture; Judiciary; Standards of Official Conduct; Transportation and Infrastructure; Veterans' Affairs; Science; and Intelligence.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific approved for full Committee action the following measures: H. Con. Res. 16, concerning the urgent need to improve the living standards of those South Asians living in the Ganges and the Bahmaputra River Basin; H. Res. 68, amended, stating the sense of the House of Representatives that the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security Between the United States of America and Japan is essential for furthering the security interests of the United States, Japan, and the nations of the Asia-Pacific region, and that the people of Okinawa deserve recognition for their contributions toward ensuring the treaty's implementation; and H.R. 750, amended, to support the autonomous governance of Hong Kong after its reversion to the People's Republic of China.

Following this action, the subcommittee held a hearing on AID Activities and the Central Asian Republics. Testimony was heard from the following officials of AID, U.S. International Development Cooperation Agency: Thomas Dine, Assistant Administrator, Europe and the New Independent States; and Charles Weden, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Asia.

NAFTA REPORT CARD

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on International Economic Policy and Trade, hearing on "Report Card on NAFTA." Testimony was heard from Representatives Houghton, Bonior and Kaptur; Regina Vargo, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Western Hemisphere, Department of Commerce; Ira Shapiro, Senior Counsel and Negotiator, Office of the U. S. Trade Representative; and public witnesses.

FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights, hearing on Foreign Relations Authorization for FY 1998: U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. Testimony was heard from John D. Holum, Director, U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property approved for full Committee action the following measures: H.R. 400, amended, 21st Century Patent System Improvement Act; H.R. 672, amended, to make technical amendments to certain provisions of title 17, United States Code; and H.R. 908, to establish a Commission on Structural Alternatives for the Federal Courts of Appeals.

FIREARMS PROHIBITION—DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONVICTION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 26, to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide that the firearms prohibitions applicable by reason of a domestic violence misdemeanor conviction do not apply if the conviction occurred before the prohibitions became law; and H.R. 445, to provide that the firearms prohibitions applicable by reason of a domestic violence misdemeanor conviction do not apply to government entities. Testimony was heard from Pete Gagliardi, Deputy Associate Director, Criminal Enforcement Programs, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Department of the Treasury;

David R. Loesch, Deputy Assistant Director, Criminal Justice Information Service Division, FBI, Department of Justice; Capt. R. Lewis Vass; Records Management Officer, Department of Police, State of Virginia; and public witnesses.

DOD AUTHORIZATION

Committee on National Security: Held a hearing on Fiscal Year 1998 Department of Defense authorization request. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Gen. Dennis J. Reimer, USA, Chief of Staff, Army; Adm. Jay L. Johnson, USN, Chief of Naval Operations; Gen. Charles C. Krulak, USMC, Commandant, Marine Corps; and Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman, USAF, Chief of Staff, Air Force.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

TACTICAL FIGHTER CRAFT MODERNIZATION

Committee on National Security: Subcommittee on Military Procurement and Subcommittee on Military Research and Development held a joint hearing on tactical fighter craft modernization. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Paul Kaminski, Under Secretary (Acquisition and Technology); and Gen. Joseph Ralston, USAF, Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; Cindy Williams, Assistant Director, National Security Division, CBO; and Louis Rodrigues, Director, Defense Acquisitions, National Security and International Affairs Division, GAO.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Ordered reported the following measures: H.J. Res. 32, to consent to certain amendments enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920; H.R. 63, to designate the reservoir created by Trinity Dam in the Central Valley project, CA, as Trinity Lake; H.R. 412, amended, to approve a settlement agreement between the Bureau of Reclamation and the Oroville-Tonasket Lake; H.R. 437, to reauthorize the National Sea Grant College Program Act; and H.R. 709, amended, to reauthorize and amend the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992.

QUINCY LIBRARY GROUP FOREST RECOVERY AND ECONOMIC STABILITY ACT

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health held a hearing on H.R. 858, Quincy Library Group Forest Recovery and Economic Stability Act of 1997. Testimony was heard from Representatives Herger and Fazio of California; James R. Lyons, Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment, USDA; and public witnesses.

NSF AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Basic Research held a hearing on NSF fiscal year authorization. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the NSF: Richard N. Zare, Chairman, National Science Board; and Neal Lane, Director.

CLONING: HOW FAR SHOULD WE GO?

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Technology held a hearing on Biotechnology and the Ethics of Cloning: How Far Should We Go? Testimony was heard from Harold E. Varmus, M.D., Director, NIH, Department of Health and Human Services; Caird E. Rexroad, Jr., Supervisory Research Physiologist, Agriculture Research Service, USDA; and public witnesses.

ETHICS PROCESS IN THE HOUSE

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct: Task Force on Ethics Reform met in executive session to continue hearings on the Ethics Process in the House. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress.

GSA FISCAL YEAR AND RENT SHORTFALL

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Public Buildings and Economic Development held a hearing on the GSA fiscal year Program and Rent Shortfall. Testimony was heard from Robert A. Peck, Commissioner, Public Buildings Service, GSA.

SUPERFUND REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing on Superfund Reauthorization: Lessons from the State. Testimony was heard from Christine Todd Whitman, Governor, State of New Jersey; Mary A. Gade, Director, Environmental Protection Agency, State of Illinois; Langdon Marsh, Director, Department of Environmental Quality, State of Oregon; Peder Larson, Commissioner, Pollution Control Agency, State of Minnesota; John P. Cahill, Acting Commissioner, Department of Environmental Conservation, State of New York; Jane T. Nishida, Secretary, Department of Environment, State of Maryland; James M. Strock, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, State of California; Russell J. Harding, Director, Department of Environmental Quality, State of Michigan; Harold F. Reheis, Director, Environmental Protection Division, Department of Natural Resources, State of Georgia; and Jay J. Manning, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Ecology Division, Office of the Attorney General, State of Washington.

ADMINISTRATION'S BUDGET— EDUCATION AND TRAINING TAX PROVISIONS

Committee on Ways and Means: Held a hearing on the Education and Training Tax Provisions of the Administration's Fiscal Year 1998 Budget Proposal. Testimony was heard from Senator Coverdell; Representatives Rangel, Price of North Carolina and Etheridge; Donald C. Lubick, Acting Assistant Secretary, Tax Policy, Department of the Treasury; David A. Longanecker, Assistant Secretary, Postsecondary Education, Department of Education; and public witnesses.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS; UNCONVENTIONAL SIGINT

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to consider pending business.

The Committee also met in executive session to hold a briefing on Unconventional SIGINT (Signal Intelligence). The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, *p. D165)*

H.R. 499, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service under construction at 7411 Barlite Boulevard in San Antonio, Texas, as the ''Frank M. Tejeda Post Office Building''. Signed March 3, 1997. (P.L. 105–4)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 1997

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Transportation, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Transportation, 10 a.m., SD–192.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of State, 2 p.m., S–146A, Capitol.

Committee on Armed Services, to hold hearings on the nomination of Keith R. Hall, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space, 10 a.m., SR–222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, to hold hearings on the nominations of Yolanda Townsend Wheat, of Missouri, to be a Member of the National Credit Union Administration Board, Charles A. Gueli, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Institute of Building Sciences, and Jeffrey A. Frankel, of California, to be a Member of the Council of Economic Advisers, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space and Subcommittee on Oceans and Fisheries, to hold joint hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 1998 for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs, Foreign Commerce, and Tourism, to hold hearings to examine product liability reform, focusing on the implementation of the General Aviation Revitalization Act, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, business meeting, to consider the nomination of Federico Peña, of Colorado, to be Secretary of Energy; to be followed by hearings to examine issues with regard to competitive change in the electric power industry, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management, to continue hearings on the proposed Public Land Management Responsibility and Accountability Restoration Act, 2:30 p.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works, Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act and innovative transportation financing, technology, construction and design practices, 9:30 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance, to hold hearings on proposals to expand Individual Retirement Accounts, including S. 197, proposed Savings and Investment Incentive Act of 1997, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Subcommittee on Health Care, to resume hearings to examine the financial soundness of the Medicare system, 2 p.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations, Subcommittee on International Operations, to hold hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 1998 for the United States Information Agency (USIA) and international broadcasting, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Full Committee, to hold hearings on the nomination of Karen Shepherd, of Utah, to be United States Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, 2 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on Governmental Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management and The District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine Federal tax policy for the District of Columbia, 9:30 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on the Judiciary, business meeting, to consider S. Res. 56, designating March 25, 1997 as ''Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy'', and pending nominations, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Labor and Human Resources, to hold hearings to examine health care quality and consumer protection, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Rules and Administration, to hear and consider the Committee on Governmental Affairs' request for additional funding, 2:15 p.m., SR–301.

Committee on Veterans Affairs, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the

legislative recommendations of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Jewish War Veterans, the Retired Officers Association, the Association of the U.S. Army, the Non-Commissioned Officers Association, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, and the Blinded Veterans Association, 9:30 a.m., 345 Cannon Building.

Select Committee on Intelligence, closed business meeting, on intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH–219.

Special Committee on Aging, to hold hearings to examine the challenges facing retiring babyboomers, 9:30 a.m., SD–628.

NOTICE

For a listing of Senate committee meetings scheduled ahead, see pages E393–95 in today's Record.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, on Commodity Futures Trading Commission, 10 a.m., and on Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, 1 p.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary, on Bureau of Export Administration, Department of Commerce, 10 a.m., and on the Federal Courts; the Administrative Office and the Federal Judicial Center, 2 p.m., H–309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, on TVA, 10 a.m., and on Appalachian Regional Commission, 11 a.m., 2362B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, on public witnesses, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., B–308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, on National Institute of Arthritis, Musculoskeletal and Skin Disease and the National Center for Research Resources, 10 a.m., and on the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and the National Institute of Dental Research, 1:30 p.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, on Navy Construction, 9:30 a.m., B–300 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security, on FY 1998 Navy/Marine Corps Budget Overview, 10 a.m., 2212 Rayburn, and on Navy/Marine Corps Acquisition, 1:30 p.m., H–140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Transportation, on GAO, 10 a.m., and on the Secretary of Transportation, 1 p.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government, on Secretary of Treasury, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies, on Federal Emergency Management Agency, 10 a.m., and 2 p.m., H–143 Capitol.

Committee on Banking and Financial Services, Subcommittee on Housing and Community Development, to continue hearings on H.R. 2, Housing Opportunity and Responsibility Act of 1997, 9:30 a.m., and 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, hearing on the CBO's Analysis of the Administration's Budget, 11 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Commerce, Subcommittee on Finance and Hazardous Materials, hearing on the Securities and Exchange Commission Authorization Act of 1997, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Health and Environment, hearing on Assisted Suicide: Legal, Medical, Ethical, and Social Issues, 11 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on Education at a Crossroads, What Works, What's Wasted, 9:30 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, hearing on Federal Telecommunications System Acquisition Strategy (Post-FTS 2000), 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Human Resources and Intergovernmental Relations, to continue Agency oversight hearings: the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Labor: Mission, Management, and Performance, 1:30 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Committee on House Oversight, to consider Committee funding requests, 10 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on International Relations, to markup the following measures: H. Con. Res. 16, concerning the urgent need to improve the living standards of those South Asians living in the Ganges and the Bahmaputra River Basin; H. Res. 68, stating the sense of the House of Representatives that the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security Between the United States of America and Japan is essential for furthering the security interests of the United States, Japan, and the nations of the Asia-Pacific region, and that the people of Okinawa deserve recognition for their contributions toward ensuring the treaty's implementation; H.R. 750, to support the autonomous governance of Hong Kong after its reversion to the People's Republic of China; and a resolution disapproving the certification of the President under section 490(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 regarding foreign assistance for Mexico during fiscal year 1997, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, oversight hearing on the Congressional Review Act, 10:30 a.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Crime, to markup the following measures: H.R. 747, Witness Relocation Notification Act of 1997; the United States Marshals Service Improvement Act of 1997; the Prisoner Service Opportunity Act of 1997; and the Victim Allocation Clarification Act of 1997, 10 a.m., 2226 Rayburn.

Committee on National Security, to continue hearings on Fiscal Year 1998 Department of Defense authorization request, 9:30 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Research and Development, hearing on ballistic missile defense, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 511, National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 and H.R. 512, New Wildlife Refuge Authorization Act, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Science, Subcommittee on Energy and Environment, hearing on fiscal year 1998 budget authorization request for Office of Energy Research, Department of Energy, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, to markup H.R. 852, Paperwork Elimination Act of 1997, 9:30 a.m., and to hold a hearing on the Administration's Budget request for the SBA for fiscal year 1998, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, Task Force on Ethics Reform, executive, to continue hearings on the Ethics Process in the House, 10 a.m., H–144 Capitol.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Surface Transportation, to continue hearings on ISTEA Reauthorization: Policy Initiatives and Requests for Highway and Transit Projects, 9:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on Medicare HMO Regulation and Quality, 1 p.m., B–318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Social Security, hearing on the Future of Social Security for this Generation and the Next, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, briefing on Iran Terrorism, 1:30 p.m., H–405 Capitol.

Joint Meetings

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the legislative recommendations of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Jewish War Veterans, the Retired Officers Association, the Association of the U.S. Army, the Non-Commissioned Officers Association, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, and the Blinded Veterans Association, 9:30 a.m., 345 Cannon Building.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

12 noon, Thursday, March 6

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: After the recognition of four Senators for speeches and the transaction of any routine morning business (not to extend beyond 1:30 p.m.), Senate may consider any cleared executive and legislative business.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, March 6

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of 1 Suspension:

1. H.R. 513, District of Columbia Council Contract Review Reform Act.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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