I particularly want to express my gratitude to Senator MCCAIN, Senator KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON and Senator GORTON who worked diligently to deliver to the U.S. shipping industry and to all Americans real maritime reform. I also want to recognize the efforts of Chairman SHUSTER of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure who spearheaded this reform effort in the House of Representatives.

Mr. President, the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 1998 focuses on the needs of America's small, medium, and large shippers, carriers, U.S. ports, and on our nation's dock workers. It will ensure that the collective power of some industry elements will not be allowed to abuse other industry segments. The bill provides protection for small ports and small shippers through increased competition among shipping lines for export and import cargoes. It allows shipping lines and their customers to negotiate volume discount arrangements through the signing of confidential service contracts for transportation services without first obtaining the blessing of the shipping line conferences. This legislation gives shippers greater ability to shop around for the best rates and service from the carriers of their choice. Additionally, the bill continues current filing requirements for service contracts to provide continued FMC oversight of common carrier activities.

This legislation will retain common carrier tariff publication and enforcement while eliminating the requirement to file tariffs with the government. Common carriers would be able to take advantage of available modern technology by using a World Wide Web home page or an electronic bulletin board to satisfy the tariff publication requirement. This just makes common sense. It reduces the cost of doing business while maintaining protections for small shippers. The wide availability of competitive price and service information will make for a better informed shipping consumer.

The Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 1998 does much to ensure that America's presence in the shipping industry is not subjected to unfair foreign rules or discriminatory practices. The FMC's enforcement actions taken against unfair port practices in Japan illustrates the essential and unique mission that this agency performs. Even more recently, issues concerning Brazil and China have come on their radar screen. This is a function that will continue, a mission that I wholeheartedly support.

This legislation will significantly change the regulatory framework governing ocean transportation. It increases shipper and carrier flexibility and competitive options, ensures tariff accuracy and fairness, produces government efficiencies and provides genuine reform to protect American interests. These changes will strengthen the ability of common carriers to market their services and makes America's shippers more competitive. The Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 1998 makes sense for American businesses and consumers alike. It will help sustain a strong and vibrant American maritime industry—fostering economic growth and enhancing our national security for years to come.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, today I rise to praise the Senate for the final passage of S. 414, the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 1998, and to clarify the legislative history of the bill with the Senator from Texas, who authorized the bill.

On April 21, 1998, the Senate first adopted S. 414. In her statement providing legislative history for the bill, the Senator from Texas identified a need to resolve the requirement for Federal agencies, including those in the Department of Defense, to ensure U.S.-flag ocean common carrier compliance with cargo preference law requirements concerning shipping rates with the new confidential service contracting regime authorized by S. 414., At that time, my colleague encouraged the Federal Maritime Commission to work with other Federal agencies to address this concern.

I'd like to ask the Senator from Texas to clarify the ability of the FMC to share confidential service contract rate and service information with other Federal agencies to ensure that U.S.-flag shipping rates for preference cargo shipments meet statutory requirements.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I want to thank the distinguished Chairman of the Commerce Committee for raising this issue. The General Counsel of the FMC, in a recent written response to an inquiry on this issue with respect to the Department of Defense, stated:

> I have no doubt that we will be able to develop an intragovernmental system for providing the DOD with the pricing and service information it needs to effectively execute its mission, within the framework of S. 414. If we determine that technical legislative corrections would aid this process, we will no doubt make such recommendations jointly. At this time, however, I do not believe that any additional amendments to the bill are necessary to meet your concerns for the Department.

Mr. President, I want to make it clear that the FMC is authorized to share with another Federal agency service contract information that parties of the service contract have legally decided to protect from public disclosure in order to enable that Federal agency to ensure the compliance of U.S.-flag ocean common carriers with cargo preference law shipping rate requirements. Of course, that confidential service contract information would remain protected from disclosure to the public consistent with the Shipping Act of 1984, as amended by the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 1998, and other applicable Federal laws.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I'd like to thank my colleague from Texas for clarifying this issue. Also, I'd like to complement her on her efforts to protect the interests of the Department of Defense, other Federal agencies, and American taxpayers while reforming the ocean liner transportation system in a manner that encourages greater competition. The Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 1998 is a thoroughly crafted piece of legislation that required hard work by her and many others for more than 3 years. It is a worthy accomplishment for the 106th Congress.

RECOGNIZING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF INSPECTORS GENERAL

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Senate Joint Resolution 58, introduced earlier today by Senators GLENN, THOMPSON, COLLINS, and others.

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

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

> A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 58) recognizing the accomplishments of Inspectors General since their creation in 1978 in preventing and detecting waste, fraud, abuse and mismanagement, and in promoting economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the Federal Government.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

(At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

• Mr. GLENN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a joint resolution commemorating the Inspector General Act in the year of its 20th anniversary. The Governmental Affairs Committee, on which I serve as Ranking Minority Member, has a long and bipartisan history with the IG community. In fact, I am very proud that I was an original sponsor of the IG Act and author of the 1988 amendments, both of which have played a major role in making our government function more efficiently, effectively, and with greater trust and confidence on the part of the American people. So, it is fitting that the Senate and House note this anniversary.

Throughout government, IGs have had tremendous success. I note just some of these accomplishments as follows, from the latest (1996) PCIE report:

> Inspector General (IG) investigations led to $1.5 billion in ''recoveries'' in 1995. (This is money which has been recovered by the Government from people who have attempted to defraud it). In addition, based on IG recommendations, agency managers agreed to cancel, or seek reimbursements of, $2.3 billion from contractors or grantees in 1995. Also based on IG recommendations, managers changed how they planned to spend $10.4 billion to maximize return on the Federal dollar. Overall, between 1981–1994, IG's reported $340 billion in recoveries & funds put to better use from their efforts.
>
> In addition to IG work on program improvements, and the figures cited above, the report compiles other important IG accomplishments from FY 1995: $26.8 billion in recommendations that funds be put to better

use; $7.2 billion in questioned costs; 14,122 successful prosecutions; 2,405 personnel actions; and 4,234 suspensions and debarments of persons or firms doing business with the Government.

These facts suggest that IGs are doing the job we intended them to do, in spite of the fact that they are operating in a very difficult and more complex environment. The data also support the fact that the IG's first responsibility continues to be program and fiscal integrity; they are not ''tools'' of management. Even though, in this day and age, IGs need to make themselves ''relevant'' to both Congress and the agency, they first must help to make good programs work better, target those most vulnerable to waste and fraud, and help achieve savings wherever they can find them. The record proves this is clearly what the IG's have been about.

The progress I have mentioned is particularly important since, if anything, the IG's role has only become more difficult in a new political culture dedicated to improving management. With the passage of the CFO Act, the Government Management Reform Act (GMRA), and the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), IGs have inherited some new authority and some new duties. They now have some responsibility to ensure that we have accurate, reliable, and complete financial information on which to base our policy decisions and, down the road, which measure how well each program achieves its goal and at what actual cost. In that context, IGs have a unique role in helping to solve management problems throughout the federal government. The test of their success in this new mission is much like the one applied to their old one and—as I have indicated—the measure of their success is already evident.

As I approach my last months as a United States Senator, I look back with great pride on the accomplishments we have made so far among the more than 60 statutory IGs. I am the first one to admit that the IGs do not function perfectly. In fact, any government operation can always stand improvement. But I strongly believe that we now have in place a fair, effective, and useful—if partial—solution to some very serious management problems in government. To me, this represents a singularly important success for the Congress and the American people, and one upon which I am hopeful we will continue to build into the 21st century and beyond.

I hope all Senators will join me in supporting this important resolution.●

Mrs. HUTCHISON. I ask unanimous consent that the joint resolution be read three times and passed, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD as if read in the appropriate place.

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

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 58) was passed.

The preamble was agreed to.

The joint resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S.J. RES. 58

Whereas the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) was signed into law on October 12, 1978, with overwhelming bipartisan support;

Whereas Inspectors General now exist in the 27 largest executive agencies and in 30 other designated Federal entities;

Whereas Inspectors General serve the American taxpayer by promoting economy, efficiency, effectiveness and integrity in the administration of the programs and operations of the Federal Government;

Whereas Inspectors General conduct and supervise audits and investigations to both prevent and detect waste, fraud and abuse in the programs and operations of the Federal Government;

Whereas Inspectors General make Congress and agency heads aware, through semiannual reports and other activities, of problems and deficiencies relating to the administration of programs and operations of the Federal Government;

Whereas Inspectors General work with Congress and agency heads to recommend policies to promote economy and efficiency in the administration of, or preventing and detecting waste, fraud and abuse in, the programs and operations of the Federal Government;

Whereas Inspectors General receive and investigate information from Federal employees and other dedicated citizens regarding the possible existence of an activity constituting a violation of law, rules, or regulations, or mismanagement, gross waste of funds, abuse of authority or a substantial and specific danger to public health and safety;

Whereas Inspector General actions result in, on a yearly basis, recommendations for several billions of dollars to be spent more effectively; thousands of successful criminal prosecutions; hundreds of millions of dollars returned to the United States Treasury through investigative recoveries; and the suspension and disbarment of thousands of individuals or entities from doing business with the Government;

Whereas for 20 years the Offices of Inspectors General have worked with Congress to facilitate the exercise of effective legislative oversight to improve the programs and operations of the Federal Government: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Congress—

(1) recognizes the many accomplishments of the Offices of Inspectors General in preventing and detecting waste, fraud, and abuse in the Federal Government;

(2) commends the Offices of Inspectors General and their employees for the dedication and professionalism displayed in the performance of their duties; and

(3) reaffirms the role of Inspectors General in promoting economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the administration of the programs and operations of the Federal Government.

MEASURE READ FOR THE FIRST TIME—S.J. RES. 59

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I understand that Senate Joint Resolution 59 which was introduced by Senator GRAMM of Texas is at the desk, and I now ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the resolution for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 59) to provide for a Balanced Budget Constitutional Amendment that prohibits the use of Social Security surpluses to achieve compliance.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. I now ask for its second reading, and I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The resolution will be read the second time on the next legislative day.

COMMISSION ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND MINORITIES IN SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 3007, which was received from the House.

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

The clerk will report.

A bill (H.R. 3007) to establish the Commission on the Advancement of Women and Minorities in Science, Engineering, and Technology Development.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read the third time, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be placed in the appropriate place in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 3007) was considered read the third time, and passed.

MAKING TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS IN LAWS RELATING TO NATIVE AMERICANS

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 4068, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4068) to make certain technical corrections in laws relating to Native Americans, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time, and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be placed at the appropriate place in the RECORD.