

you want with Senator HUTCHINSON? Why don't we give you 2, if you wanted 1.

Mrs. LINCOLN. One or 2 minutes.

Mr. DOMENICI. That they be allowed to speak for 7 minutes, and then we will proceed with whatever order is decided here.

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

The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I yield to the Senator from Florida.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that three congressional fellows in my office, Sean McCluskie, Matt Barry, and Angela Ewell-Madison, be granted the privilege of the floor during further consideration of the legislation.

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

The Senator from Nevada.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SENATOR BRYAN

Mr. REID. Mr. President,

How confusing the beams from memory's lamps are;

One day a bachelor, the next a grandpa.

What is the secret of the trick?

How did I get old so quick?

—by *Ogden Nash*.

Mr. President, my friend, RICHARD BRYAN, is a grandfather today for the first time. His lovely wife Bonnie and he are extremely excited. Their oldest son, who is a cardiologist in Reno, at 5:30 eastern time last evening had a baby, their first child, and Senator BRYAN's first grandchild.

I can't think of a person I know who is a better role model for a child than Senator BRYAN. I hope he and Bonnie have all the happiness that a grandchild can bring. I know that they will. I hope this beautiful boy, Conner Hudson Bryan, will follow in the footsteps of his father and enter public service.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000

The Senate continued with the consideration of the concurrent resolution.

AMENDMENT NO. 157

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I yield myself 10 minutes.

I am pleased to join my chairman, Senator SPECTER, in offering this amendment. Two years ago, the Senate went on record, 98 to 0, committing to double the NIH budget over 5 years.

Last year, Senator SPECTER and I were able to make good on that pledge by providing the biggest increase ever for medical research. We worked hard to make it happen. I thank all my Senate colleagues for working with us on that historic accomplishment.

The omnibus appropriations bill for this year contains a \$2 billion, or a 15-

percent, increase for the National Institutes of Health. That 15 percent puts us on track to meet our commitment to double the NIH budget for 5 years, which, I repeat, was voted on here 98 to 0.

Unfortunately, if we pass this budget resolution as it is, we will fall far short of the 15-percent increase necessary to maintain that commitment.

This budget resolution shortchanges Americans' health and shortchanges our efforts to control health care costs and keep Medicare solvent in the long run.

At the same time that this budget shortchanges basic investments in health care, the budget before us increases the Pentagon budget by \$18 billion—\$8.3 billion more than the President's request—to defend America against some ill-defined international threat.

What this budget should do is spend at least \$2 billion more to defend us against the very real threats here at home every day—the threat of cancer, the threat of Alzheimer's, the threat of diabetes, the threat of osteoporosis.

Recently, under the leadership of Senator SPECTER, we had a hearing, and one of our witnesses was Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf. He was in town to urge Congress to increase its investment in medical research. He understands better than most that we cannot mount a strong defense without adequate resources. While we made some progress last year, we still have a long way to go.

Under the budget before us, NIH will only be able to fund about one in four meritorious research proposals. Those are research proposals that have gone through the peer review process deemed worthy of investigation. Only one in four will be funded.

In the next 30 years, the number of Americans over age 65 will double. Medical research is essential to help reduce the enormous economic and social burdens posed by chronic diseases that impact our elderly from Alzheimer's and arthritis to cancer and Parkinson's and stroke.

Take Alzheimer's disease. It alone costs the Nation over \$100 billion a year. We know that simply delaying the onset by 5 years could save us over \$50 billion a year. Delaying the onset of heart disease by 5 years would save over \$69 billion a year. That is why I often say to my colleagues and others, if you really want to save Medicare, invest in medical research. That will take care of the looming deficit in Medicare. We are on the verge of breakthroughs in these and other areas. Now is the time to boost our investment to make sure that our Nation's top scientists can turn these opportunities into realities.

In addition to funding more research grants, another area that is critical to making the breakthroughs we know are possible is making sure we have state-of-the-art laboratories and equipment. However, most of the research is

currently being done in laboratories built in the 1950s and 1960s.

According to the most recent National Science Foundation study, 47 percent of all biomedical research performing institutions classified the amount of biological science research space as inadequate, and 51 percent indicated they had an inadequate amount of medical research space. So the need is great.

Our amendment is very simple. It ensures that the budget resolution will provide a \$2 billion increase to the National Institutes of Health for fiscal year 2000, and it is fully paid for. It is paid for by the very industry that has caused most of the death and disease in this country.

As I said before, Mr. President, tobacco kills more Americans each year than alcohol, car accidents, suicides, AIDS, homicides, illegal drugs, and fires all put together.

Simply put, our amendment turns tobacco profits toward the cure for the cancer, emphysema, and heart disease that it causes.

During the dealings that led to the tobacco settlements, the tobacco lawyers made sure that all the payments they made to the States would be considered "normal and necessary business expenses." But there is nothing ordinary about this settlement. The tobacco industry has peddled a product that has killed millions of Americans through their deceptive advertising and sales practices. As a result of that loophole in the settlement, the tobacco industry can write off 35 percent of their entire settlement payment. That means American taxpayers, not big tobacco, will have to cough up as much as 35 percent of the cost, \$2 billion this year alone, and continuing the next 25 years of the tobacco settlement.

In effect, the tobacco settlement is a \$70 billion tax on the American people. What our amendment says is that basically the tobacco companies will not be able to deduct from their Federal taxes the amount of money that they pay to the States for this settlement. The American people have paid enough. To make them pay an additional \$70 billion to cover up for the tobacco companies' tax deductions for their settlements is adding insult to death and injury.

Let me add one other thing, Mr. President. I have heard there is some misinformation floating out there about our amendment. Let me be clear. Our amendment would have absolutely no impact on the amount of settlement funds going to the States. The settlement has a clause that requires a dollar-for-dollar reduction in payments to the States if additional taxes are raised on tobacco and spent by the States, if the money is remitted to the States. Not one penny of the SPECTER amendment would go to the States but would all go to the National Institutes of Health. Therefore, it in no way violates that provision of the settlement.

Mr. President, I have a letter dated today from the Congressional Research