West Virginia: Approval of Revisions to Coal Preparation Plants and Coal Handling Operations'' (FRL # 6372–3), received July 7, 1999; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4194. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Halogenated Solvent Cleaning'' (FRL # 6376–5), received July 7, 1999; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4195. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans Tennessee: Approval of Revisions to the Tennessee SIP Regarding National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants and Volatile Organic Compounds'' (FRL # 6378–4), received July 13, 1999; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4196. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities; New York'' (FRL # 6378–4), received July 13, 1999; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4197. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality State Implementation Plans; Louisiana; Approval of Clean Fuel Fleet Substitution Program Revision'' (FRL # 6378–3), received July 13, 1999; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4198. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Clean Air Act Direct Final Approval of Title V Prohibitory Rule as a State Implementation Plan Revision; Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, California'' (FRL # 6378–5), received July 13, 1999; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–4199. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Final Regulations on Lump-Sum Payments for Annual Leave'', received July 13, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–4200. A communication from the Administrator, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 1998, through March 31, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–4201. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Amendments to Deferred Maintenance Reporting''; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–4202. A communication from the Special Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for fiscal year 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–4203. A communication from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Attacking Financial Institution Fraud: Fiscal Year 1996''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–4204. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Defense Manpower Requirements Report for Fiscal Year 2000''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–4205. A communication from the Under Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to export licenses for commercial communications satellites and related items for the period February 26, 1999 to May 21, 1999; to the Committee on Armed Services.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. McCAIN, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 1248. A bill to correct errors in the authorizations of certain programs administered by the National Highway Traffic Administration (Rept. No. 106–107).

By Mr. JEFFORDS, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, without amendment:

S. Res. 138. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SHELBY, from the Select Committee on Intelligence, without amendment:

S. Res. 139. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Select Committee on Intelligence.

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 Mr. BURNS:

S. 1362. A bill to establish a commission to study the airline industry and to recommend policies to ensure consumer information and choice; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 1363. A bill for the relief of Valdas Adamkus, President of the Republic of Lithuania; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BAYH (for himself, Mr. DOMENICI, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. ROBB, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. 1364. A bill to amend title IV of the Social Security Act to increase public awareness regarding the benefits of lasting and stable marriages and community involvement in the promotion of marriage and fatherhood issues, to provide greater flexibility in the Welfare-to-Work grant program for long-term welfare recipients and low income custodial and noncustodial parents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI (by request):

S. 1365. A bill to amend the National Preservation Act of 1966 to extend the authorization for the Historic Preservation Fund and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. 1366. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct and operate a visitor center for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreation River on land owned by the New York State, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. 1367. A bill to amend the Act which established the Saint-Gaudens Historic Site, in the State of New Hampshire, by modifying the boundary and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. TORRICELLI (for himself, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. CLELAND):

S. 1368. A bill to amend the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 and related laws to strengthen the protection of native biodiversity and ban clearcutting on Federal land, and to designate certain Federal land as ancient forests, roadless areas, watershed protection areas, special areas, and Federal boundary areas where logging and other intrusive activities are prohibited; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. DODD, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1369. A bill to enhance the benefits of the national electric system by encouraging and supporting State programs for renewable energy sources, universal electric service, affordable electric service, and energy conservation and efficiency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SHELBY:

S. 1370. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the time for payment of the estate tax on certain timber stands; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GORTON:

S. 1371. A bill to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel Ocean Pride; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. JEFFORDS:

S. Res. 138. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. SHELBY:

S. Res. 139. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Select Committee on Intelligence; from the Select Committee on Intelligence; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. Res. 140. A resolution congratulating the United States women's soccer team for winning the 1999 Women's World Cup, recognizing the important contribution of each individual team member to the United States and to the advancement of women's sports, and inviting the members of the United States women's soccer team to the United States Capitol to be honored and recognized by the Senate for their achievements; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BURNS:

S. 1362. A bill to establish a commission to study the airline industry and to recommend policies to ensure consumer information and choice; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

TRAVEL AGENT COMMISSIONS

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a bill that will establish a commission to study the future of the travel agent industry and determine the consumer impact of airline interaction with travel agents.

Since the Airline Deregulation Act of 1978 was enacted, major airlines have controlled pricing and distribution policies of our nation's domestic air transportation system. Over the past four years, the airlines have reduced airline commissions to travel agents in an competitive effort to reduce costs.

I am concerned the impact of today's business interaction between airlines and travel agents may be a driving force that will force many travel agents out of business. Combined with the competitive emergence of Internet services, these practices may be harming an industry that employs over 250,000 Americans.

This bill will explore these concerns through the establishment of a commission to objectively review the emerging trends in the airline ticket distribution system. Among airline consumers there is a growing concern that the airlines may be using their market power to unfairly limit how airline tickets are distributed.

Mr. President, if we lose our travel agents, we lose a competitive component to affordable air fare. Travel agents provide a much needed service and without, the consumer is the loser.

The current use of independent travel agencies as the predominate method to distribute tickets ensures an efficient and unbiased source of information for air travel. Before deregulation, travel agents handled only about 40 percent of the airline ticket distribution system. Since deregulation, the complexity of the ticket pricing system created the need for travel agents resulting in travel agents handling nearly 90 percent of transactions.

Therefore, the travel agent system has proven to be a key factor to the success of airline deregulation. I'm afraid, however, that the demise of the independent travel agent would be a factor of deregulation's failure if the major airlines succeed in dominating the ticket distribution system.

Travel agents and other independent distributors comprise a considerable portion of the small business sector in the United States. There are 33,000 travel agencies employing over 250,000 people. Women or minorities own over 50 percent of travel agencies.

The assault on travel agents has been fierce. Since 1995, commissions have been reduced by 30 percent, 14 percent for domestic travel alone in 1998. Since 1995, travel agent commissions have been reduced from an average of 10.8 percent to 6.9 percent in 1998. Travel agencies are failing in record numbers.

Mr. President, I think it is important to study this issue as well as the related issues of the current state of ticket distribution channels, the importance of an independent system on small, regional, start-up carriers, and the role of the Internet.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 1363. A bill for the relief of Valdas Adamkus, President of the Republic of Lithuania; to the Committee on Finance.

PRIVATE RELIEF LEGISLATION FOR HIS EXCELLENCY VALDAS ADAMKUS OF LITHUANIA

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I am introducing legislation today on behalf of the current President of Lithuania, His Excellency Valdas Adamkus. President Adamkus is a Lithuanian native and a former U.S. citizen with more than a quarter century of distinguished service to our nation. His election last year to the Lithuanian presidency made necessary his renunciation of his U.S. citizenship. My legislation provides an exemption for President Adamkus from several consequences associated with his renunciation. More specifically, my bill exempts President Adamkus from any expatriate taxes, restores President Adamkus' Social Security benefits, ensures his right to his federal pension, and grants President Adamkus the right to travel freely throughout the United States.

Valdas Adamkus was born on November 3, 1928 in Kaunas, Lithuania. Before immigrating to the United States in 1949, he was involved with Lithuanian resistance efforts against both Nazi Germany and Soviet Russian invaders. Settling in Chicago, President Adamkus remained active in Lithuanian Emigre organizations and helped raise public awareness of Lithuania's occupation by the Soviet Union. Following the return of independence to the Baltics, President Adamkus served as a Coordinator for the United States Aid to the Baltic States, specializing in environmental issues and academic coordination.

President Adamkus is a graduate of the Illinois Institute of Technology, where he earned a B.S. in civil engineering before spending ten years as a consulting engineer. In 1970, President Adamkus joined the newly-created United States Environmental Protection Agency where he initially served as the Deputy Regional Administrator of the fifth region—which includes Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota and Ohio. In 1981, President Adamkus was promoted to Regional Administrator for the fifth region, a position he held until his retirement in 1997.

In a distinguished EPA career which stretched 27 years, President Adamkus held a number of leadership positions, including Chairman of the Great Lakes Water Quality Board and Chairman of the United States group that worked with the Soviet Union on water pollution issues. In 1975, he was appointed Advisor to the UN World Health Organization and represented the EPA on environmental issues in the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, Japan, and China.

In 1985, President Reagan personally presented President Adamkus with the Executive Presidential Rank Award—the highest honor for a civil servant. Other honors he earned include the EPA's highest award, the gold medal for exceptional service, and the EPA's first Fitzhugh Green Award in 1988 for outstanding contributions to environmental protection internationally.

To President Adamkus, the collapse of the Soviet Union in the late 1980s and subsequent liberation of the Baltics marked the successful culmination of his lifelong commitment to Lithuania's freedom. As Lithuania began the long and painful transition from a communist totalitarian system to a free-market economy, Mr. Adamkus emerged as an ideal candidate for the Lithuanian presidency, not only because of his past work for Lithuanian freedom, but also because of the experience he gained through his career as a U.S. civil servant.

Mr. Adamkus was elected President of the Republic of Lithuania on January 4 of last year and took office on February 25. Before assuming the Lithuanian presidency, Mr. Adamkus was required to renounce his U.S. citizenship. As I mentioned at the beginning of my statement, the bill I am offering today provides a limited exemption for President Adamkus from some of the negative consequences associated with renunciation. More specifically, my bill:

(1) Exempts President Adamkus from the expatriate tax. As an expatriate, President Adamkus is subject to sections 877 and 2107 of the Internal Revenue Code, provided it is determined that his renunciation had ''for one of its principal purposes the avoidance of taxes.'' My bill exempts President Adamkus from sections 877 and 2107 by stating that his renunciation shall not ''be treated as having as one of its purposes the avoidance of any Federal tax.''

(2) Restores President Adamkus' Social Security benefits and ensures his right to his federal pension. Title 42 Section 402(t) of the US code denies Social Security benefits to non-citizens residing outside the United States. While Section 433 of that title allows our President to enter agreements with foreign countries which allow non-resident non-citizens to receive pension benefits based on periods of coverage in the United States, the U.S. currently has no such agreement with Lithuania. As a result, President Adamkus is not entitled to the Social Security benefits he earned from 37 years of work in the United States. My bill restores these benefits. My bill also ensures that Mr. Adamkus retains the federal pension he earned as an employee of the EPA.

(3) Restores President Adamkus' right to travel in the United States. As a non-resident alien, Mr. Adamkus no longer has the right to travel freely in the U.S. My bill restores this privilege.

Mr. President, with this bill, I do not suggest that we trivialize the act of renouncing one's U.S. citizenship. Renunciation of U.S. citizenship is an act of

the highest gravity that should not be undertaken without fully considering its consequences. I believe it appropriate, however, that we provide President Adamkus with special treatment in light of his long and distinguished service to our nation, his lifelong commitment to freedom and democracy in Lithuania, and his reason for renunciation. Indeed, it is in the interest of the United States that developing countries—particularly the former Soviet Republics—succeed in establishing free-market democratic societies. Hence, even in renouncing his citizenship, President Adamkus continues to serve our nation admirably. I thank my colleagues for their consideration and urge them to join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that this bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1363

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the renunciation of United States citizenship by Valdas Adamkus on February 25, 1998, in order to become the President of the Republic of Lithuania shall not—

(1) be treated under any Federal law as having as one of its purposes the avoidance of any Federal tax,

(2) result in the denial of any benefit under title II or XVIII of the Social Security Act, or under title 5, United States Code, or

(3) result in any restriction on the right of Valdas Adamkus to travel or be admitted to the United States.

By Mr. BAYH (for himself, Mr. DOMENICI, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. ROBB, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. 1364. A bill to amend title IV of the Social Security Act to increase public awareness regarding the benefits of lasting and stable marriages and community involvement in the promotion of marriage and fatherhood issues, to provide greater flexibility in the Welfare-to-Work grant program for long-term welfare recipients and low income custodial and noncustodial parents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD ACT OF 1999

• MR. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today with my good friend Senator DOMENICI to introduce the Responsible Fatherhood Act of 1999.

The irony in our nation's unprecedented economic prosperity is that many Americans still feel the country is on the wrong track—that there is a deterioration of values in our society. There seems to be a fraying of the social fabric and many indicators point to the increase in absentee fathers as the culprit.

America's moms are true heroes in the lives of their children. While most fathers are heroic in their own right, many are not involved enough—too many are completely absent. Fathers can teach kids about respect, honor, duty and the values that make our communities strong. But there has been a troubling decline in the involvement of fathers in the lives of their children over the last 40 years—a decline that should worry us all.

The number of kids living in households without fathers has tripled over the last forty years, from just over 5 million in 1960 to more than 17 million today. The United States leads the world in fatherless families and too many kids spend their lives without any contact with their fathers. The consequences of this dramatic decrease in the involvement of fathers in the lives of their children are severe. When fathers are absent from their lives, children are: five times more likely to live in poverty, twice as likely to commit crime, more likely to bring weapons and drugs into the classroom, twice as likely to drop out of school, twice as likely to be abused, more likely to commit suicide, over twice as likely to abuse alcohol or drugs, and more likely to become pregnant as teenagers.

Community efforts have sprung up around the country to stem the rising tide of fatherless families and encourage responsible parenting. Today I am introducing the Responsible Fatherhood Act of 1999 with Senators DOMENICI, LINCOLN, LIEBERMAN, LANDRIEU, GRAHAM, LUGAR, VOINOVICH, ROBB, BREAUX, EDWARDS, and BINGAMAN. This bill is a fiscally responsible approach that will provide support to states and communities to promote responsible fatherhood.

Specifically, our bill would do three things. First it would raise awareness about the importance of responsible fatherhood by authorizing a public awareness campaign, designed by states and communities, to help change attitudes, particularly among young men, about the responsibilities that go with fathering a child. Second, our legislation creates a block grant program expanding responsible fatherhood promotion programs at the state and local level. The grants would be supplemented by funds and involvement from state and local government, civic, charitable, non-profit and faith-based organizations. Finally, the bill changes existing federal law to encourage a stronger connection between fathers and their children through increased child support to families and more available training through the Welfare-to-Work program for low-income fathers.

Congress alone cannot solve this problem. However, I believe this bill represents an important first step toward reversing the rising tide of fatherlessness in this country. I urge my colleagues to support this important initiative.•

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I rise today with Senator BAYH to introduce the Responsible Fatherhood Act of 1999.

Even on its best day the government can never be a replacement for a loving two parent family. As the father of eight I cherish the moments I have spent and will spend with my children because they are my best friends.

But sadly, there is a growing trend among American children, they are growing up without the love and guidance of their fathers and in many cases these children are going years without seeing their fathers.

This trend has taken a terrible toll on not only our children and families, but our nation as a whole. For instance in my home state of New Mexico over 24 percent of families do not have fathers present in the home.

Nationally, the numbers are not any better; nearly 25 million children or 36 percent of all kids live without their biological father and since 1960 the number of children living without their father has jumped from 5 million to 17 million. Additionally, about 40 percent of these children have not seen their father in the last year.

I cannot think of two more important issues facing our nation than the dual goal of promoting marriage and responsible fatherhood. I believe you could describe the role parents play in the lives of their children in the following way: providing love, guidance, and discipline; while at the same time teaching about respect, honor, duty and the values that make our nation so great.

And while we all acknowledge the positive benefits of a two parent family these are more and more families where fathers simply are not present in the lives of their children. I would submit this is a tragedy because a child growing up without a father or a mother simply misses out on something very special.

I recently came across a quotation that I think is appropriate: ''it is a wise father that knows his own child.'' However, the exact opposite is now occurring with a growing trend towards absentee fathers.

The bill we are introducing today seeks to reverse this trend by providing states and communities with support for the dual goal of promoting marriage and responsible fatherhood.

Specifically, the bill: authorizes a public awareness campaign to promote responsible fatherhood and the formation and maintenance of married two parent families.

Additionally, our bill creates a responsible parenting block program to provide support for state and local governments, nonprofit, charitable and religious organizations' efforts to promote responsible fatherhood and the formation and maintenance of married two parent families at the state and local level.

The final component of the bill changes existing Federal law to encourage a stronger connection between fathers and children through increased child support to families and more available training through the Welfare-

to-Work program for low-income noncustodial fathers. There is one provision within this component I would like to specifically focus on and that is the State option to disregard child support collected for purposes of determining eligibility for, or amount of, TANF assistance.

While it is the intent of this section to allow States to disregard certain child support collected that amount is also limited only to cases where states have chosen to pass-through up to $75 of child support payments per month directly to the family and then only that $75 may be disregarded by states.

In closing, I want to encourage my colleagues to lend their support to this important issue and Senator BAYH, I very much look forward to working with you on this exciting piece of legislation.●

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, our society is suffering from the deterioration of the married, two-parent family. According to a recent report by the National Marriage Project at Rutgers, ''The State of Our Unions: The Social Health of Marriage in America,'' marriage rates are at a 40-year low and there are fewer social forces holding them together. As the number of marriages has declined, unwed births have dramatically grown. Unfortunately, the result is more and more children are being born into fragile families.

As the report states, ''Marriage is a fundamental social institution . . . It is the 'social glue' that reliably attaches fathers to children.'' Nearly 25 million children, more than 1 out of 3, live absent their biological father, and 17 million kids live without a father of any kind. Even more troubling, about 40 percent of the children living in fatherless households have not seen their fathers in at least a year, and 50 percent of children who do not live with their fathers have never stepped foot in their father's home.

This growing problem of father absence is taking a terrible toll on those children, who are being denied the love, guidance, discipline, emotional nourishment and financial support that fathers usually provide.

Parents act as a nurturing and stable foundation for children. They are a guiding force to which children readily open their arms. In a recent poll conducted by Nickelodeon and Time magazine, three-quarters of the children, ages six to 14, polled stated that they wished they could spend more time with their parents. In addition, kids consistently ranked parents at the very top of the list when asked to name the people they look up to.

More than friends or teachers, parents shape their children's value systems. As dads disappear, the American family is becoming significantly weaker, as are the values we depend on families to transmit. In turn, the risks to the health and well-being of children are becoming significantly higher. Social science research repeatedly shows that children growing up without fathers are far more likely to live in poverty, to fail in school, experience behavioral and emotional problems, develop drug and alcohol problems, commit suicide, and experience physical abuse and neglect.

We have seen the devastating results of this breakdown in our culture as the number of violent incidences among young males, in particular, rises. Statistics reveal that violent criminals are overwhelmingly males who grew up without fathers.

Concerned citizens and grass-roots groups are paying attention to the statistics, and they are actively seeking solutions neighborhood by neighborhood across the nation. A shining example of this united effort is the National Fatherhood Initiative (NFI) which was formed to help raise awareness of the problem of father absence and its consequences and to mobilize a national response to it. To date, the NFI has made tremendous progress, working in communities across the country to set up educational programs and promote responsible fatherhood.

There are limits to what we in government and here in Congress can do to change society's attitudes toward marriage and out-of-wedlock births, but we are not powerless. I am proud to sign on to the proposal introduced by my colleagues Senators EVAN BAYH and PETE DOMENICI, ''The Resppnsible Fatherhood Act of 1999,'' that will help strengthen fragile families and promote responsible fatherhood, as well as promote the formation and maintenance of married, two-parent families.

I would like to highlight a few key provisions that will significantly increase efforts at the state and local level to reconnect fathers and families, thereby ensuring a brighter, more secure future for our youth.

Unfortunately, few television shows and movies produced today highlight the value of marriage. Cohabitation and out-of-wedlock sex are handled so casually that young people see little incentive for marriage. This bipartisan legislation authorizes a challenge grant to encourage states and local communities to initiate media campaigns that promote responsible fatherhood and the importance of a married, two-parent family in a child's life. Rather than the typical barrage of negative images, young people need to see positive messages on fatherhood and marriage.

States, localities and community organizations are already helping lead the fight at the local level for responsible fatherhood. Their efforts must be bolstered, not hindered. This proposal authorizes a Responsible Parenting Block Grant to provide support for state and local government, nonprofit, charitable and religious organizations' efforts.

No one solution exists that will reconnect fathers and families, but a combined effort can make a difference. That is why a national clearinghouse would be established to facilitate the exchange of ideas and sharing of success stories. Such a clearinghouse also would produce and distribute resources to aid those leading the charge at the community level. The National Fatherhood Initiative has been highlighted as an exemplary group to house such a clearinghouse.

Although many fathers desire to make a financial contribution to their family, they are unable to because they lack the necessary skills to obtain jobs. In 1997, Congress passed Welfare to Work legislation to help the hardest-to-employ welfare recipients and low-income, non-custodial parents move into jobs. Unfortunately, many states have not been able to use their full funding because of restrictive federal guidelines. The Responsible Fatherhood Act will provide states and cities the flexibility they need to serve a broader group of low-income, noncustodial fathers, and provide services to increase the employment and parenting skills of eligible fathers.

Under the current system, fathers with children on welfare are discouraged from paying child support as payments are instead typically shifted to state agencies to offset welfare benefits. Research demonstrates that fathers are more connected with their children and more likely to pay child support when they believe their payment is going directly to their family, and not the government. Children on welfare are precisely the children who have been identified as group most in need of father involvement, and we should eliminate any barriers that prevent this critical bond from taking place. Therefore, this legislation would establish the federal government as a partner to states that want to exercise an option to pass-through up to $75 of child support payments per month directly to the family without impacting welfare eligibility.

Implementing new innovative fatherhood initiatives should not be a rigorous, burdensome process. States should have the flexibility to use child-support funds on programs that support and promote fatherhood instead of paying funds back to TANF. Getting fathers back to work and reconnected to their families will do more to move families off of welfare permanently.

The Responsible Fatherhood Act of 1999, I believe, marks a major turning point in the politics of the family as is evidenced by the solid bipartisan consensus coalescing behind this proposal. Promoting responsible fatherhood does not take away from the efforts of single mothers, but helps ensure that children receive the benefits provided by two caring parents. Addressing the critical role fathers play in the lives of their children is no longer a politically taboo topic. The research is convincing and, unfortunately, mounting every year—children need the support and involvement of both parents to lead happy, healthy, productive lives.

I thank Senators BAYH and DOMENICI for leading this effort. I am proud to join them as a cosponsor.●

By Mr. MURKOWSKI (by request):

S. 1365. A bill to amend the National Preservation Act of 1966 to extend the authorization for the Historic Preservation Fund and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

AUTHORIZATION FOR THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND AND THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, at the request of the administration, I rise today to introduce legislation to extend the authorization for the Historic Preservation Fund, and for other purposes.

I ask unanimous consent that the bill, a summary of the legislation, and the administration's letter of transmittal be printed in the RECORD for the information of my colleagues.

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

S. 1365

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled,

That the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (P.L. 89–665; 80 Stat. 915; 16 U.S.C. 470) is amended—

(1) in section 108 (16 U.S.C. 470h), by striking ''1997'' and inserting ''2005''; and

(2) in section 212(a) (16 U.S.C. 470t(a)), by striking ''2000'' in the last sentence and inserting ''2005''.

SUMMARY

This legislation amends the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 to extend the authorization of $150,000,000 per year for the Historic Preservation Fund through fiscal year 2005 and the authorization of $4,000,000 per year for the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. The fund is currently authorized through fiscal year 1996, and the Council through fiscal year 2000.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, DC, April 9, 1999.

Hon. ALBERT GORE, JR.,
President of the Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: Enclosed is a draft of a bill ''to extend the authorization for the Historic Preservation Fund, and for other purposes. Also enclosed is a section-by-section analysis of the bill. We recommend that the bill be introduced, referred to the appropriate committee for consideration, and enacted.

The enclosed bill would amend the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 to extend the authorization of $150,000,000 for the Historic Preservation Fund through the year 2005. The fund is currently authorized at $150,000,000 per year through 1997. In addition, the enclosed bill would amend the 1966 Act to extend the current authorization of $4,000,000 for the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation through 2005. The Counsel's authorization expires at the end of fiscal year 2000.

The Historic Preservation Act of 1966 provides for the protection of significant historic properties across the country. It encourages and supports America's effort to preserve the tangible evidence of our past for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations. As part of the National Historic Preservation Act, Congress established the Historic Preservation Fund to carry out the provisions of the bill.

The purpose of this measure is to continue this successful program of protecting historic structures and sites. For over 30 years, since the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act, private citizens, industry, Federal, state, local and tribal governments have worked together to create a cost-effective, successful program. These unique partnerships have resulted in the preservation of historic places, which are the tangible embodiment of American history.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection to the enactment of the enclosed draft legislation from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

STEPHEN C. SAUNDERS,
Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI (by request):

S. 1366. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct and operate a visitor center for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreation River on land owned by the New York State, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

UPPER DELAWARE SCENIC AND RECREATION RIVER LEGISLATION

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, at the request of the administration, I rise today to introduce legislation to construct and operate a visitor center for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River on land owned by the State of New York, and for other purposes.

I ask unanimous consent that the bill, a section-by-section analysis of the legislation, and the administration letter of transmittal be printed in the RECORD for the information of my colleagues.

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

S. 1366

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 ''Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Mongaup Visitor Center Act of 1999.''

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

(1) the Secretary of the Interior approved a management plan for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, as required by P.L. 95–625 (16 U.S.C. 1274 note), on September 29, 1987;

(2) the river management plan called for the development of a primary visitor contact facility located at the southern end of the river corridor;

(3) the river management plan determined that the visitor center would be built and operated by the National Park Service;

(4) the Act which designated the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River and the approved river management plan limits the Secretary of the Interior's authority to acquire land within the boundary of the river corridor; and

(5) the State of New York authorized on June 21, 1993, a 99–year lease between the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the National Park Service for the construction and operation of a visitor center by the Federal government on state-owned land in the Town of Deerpark, Orange County, New York in the vicinity of Mongaup, the preferred site for the visitor center.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF VISITOR CENTER FOR UPPER DELAWARE SCENIC AND RECREATIONAL RIVER.

For the purpose of constructing and operating a visitor center for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River and subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary of the Interior may—

(a) enter into a lease with the State of New York, for a term of 99 years, for State-owned land within the boundaries of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River located at an area known as Mongaup near the confluence of the Mongaup and Upper Delaware Rivers in the State of New York; and

(b) construct and operate a visitor center on land leased under paragraph (a).

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS—UPPER DELAWARE SCENIC AND RECREATIONAL RIVER

Section 1. SHORT TITLE.—Provides a short title for the Act—''Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Mongaup Visitor Center Act of 1999.''

Section 2. FINDINGS.—Provides a discussion regarding the need for a visitor center at the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River including references in the enabling legislation for the river and general management plan. Also cites the State of New York's granting of permission of construction and operation of the facility on state-owned land.

Section 3. AUTHORIZATION OF VISITOR CENTER.—Provides the Secretary of the Interior the authority to enter into a lease with the State of New York for a term of 99 years and authorizes the Secretary to construct and operate a visitor center on the leased property.

Section 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Authorizes funds that may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, DC, April 30, 1999.

Hon. ALBERT GORE, Jr.,
President of the Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: Enclosed is a draft bill ''To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct and operate a visitor center for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River on land owned by the State of New York, and for other purposes.'' We recommend the bill be introduced, referred to the appropriate committee, and enacted.

The legislation would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct and operate a visitor center on state-owned land within the boundary of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River. The Act which established the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River severely limited the Secretary's authority to acquire land. The approved general management plan for the river calls for the development of a visitor center and determined that the best location for such a center was at Mongaup near the confluence of the Mongaup and Delaware Rivers.

The preferred site is on property owned by the State of New York and administered by the New York Department of Environmental Conservation. The New York State Legislature authorized the Department of Environmental Conservation to enter into a lease with the National Park Service for the construction and operation of a visitor center on the preferred site.

This legislation is necessary because the Secretary of the Interior is not authorized to expend federal funds for the construction and operation of a facility on non-federal land. Passage of this legislation would provide the authority for the Secretary to enter into a lease with the State of New York and to subsequently develop a visitor center on the site thus implementing a significant element of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River's River Management Plan.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection to the enactment of the enclosed draft legislation from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

DONALD J. BARRY,
Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI (by request):

S. 1367. A bill to amend the Act which established the Saint-Gaudens Historic Site, in the State of New Hampshire, by modifying the boundary and for other purposes.

SAINT-GAUDENS HISTORIC SITE LEGISLATION

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, at the request of the administration, I rise today to introduce legislation to modify the boundaries of Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site, in the State of New Hampshire.

I ask unanimous consent that the bill, a section-by-section analysis of the legislation, and the administration's letter of transmittal be printed in the RECORD for the information of my colleagues.

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

S. 1367

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

The Act of August 31, 1964 (78 Stat. 749), which established Saint Gaudens National Historic Site is amended:

(1) in Section 3 by striking ''not to exceed sixty-four acres of lands and interests therein'' and inserting ''215 acres of lands and buildings, or interests therein'';

(2) in Section 6 by striking ''$2,677,000'' from the first sentence and inserting ''$10,632,000''; and

(3) in Section 6 by striking ''$80,000'' from the last sentence and inserting ''$2,000,000''.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS—SAINT-GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Amends the Act of August 31, 1964, which originally established the historic site.

Amendment (1).—Authorizes the Secretary to acquire additional lands, up to 215 acres, which will be added to the historic site.

Amendment (2).—Increases the authorized development ceiling for the site to $10,632,000, to allow for the implementation of the approved general management plan.

Amendment (3).—Increases the authorized land acquisition ceiling for the site to $2 million, to allow for the acquisition of the lands identified for expansion in the general management plan.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, DC, April 30, 1999.

Hon. ALBERT GORE, Jr.,
President of the Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: Enclosed is a draft bill ''to amend the Act, which established the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site, in the State of New Hampshire, by modifying the boundary and for other purposes.'' We recommend the bill be introduced, referred to the appropriate committee, and enacted.

The purpose of the legislation is to authorize the Secretary to expand the boundary at the site in response to the recommendations of the general management plan completed in 1996. The legislation would also increase the land acquisition ceiling and the development ceiling for the site so as to allow the acquisition of lands identified for expansion in the general management plan and to address the site development program outlined in the plan.

The present boundary of Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site includes approximately 150 acres. The majority of this acreage is the historical zone of the historic site and therefore unavailable for the development of visitor service facilities, parking, administrative offices and facilities, or new exhibition space. The enlarged boundary would allow for the development of such facilities. The current natural areas that are part of the site would be protected with the addition of adjacent property and the viewshed from the historic area would also be protected.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection to the enactment of the enclosed draft legislation from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

DONALD J. BARRY,
Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

By Mr. TORRICELLI (for himself, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. CLELAND):

S. 1368. A bill to amend the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 and related laws to strengthen the protection of native biodiversity and ban clearcutting on Federal land, and to designate certain Federal land as ancient forests, roadless areas, watershed protection areas, special areas, and Federal boundary areas where logging and other intrusive activities are prohibited; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

THE ACT TO SAVE AMERICA'S FORESTS

• Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, today, Senator KERRY and I are introducing the Act to Save America's Forests. When this country was founded over two hundred years ago, there were hundreds of millions of acres of virgin forest land across what is now the United States. Today, 95 percent of those original virgin forests have been cut down.

Our Federal forests are unique and precious public assets. Large, unbroken forest watersheds provide high-quality water supplies for drinking, agriculture, industry, as well as habitat for recreational and commercial fisheries and other wildlife. The large scale destruction of natural forests threatens other industries such as tourism and fishing with job loss. As a legacy for the enjoyment, knowledge, and well-being of future generations, provisions must be made for the protection and perpetuation of America's forests.

Clearcutting, even aged logging practices, and timber road construction have been the preferred management practices used on our Federal forests in recent years. These practices have caused widespread forest ecosystem fragmentation and degradation. The result is species extinction, soil erosion, flooding, declining water quality, diminishing commercial and sport fisheries, including salmon, and mudslides. Mudslides in Western forest regions during recent winter flooding have caused millions of dollars of environmental and property damage, and resulted in several deaths.

An environmentally sustainable alternative to these practices is selection management: the selection system involves the removal of trees of different ages either singly or in small groups in order to preserve the biodiversity of the forest.

Destructive forestry practices such as clearcutting on Federal lands was legalized by the passage of the National Forest Management Act of 1976. From 1984 to 1991, an average of 243,000 acres were clearcut annually on Federal lands. During the same time period an average of only 33,000 acres were harvested using the protective selection management practices. Proclearcutting interpretations of forestry laws have also been used by Federal managers to promote even age logging and road construction. In addition, the laws are not effective in preserving our forests because in many cases judges do not allow citizens standing in court to ensure that the Forest Service or other agencies follow the environmental protections of the law.

I am introducing this legislation to halt and reverse the effects of deforestation on Federal lands by ending the practice of clearcutting, while promoting environmentally compatible and economically sustainable selection management logging. It is important to note this legislation would only apply to Federal forests which are currently supplying less than 6 percent of America's timber consumption. According to a recent Congressional Research Service report we can reduce timber supply from the national forests and still meet our nation's timber needs. The vast majority of the 490 million acres of harvestable timber are privately owned and unaffected by the bill.

This legislation puts forward positive alternatives that will achieve two principal policies for our Federal forests. First, the Act would ban logging and road-building in remaining core areas of biodiversity throughout the Federal forest system including roadless areas, specially designated areas and 13 million acres of Northwest Ancient Forests. Second, in non-core areas it would abolish environmentally destructive forms of logging such as clearcutting and even aged logging.

The Act requires selection management logging practices to be used. Therefore, timber companies would only be allowed to log a certain percentage of the forests over specified periods of time. Further it takes extra

steps to protect watersheds and fisheries by prohibiting logging in buffer areas along streams, lakes, and wetlands. The Act would also call for an independent panel of scientists to develop a plan to restore and rejuvenate those forests and their ecosystems that are damaged from decades of these logging practices. And finally, the legislation would empower citizen involvement in insuring compliance with environmental protections of forest management laws by making certain that all citizens have standing to pursue actions in court.●

● Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I want to speak for a few minutes today in support of the Act to Save America's Forests. Over the past 200 years, 95 percent of America's forests have been logged. The Act to Save America's Forests is an effort to save the remaining 5 percent of these original forests.

The legislation is based on our best science and recognizes that we can preserve our national forests for future generations and still harvest the renewable resource of timber. It is supported by over 600 scientists, who wrote to Congress that the act will ''give our nation's precious forest ecosystems the best chance for survival and recovery into the 21st century and beyond.''

The truth is, this bill represents a prudent approach. It has been criticized by those who want to ban all logging on national lands and by those who feel that our current forest policy is too restrictive. I am optimistic that it will bring opposing sides together around common progress.

The Act to Save America's Forests will protect some of the most treasured wild lands in America. Millions of Americans visit our national forests every year, generating more than $100 billion for local economies. In our forests, families hike, fish, boat, mountain climb, bird watch ad even dog sled. And, they act as watersheds and are home to rare species.

In Oregon, our national forests have trees over 1,000 years old. The Sequoia National Forest in California is home to the world's oldest trees. These are true natural—and national—treasures.

In New England, we have the Green Mountain and White Mountain National Forests. Only 100 miles from Boston, they are home to Mt. Washington, the Old Main of the Mountain and the Appalachian Trail. These are favorite spots for our citizens to backpack, ski, canoe, kayak and witness the fall foliage.

The remaining unbroken forests in the Green Mountain draw wildlife from great distances, such as migratory song birds from central and South America. The Lamb Brook, Glastenbury and Robert Frost Mountain forests, which are threatened with clearcut logging, are critical habitat for New England's black bear population, who needs these remote areas of solitude to breed and forage. The Act to Save America's Forests would permanently protect these forests and their biodiversity from logging or roadbuilding.

Today, there are 490 million acres of harvestable timberlands in the United States. Only approximately 20 percent of this harvestable timberland, some 98 million acres, are owned by the Federal Government and would be impacted by the Act to Save America's Forests. The remaining 80 percent of the harvestable timberland is on private land, and would not be regulated by the Act to Save America's Forests.

The major provisions of the Act to Save America's Forests will ban logging and road building of any kind in 13 million acres of ''core'' national forest. Core forests include ancient forest and biologically significant and roadless areas. Only environmentally compatible, sustainable logging would be permitted outside of the protected core forest areas. Clearcutting and even age logging would be banned on all federal lands. The Act will protect watersheds and fisheries by prohibiting logging within 300-foot buffer areas along streams and lakes. It directs the Federal agencies to protect and restore native biological diversity. Finally, it establishes a panel of scientists to provide guidance on Federal forest management.

I want to thank Senator TORRICELLI for introducing this legislation and Representative ANNA ESHOO for offering similar legislation in the House of Representatives. I strongly support this effort to balance our need to preserve and restore our national forests while allowing for the harvest of the renewable resource these forests provide.●

By Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. DODD, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1369. A bill to enhance the benefits of the national electric system by encouraging and supporting State programs for renewable energy sources, universal electric service, affordable electric service, and energy conservation and efficiency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

CLEAN ENERGY ACT OF 1999

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Clean Energy Act of 1999, for myself and Senators LIEBERMAN, MOYNIHAN, SCHUMER, KERRY, LAUTENBERG, DODD, and KENNEDY.

Air pollution from dirty power plants threatens the health of lakes, forests, and people across our Nation. Today, we call for an end to code red air pollution alerts, smog filled afternoons and chemical induced haze. Today, we will introduce legislation to protect our environment from the damaging effects of air pollution and move our Nation closer to a sensible energy future.

Why should we live with smog, acid rain and code red summer afternoons when the technology is here to capture the sun and wind in our backyard? It is time for our Nation to transition from smokestacks, coal power and smog to a future with windmills, solar power and blue skies. Like the wall in Berlin, we hope to watch the dirty power plants dismantled brick, by brick, knowing that once again we can breath freely.

As the U.S. PIRG report indicates, air pollution produced from dirty power plants has skyrocketed. With recent wholesale deregulation, coal fired power plants increased their output almost 16%. This has got to end.

Electric utility deregulation has the potential to save consumers millions of dollars in energy costs. At the same time, deregulation can move us away from reliance on dirty fossil fuels. A study by the Union of Concerned Scientists showed that we can decrease electricity prices by 13% while still achieving great public and environmental benefits.

Electricity prices in the Northeast are double those in the Midwest. Under current law, old, dirty coal fired power plants in the Midwest are exempt from the same air quality standards that our plants meet. Their emissions settle into our streams, forests, eyes, and lungs. They get the benefit, we get the cost.

Not anymore. Our bill will level the playing field for clean Northeast utility companies. It will knock dirty upwind coal burners out of the competitive arena. It will give our utilities the ability to compete successfully in deregulated markets.

Our proposal will cap emissions from generation facilities, forcing old coal plants to meet tighter air quality standards or shut down. We attack pollutants that lead to smog, acid rain, mercury contamination and ground-level ozone.

Our bill will put in place a nationwide wires charge to create an electric benefit fund to develop renewable energy sources and promote energy efficiency and universal access. It will mandate that generation facilities purchase increasing percentages of renewable power each year. We begin at 2.5% in 2000 and increase to 20% renewables by 2020. Either buy renewables, or don't play in the market place.

Our legislation will make it cheaper and easier for consumers to install renewable energy sources in their homes, farms, and small businesses by simplifying the metering process. And finally, our bill has a comprehensive disclosure provision, giving consumers honest and verifiable information regarding their energy choices.

Our Nation's future depends on clean, reliable energy. We can end dirty air from tall utility smokestacks. We can capture the global market for renewable energy. We can stop acid rain from killing our forests and we can keep our summer days from being ozone days. We can increase our energy security. And we can do all this while saving consumers millions of dollars on their utility bills.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I am pleased today to join with my distinguished colleague from Vermont to introduce the Clean Energy Act of 1999. This landmark legislation provides a comprehensive, long-term blueprint for fulfilling the promise of fishable rivers, swimable streams, and clean, breathable air as envisioned by the groundbreaking Clean Water and Clean Air Acts.

As Senator JEFFORDS has explained, the Clean Energy Act would reduce emissions of the full range of pollutants that damage human health and the global environment. The public health standards embodied in this bill are ambitious. But they reflect the significant strides Northeastern utilities have made in recent years to reduce pollution from electric power plants. They also reflect the reality that goals can, and must, be achieved regionally and nationally if we are to ensure clean air and clean water for every community.

As utilities invest in control technologies to help them meet existing and future clean air requirements, they face difficult choices. Some technologies control for one pollutant, while exacerbating emissions of another and often utilities make large capital investments without knowing what pollutant reductions may be required of them in the future. The Clean Energy Act will bring order to the equation by providing a comprehensive but flexible guide for controlling the full range of pollutants associated with electricity generation, including nitrogen oxides, sulphur dioxide, mercury, and carbon.

The Clean Energy Act will help reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides that lead to smog that makes it difficult for children, asthmatics, and the elderly to breathe. It will help reduce acid rain by reducing the amount of sulphur that our smokestacks pump into the air.

The bill will accelerate efforts to make the fish in rivers safe to eat by lowering the amount of mercury introduced into the food chain. And it will help reduce the U.S. contribution to the problem of climate change by recognizing carbon dioxide as a pollutant of the global atmosphere.

Last year, I introduced a bill designed to close a loophole in the Clean Air Act that exempts older power plants from rigorous environmental standards. We know that to ensure fairness in an era of increasing competitiveness, we must strengthen pollution controls so that dirty power plants don't gain an unfair share of the market while polluting at higher rates than cleaner, more efficient utilities. The Clean Energy Act builds on the effort begun last year, by requiring all plants, no matter what their vintage, to meet the same standards.

Electricity deregulation carries the promise of enormous benefits for the consumer—mainly in reduced electric bills—which I strongly support. But electricity deregulation can also cause adverse environmental and public health consequences if we don't do it right.

The principles behind the Clean Energy Act—comprehensive control of pollutants and equitable across-the-board standards, enhanced by emissions trading—provide a vision for how the electricity industry and our economy can grow even as we improve the quality of our air and water for generations to come.

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I rise today to make a few remarks in support of the Clean Energy Act of 1999.

There is a strong consensus in Congress, and throughout the nation, that it is time to restructure our electric utility industry. The driving force behind this consensus is the potential to save working families and businesses billions of dollars in their electricity bills as competition replaces regulated markets and drives down costs.

The Clinton Administration has estimated that the nation may save as much as $20 billion through restructuring, and other estimates are even higher. Some twenty states, including Massachusetts, have already acted to bring competition to their state industry and capture these savings.

In addition to saving billions of dollars, electric utility restructuring also presents us with the opportunity to enhance environmental protections. The Clean Energy Act of 1999 advances environmental goals that I believe should be considered as part of the final electric utility restructuring proposal passed by the Senate—and that is why I am an original cosponsor.

I know that some in Congress have argued that we should not include environmental protections in a utility restructuring proposal. I think that would be a grave mistake, because some—by no means all—power plants are the source of too much pollution to be ignored.

In Massachusetts, for example, five power plants release more than 90 percent of the pollution from power plants in the state. If each of these plants met modern standards, it would reduce as much pollution as taking more than 750,000 cars off the road. And, while Massachusetts struggles with some of these dirty plants, many more can be found in the Midwest and other parts of the nation.

The consequences of this pollution are significant. In the Northeast we experience frequent and widespread violations of national health standards for ozone. Long-term exposure to ozone may increase the incidence of respiratory disease and premature aging of the lungs. Acid deposition, whose source may be plants far outside of the Northeast, degrades public health and damages aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. Mercury, which is highly poisonous, accumulates in aquatic species. Finally, carbon dioxide pollution continues to accumulate in the atmosphere and increase the potential for destructive and irreversible climate change.

The Clean Energy Act of 1999 would put in place important public health and environmental policies. Most importantly, it would level the playing field by requiring old, heavily-polluting power plants that are now exempt from health and environmental standards, to clean up. This is important for New England, because while many of these plants are located in the Midwest, their pollution is carried through weather patterns to our air, forests, lakes, streams and lungs.

We should close this loophole. Many energy companies have achieved environmental improvements, and those achievements should not be minimized, but the fact remains that electricity generation from old, heavily-polluting power plants increased 15.8 percent from 1992 to 1998, nationwide.

I want to add that I have heard from the citizens of Massachusetts who live around old coal and oil plants that pollute far more than newer plants. They feel strongly that all plants should comply with environmental standards and employ the best environmental technology, and that no family should be forced to live in the shadows of a plant that may cause environmental harm.

In addition to having tougher standards and closing loopholes in current law, the Act would require the Environmental Protection Agency to review any plant that emits excessive pollution through pollution permit trading to determine whether it is causing adverse local environmental and health impacts. As a result, the bill allows for robust trading so that we can capture all of its economic and broader environmental benefits, but only when it does not harm local communities.

Finally, other provisions of the Act will benefit the environment and make the U.S. a leader in clean energy technologies. For example, it would require that a percentage of the Nation's power is generated by solar, wind and other renewable sources. For years we have given heavily-polluting plants a free ride. Now it is time to reverse course and create a market force to bolster our renewable energy technologies so that we will have a growing clean power industry as we start the 21st Century.

I thank Senator JEFFORDS for introducing the Clean Energy Act of 1999, and I am pleased to join Senators LIEBERMAN, MOYNIHAN, SCHUMER, KENNEDY, DODD, and LAUTENBERG as an original cosponsor. I hope this legislation will help shape the Senate debate over utility restructuring and ensure that provisions to protect the environment and the public health will be part of the final legislation.•

By Mr. SHELBY:

S. 1370. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the time for payment of the estate tax on certain timber stands; to the Committee on Finance.

TIMBERLAND CONSERVATION AND TAX RELIEF ACT OF 1999

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I recently introduced legislation that would amend our estate taxation laws to correct a highly unjust situation that regularly occurs throughout our country. The problem I am referring to is the difficult situation persons who inherit valuable timberland often find themselves. Because the timberland is usually the major estate asset, the estate frequently lacks the liquidity to pay the hefty tax burden. Therefore, many times persons are forced to harvest the timber or even worse, to sell portions of the land, just to be able to meet this large tax liability.

Besides essentially invalidating many testamentary gifts, such a tax policy creates numerous economic and ecological problems. As estate taxes are due nine months after a decedent's death, the current law strongly encourages persons to harvest the timber regardless of it's maturity, prevailing price or demand. Encouraging such behavior not only leads to economic waste, but also discourages responsible use of a valued natural resource. The decision of if and when to harvest timberlands should be made by the individual landowner after he has considered the current market, tree maturity and other relevant factors. It certainly should not be based on an uncompromising tax code that completely disregards these critical factors.

Mr. President, the decision to sell the land is in no way a viable alternative to premature harvesting. Selling portions of a contiguous tract leads to fragmentation of the land, which in turn can lead to legal disputes and other inefficiencies. Furthermore, wildlife and forestry conservation efforts by earlier landowners are often ignored by new owners who look to exploit the land in order to turn a quick profit. But most importantly, our tax code should never place someone in a position where they must sell a testamentary gift just to be able to pay the taxes on the transfer. Besides being inherently unfair, such a tax tramples upon the property rights of American landowners.

Mr. President, we must not allow the tax code to perpetuate these injustices. My bill, the Timberland Conservation and Tax Relief Act of 1999 eliminates these problems by removing mechanical and unthinking tax laws from the decision of when it appropriate to harvest American timberlands. It introduces a flexible deferred payment provision into the estate taxation scheme that will allow timberland owners to exercise their own good judgment in deciding what the most efficient use of their land would be. Furthermore, the Timberland Conservation and Tax Relief Act promotes the responsible use of our environment by no longer placing persons in a position where they must harvest immature or unneeded timber. For these reasons, I strongly urge my colleagues in the Senate to join me in support of this bill.

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. 1370

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PAYMENT OF ESTATE TAX ON CERTAIN TIMBER STANDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter B of chapter 62 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to extensions of time for payment) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 6168. EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PAYMENT OF ESTATE TAX ON CERTAIN TIMBER STANDS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an interest in a qualified timber property which is included in determining the gross estate of a decedent who was (at the date of his death) a citizen or resident of the United States, the executor may elect to pay part or all of the tax imposed by section 2001 on or before the date which is the earliest of—

''(1) the date the property is no longer qualified timber property,

''(2) the date the individual who inherited the interest in the qualified timber property either transfers the interest or dies, or

''(3) the date which is 25 years after the date of death of the decedent.

''(b) LIMITATION.—The maximum amount of tax which may be paid under this subsection shall be an amount which bears the same ratio to the tax imposed by section 2001 (reduced by the credits against such tax) as—

''(1) the fair market value of the interest in the qualified timber property, bears to

''(2) the adjusted gross estate of the decedent.

''(c) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) QUALIFIED TIMBER PROPERTY.—The term 'qualified timber property' means trees and any real property on which such trees are growing which is—

''(A) located in the United States, and

''(B) used in timber operations (as defined in section 2032A(e)(13)(C)).

''(2) ADJUSTED GROSS ESTATE.—The term, 'adjusted gross estate' means the value of the gross estate reduced by the sum of the amounts allowable as a deduction under section 2053 or 2054. Such sum shall be determined on the basis of the facts and circumstances in existence on the date (including extensions) for filing the return of tax imposed by section 2001 (or, if earlier, the date on which such return is filed).

''(3) CERTAIN TRANSFERS AT DEATH OF HEIR DISREGARDED.—Subsection (a)(2) shall not apply to any transfer by reason of death so long as such transfer is to a member of the family (within the meaning of section 267(c)94)) of the transferor in such transfer.

''(d) ELECTION.—Any election under subsection (a) shall be made not later than the time prescribed by section 6075(a) for filing the return of tax imposed by section 2001 (including extensions thereof), and shall be made in such manner as the Secretary shall by regulations prescribe. If an election under subsection (a) is made, the provisions of this subtitle shall apply as though the Secretary were extending the time for payment of the tax.

''(e) TIME FOR PAYMENT OF INTEREST.—If the time for payment of any amount of tax has been extended under this section, interest payable under section 6601 on any unpaid portion of such amount shall be paid at the time of the payment of the tax.

''(f) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN DIRECT SKIPS.—To the extent that an interest in a qualified timber property is the subject of a direct skip (within the meaning of section 2612(c)) occurring at the same time as and as a result of the decedent's death, then for purposes of this section any tax imposed by section 2601 on the transfer of such interest shall be treated as if it were additional tax imposed by section 2001.

''(g) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to the application of this section.

''(h) CROSS REFERENCES.—

''(1) SECURITY.—For authority of the Secretary to require security in the case of an extension under this section, see section 6165.

''(2) LIEN.—For special lien (in lieu of bond) in the case of an extension under this section, see section 6324A.

''(3) PERIOD OF LIMITATION.—For extension of the period of limitation in the case of an extension under this section, see section 6503(d).

''(4) INTEREST.—For provisions relating to interest on tax payable under this section, see subsection (j) of section 6601.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 163(k) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''6166'' in the heading and the text and inserting ''6166 or 6168''.

(2) Section 2053(c)(1)(D) of such Code is amended—

(A) by striking ''6166'' and inserting ''6166 or 6168'', and

(B) by striking ''6166'' in the heading and inserting ''6166 OR 6168''.

(3) The following provisions of such Code are amended by striking ''or 6166'' each place it appears and inserting ''6166, or 6168'':

(A) Section 2056A(b)(10)(A).

(B) Section 2204(a).

(C) Section 2204(b).

(D) Section 6503(d).

(4) Section 2011(c)(2) of such Code is amended by striking ''or 6166'' and inserting '', 6166, or 6168'':

(5) The following provisions of such Code are amended by inserting ''or 6168'' after ''6166'' each place it appears:

(A) Section 2204(c).

(B) Section 6601(j) (except the second sentence of paragraph (1)).

(C) Section 7481(d).

(6) Section 6161(a)(2) of such Code is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''or'' at the end,

(B) in subparagraph (B), by adding ''or'' at the end,

(C) in the matter following subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking ''subparagraph (B)'' and inserting ''subparagraph (B) or (C)'', and

(ii) by inserting ''or payment'' after ''installment'', and

(D) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

''(C) any part of the payment determined under section 6168,''.

(7) Section 6324A of such Code is amended—

(A) by adding at the end the following:

''(f) APPLICATION OF SECTION TO DEFERRED TAX UNDER SECTION 6168.—Rules similar to the rules of this section shall apply to the amount of tax and interest deferred under section 6168 (determined as of the date prescribed by section 6151(a) for payment of the tax imposed by chapter 11).'', and

(B) in the title, by striking ''**estate tax deferred under section 6166**'' and inserting ''**deferred estate tax**''.

(8) The table of sections for subchapter B of chapter 62 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following:

''Sec. 6168. Extension of time for payment of estate tax on certain timber stands.''.

(9) The item relating to section 6324A in the table of sections for subchapter C of chapter 64 of such Code is amended by striking ''estate tax deferred under section 6166'' and inserting ''deferred estate tax''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to estates of decedents dying after the date of enactment of this Act.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 25

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. KERREY), and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. CAMPBELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 25, a bill to provide Coastal Impact Assistance to State and local governments, to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act Amendments of 1978, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act, and the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (commonly referred to as the Pittman-Robertson Act) to establish a fund to meet the outdoor conservation and recreation needs of the American people, and for other purposes.

S. 85

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 85, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce the tax on vaccines to 25 cents per dose.

S. 216

At the request of Mr. MOYNIHAN, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. KERREY) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) were added as cosponsors of S. 216, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the limitation on the use of foreign tax credits under the alternative minimum tax.

S. 253

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS) were added as cosponsors of S. 253, a bill to provide for the reorganization of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and for other purposes.

S. 317

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 317, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an exclusion for gain from the sale of farmland which is similar to the exclusion from gain on the sale of a principal residence.

S. 333

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 333, a bill to amend the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 to improve the farmland protection program.

S. 472

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. THURMOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 472, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide certain medicare beneficiaries with an exemption to the financial limitations imposed on physical, speech-language pathology, and occupational therapy services under part B of the medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 486

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. COVERDELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 486, a bill to provide for the punishment of methoamphetamine laboratory operators, provide additional resources to combat methamphetamine production, trafficking, and abuse in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 510

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 510, a bill to preserve the sovereignty of the United States over public lands and acquired lands owned by the United States, and to preserve State sovereignty and private property rights in non-Federal lands surrounding those public lands and acquired lands.

S. 515

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. GREGG) were added as cosponsors of S. 515, a bill to amend the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921, to make it unlawful for any stockyard owner, market agency, or dealer to transfer or market nonambulatory livestock, and for other purposes.

S. 635

At the request of Mr. MACK, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 635, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to more accurately codify the depreciable life of printed wiring board and printed wiring assembly equipment.

S. 664

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 664, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit against income tax to individuals who rehabilitate historic homes or who are the first purchasers of rehabilitated historic homes for use as a principal residence.

S. 676

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) were added as cosponsors of S. 676, a bill to locate and secure the return of Zachary Baumel, a citizen of the United States, and other Israeli soldiers missing in action.

S. 720

At the request of Mr. HELMS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. COVERDELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 720, a bill to promote the development of a government in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) based on democratic principles and the rule of law, and that respects internationally recognized human rights, to assist the victims of Serbian oppression, to apply measures against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and for other purposes.

S. 820

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 820, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the 4.3-cent motor fuel excise taxes on railroads and inland waterway transportation which remain in the general fund of the Treasury.

S. 926

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 926, a bill to provide the people of Cuba with access to food and medicines from the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 935

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. KERREY), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 935, a bill to amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to authorize research to promote the conversion of biomass into biobased industrial products, and for other purposes.

S. 980

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 980, a bill to promote access to health care services in rural areas.

S. 1017

At the request of Mr. MACK, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1017, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the State ceiling on the low-income housing credit.

S. 1020

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1020, a bill to amend chapter 1 of title 9, United States Code, to provide for greater fairness in the arbitration process relating to motor vehicle franchise contracts.

S. 1044

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr.